

CUMBERLAND COUNTY COLLEGE

Course: PY 205: Psychopharmacology

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: PY 202: Understanding Addictive Behavior

Description: This course is an overview of pharmacology in relationship to addictions and their effect on the human body. Alcohol and drugs of abuse and addiction and how they affect behavior will be examined. Specific topics to be discussed include the classification of medications; legal and ethical principles regarding clinical drug trials and the FDA approval process; legalities of drug trafficking; acute and chronic effects; reversible and irreversible consequences functional disorders of the nervous system; neurobehavioral dysfunctions and other multi-sided aspects of addiction. A special emphasis will be placed on culture, ethnic and age related considerations. This course will provide an understanding of the role of pharmacology in the counseling field.

Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze the role of alcohol and drugs of abuse and addiction and how they affect human behavior will be examined;
- Identify the classifications of alcohol and drugs;
- Identify, analyze and discuss acute and chronic effects; reversible and irreversible consequences of abuse and addictions;
- Discuss and identify the legal and ethical principles regarding counseling and the client's use of drugs, drug trafficking, clinical trials, and the FDA approval process.
- Compare and contrast genetic, cultural, ethnic, developmental, and age related similarities and differences in relationship to abuse and addictions of alcohol and drugs.
- Identify and analyze preventions and interventions for alcohol and drug addictions.

Topical Outline:

- Drugs and Behavior Today
- Drug-Taking Behavior: Personal Issues
- How Drugs Work in the Body and on the Mind
- The Major Stimulants: Cocaine and Amphetamines
- Opioids: Opium, Heroin, and Opioid Pain Medications
- LSD and Other Hallucinogens
- Marijuana
- Alcohol: Social Beverage/Social Drug
- Chronic Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

- Nicotine and Tobacco Use
- Caffeine
- Performance-Enhancing Drugs and Drug Testing in Sports
- Depressants and Inhalants
- Prescription Drugs, Over-The Counter Drugs, and Dietary Supplements
- Drugs for Treating Schizophrenia and Mood Disorders
- Substance-Abuse Prevention
- Substance Abuse Treatment: Strategies for Change

Text: Levinthal, Charles F. (2014). *Drugs, Behavior, and Modern Society* (8th ed.). Pearson: Boston.

Reader: Lewis, Mark (2011). *Memoirs of an Addicted Brain*. Public Affairs: New York.

Student Assessment: Assessment may be accomplished through projects, portfolios, exams, presentations and/or papers.

Academic Integrity: Plagiarism is cheating. Plagiarism is presenting in written work, in public speaking, and in oral reports the ideas or exact words of someone else without proper documentation. Whether the act of plagiarism is deliberate or accidental [ignorance of the proper rules for handling material is no excuse], plagiarism is, indeed, a “criminal” offense. As such, a plagiarized paper or report automatically receives a grade of **ZERO** and the student may receive a grade of **F** for the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

Tutoring & Project Assist

If you are having difficulty with work in this class tutoring is available through the Center for Academic & Student Success. If you think that you might have a learning disability, contact Project Assist at 856.691.8600 x 1282 for information on assistance that can be provided to eligible students.

Before Withdrawing From This Course

If a student experiences adverse circumstances while enrolled in this course and considers withdrawing, s/he should see an advisor (division or advisement center) **BEFORE** withdrawing from the class. A withdrawal may cause harmful repercussions to completion rate standards and overall GPA which can limit or eliminate future financial aid in addition to causing academic suspension.