Instructor/TA Info

Instructor Information

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TA Information

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Course Information

Description

Welcome to Special Topics in Psychology. The topic of this course is: Drugs, Reward, and Addiction. These are popular and dynamic areas of study. Illicit and legal drug abuse, as well as behavioral addictions, are widespread in our society and take an enormous toll in individual human suffering. For example, the consequences of drug abuse range from lost job productivity, squandered earnings, rising healthcare costs, costs related to criminal activity, incarcerations, investigations, vehicular accidents, domestic and non-domestic violence, premature death, and to the breakdown of the family. The economic and societal implications arising as direct or indirect result of drug abuse consumption are staggering. Drug addiction results in morbidity and mortality. Behavioral addictions, such as pornography, although not typically associated with morbidity and mortality, also affect the individual, the family, and even society. Although addiction begins as a personal choice to consume a drug or other reinforcer, the motivation to continue to seek the reinforcing stimulus is influenced greatly by genetic and environmental factors, but ultimately leads to a spiraling dysregulation of brain homeostasis. Thus, addiction is a brain disease. Regarding drug addiction: Elder Boyd K. Packer stated in the October 1989 General Conference and in the November 1989 issue of the Ensign that, "Addiction has the capacity to disconnect the human will and nullify moral agency. It can rob one of the power to decide. Agency is too fundamental a doctrine to be left in such jeopardy. It is my conviction, and my constant prayer, that there will come through research, through inspiration to scientists if need be, the power to conquer narcotic addiction through the same means which cause it. I plead with all of you to earnestly pray that somewhere, somehow, the way will be discovered to erase addiction in the human body." (Packer 1989 (\"https://syllabus.byu.edu/index.php?group=4&page=1# ENREF 19\")). This is a very provocative statement

("https://syllabus.byu.edu/index.php?group=4&page=1#_ENREF_19\")). This is a very provocative statement on many levels. This plea from Elder Packer reminds us of the seriousness of addiction, and the stranglehold that it has on the lives of many of God's children. This course presents the most complete and up-to-date research regarding the biopsychosocial nature of addiction.

Materials

Item Price (new) Price (used)



Learning Outcomes

1. Understanding the fundamentals of drug use

Learn the theoretical basis of pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacodynamics, and critically evaluate research in the field.

Measurement: Students will demonstrate this understanding through in-class discussion and on quizzes and exams.

2. Understanding the neural basis of reward

Learn the neural underpinnings of drug and behavioral reward, and evaluate research methods in biochemistry, pharmacology, psychology, and neuroscience.

Measurement: Students will demonstrate this understanding through in-class discussion and on quizzes and exams.

3. Understanding the biopsychosocial nature of addiction

Learn the historical, political and sociological aspects of drug abuse, addiction, treatment, and prevention. Use this knowledge to inform real-world treatments and outcomes associated with drug use and abuse. Students will be able to apply the principles discussed in class to problems and solutions regarding drug and behavioral addiction. Students will be able to critically reflect on the content of the course in light of their knowledge of and commitment to the restored gospel of Jesus Christ, and to sustain personal values that are true to the gospel, while maintaining their serious study of psychology and neuroscience.

Measurement: Students will demonstrate this understanding through in-class discussion, on quizzes/exams. In addition, students will demonstrate this through lab reports on guest lecturers, presentations of news reports and current original research articles, and through attending a community addiction treatment facility and experiencing first-hand the practical aspects of addiction treatment.

Grading Scale

Grades	Percent
А	93%
A-	90%
B+	87%
В	83%
B-	80%
C+	77%
С	73%
C-	70%
D+	67%
D	63%
D-	60%
E	0%

Grading Policy

The breakdown of scores in this course is:

- 1. Three Midterm Exams = 3 X 100 = 300 Pts
- 2. 15 best scores of 17 Quizzes (includes two 15 Pt quizzes) = 95 Pts

- 3. Group Presentation/Article Critique = 50 Pts
- 4. Group Box Presentation = 25 Pts
- 5. Lab Report/Field Study = 25 Pts
- 6. Speaker's Lab Report = 20 Pts

Total possible = 515 Pts Final (optional) = 50 Pts (comprehensive) Extra Credit = 3 opportunities at 5 Pts each for 10 Pts total

Schedule

Date	Lectures	Exams/Quizzes	Presentations
Week 1			
T Sep 05 Tuesday	Introduction	Reading Quiz 1 (Chapter 1) Opens	
Th Sep 07 Thursday	Spiritual Dimensions of Addiction		
Week 2			
T Sep 12 Tuesday	Drug Use and Abuse (Ch1)	Reading Quiz 1 (Chapter 1) Closes Reading Quiz 2 (Chapter 2) Opens	
Th Sep 14 Thursday	Drug Use: Yesterday and Today (Ch2)	Reading Quiz 2 (Chapter 2) Closes Reading Quiz 3 (Chapter 3) Opens	
Week 3			
T Sep 19 Tuesday	Drugs and Nervous System I (Ch3)	Reading Quiz 3 (Chapter 3) Closes	Group 1 Presentation: Club Drugs OR The War on Drugs (Ch2)
Th Sep 21 Thursday	Drugs and Nervous System II (Ch3)		Group 2 Presentation: Neurochemical mechanisms OR Brain Plasticity OR Drug craving and the Brain (Ch3)
Week 4			
T Sep 26 Tuesday	Drugs and Nervous System III (Ch3)	In-Class Quiz (Nervous System) Reading Quiz 4 (Chapter 4) Opens	Group 3 Presentation: Drugs and Cultural Factors (Ch4)
Th Sep 28 Thursday	Pharmacology I (Ch4)		Group 4 Presentation: Drug Safety and Side Effects (Ch4)
Week 5			

T Oct 03 Tuesday	Pharmacology II (Ch4)	Reading Quiz 4 (Chapter 4) Closes	Group 5 Presentation: Drug Testing (Ch4)
Th Oct 05 Thursday	Pharmacology III (Ch4) Guest Speaker I (Chris Alder)	Reading Quiz 5 (Chapter 5) Opens	Group 6 Presentation: DUI Laws (Ch5)
Week 6			
T Oct 10 Tuesday	Psychopharmacology and New Drug Development I (Ch5)		Group 7 Presentation: Drug Discovery and Approval (Ch5)
Th Oct 12 Thursday	Psychopharmacology and New Drug Development II (Ch5)	Reading Quiz 5 (Chapter 5) Closes Exam 1 Opens Reading Quiz 6 (Chapter 6) Opens	Group 8 Presentation: Animal Research (Ch5)
Week 7			
T Oct 17 Tuesday	Psychostimulants I: Cocaine and amphetamines (Ch6)	Reading Quiz 6 (Chapter 6) Closes Reading Quiz 7 (Chapter 7) Opens	Group 9 Presentation: Drugs and Pregnancy (Ch6)
Th Oct 19 Thursday	Psychostimulants II: Nicotine (Ch7)	Exam 1 Closes Reading Quiz 7 (Chapter 7) Closes Reading Quiz 8 (Chapter 8) Opens	Group 10 Presentation: eCigarettes (Ch7)
Week 8			
T Oct 24 Tuesday	Psychostimulants III: Caffeine (Ch8)	Reading Quiz 8 (Chapter 8) Closes Reading Quiz 9 (Chapter 9) Opens	Group 11 Presentation: Energy drinks (Ch8)
Th Oct 26 Thursday	Depressants I: Alcohol I (Ch9) Guest Speaker II (Dave Peterson)		Group 12 Presentation: Binge drinking (Ch9)
Week 9	·		
T Oct 31 Tuesday	Depressants II: Alcohol II (Ch9) Guest Speaker III (Dale Anderson)	Reading Quiz 9 (Chapter 9) Closes	Group 13 Presentation: Moderate Drinking and Health (Ch9)
Th Nov 02 Thursday	Depressants III: Alcohol III (Ch9)	Reading Quiz 10 (Chapter 10) Opens	
Week 10			

T Nov 07 Tuesday	Depressants IV: Opiates (Ch10)	Reading Quiz 10 (Chapter 10) Closes Exam 2 Opens Reading Quiz 11 (Chapter 11) Opens	Group 14 Presentation: Opioids and Pain (Ch10)	
Th Nov 09 Thursday	Instructors at Neuroscience Meeting			
Week 11				
T Nov 14 Tuesday	Instructors at Neuroscience Meeting	Exam 2 Closes		
Th Nov 16 Thursday	Depressants V: Marijuana (Ch11)	Reading Quiz 11 (Chapter 11) Closes	Group 15 Presentation: Legalization of Marijuana (Ch11)	
Week 12				
T Nov 21 Tuesday	Friday Instruction			
W Nov 22 Wednesday	No Classes			
Th Nov 23 Thursday	Thanksgiving			
Week 13				
T Nov 28 Tuesday	Guest Speaker IV (Duncan Peterson)	Reading Quiz 12 (Chapter 12) Opens	Group 16 Presentation: Herbal remedies	
Th Nov 30 Thursday	Hallucinogens (Ch12)	Reading Quiz 12 (Chapter 12) Closes	Group 17 Presentation: Hallucinogens as Treatment for Addiction (Ch12)	
Week 14				
T Dec 05 Tuesday	Sex I (Biology)	In-Class Quiz (Sex Addiction)	Group 18 Presentation: History of Sex Excess	
Th Dec 07 Thursday	Sex III (Addiction) Sex II (Addiction)	Reading Quiz 13 (Chapter 13) Opens	Group 19 Presentation: Performance enhancing drugs	
Week 15				
T Dec 12 Tuesday	Psychotherapeutic Medications (Ch13)	Reading Quiz 13 (Chapter 13) Closes Reading Quiz 15 (Chapter 15) Opens	Group 20 Presentation: Antidepressant medications	
Th Dec 14 Thursday	Treatment of Substance- Use Disorders (Ch15)	Reading Quiz 15 (Chapter 15) Closes		
F Dec 15 Friday	Fall Exam Preparation (12/15/2017 - 12/15/2017)			

Sa Dec 16 Saturday	First Day of Fall Final Exams (12/16/2017 - 12/21/2017) Prevention of Substance- Use Disorders (Ch16) Final Exam: 250 MSRB 7:00am - 10:00am	Exam 3	Group 22 Presentation: 12 step programs: Do they work? Group 20 Presentation: Pornography Group 23 Presentation: D.A.R.E
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Assignments

Assignment Description

Reading Quiz 1 (Chapter 1)

Sep 12

Due: Tuesday, Sep 12 at 9:30 am

Quiz on reading for chapter 1

Reading Quiz 2 (Chapter 2)

Sep **14**

Due: Thursday, Sep 14 at 9:30 am

Quiz on reading for chapter 2

Reading Quiz 3 (Chapter 3)

Sep 19

Due: Tuesday, Sep 19 at 9:30 am

Quiz on reading for chapter 3

In-Class Quiz (Nervous System)

Sep **26**

Due: Tuesday, Sep 26 at 11:59 pm

Quiz at the end of the section

Reading Quiz 4 (Chapter 4)

Oct **03**

Due: Tuesday, Oct 03 at 9:30 am

Quiz on reading for chapter 4

Reading Quiz 5 (Chapter 5)

Oct **12**

Due: Thursday, Oct 12 at 9:30 am

Quiz on reading for chapter 5

Reading Quiz 6 (Chapter 6)

Oct 17 Due: Tuesday,

Due: Tuesday, Oct 17 at 9:30 am

Quiz on reading for chapter 6

Reading Quiz 7 (Chapter 7)

Oct **19**

Due: Thursday, Oct 19 at 9:30 am

Quiz on reading for chapter 7

Exam 1



Due: Thursday, Oct 19 at 9:00 pm

Exam 1: Coverage Chs 1-5

Reading Quiz 8 (Chapter 8)



Due: Tuesday, Oct 24 at 9:30 am

Quiz on reading for chapter 8

Reading Quiz 9 (Chapter 9)

Oct **31**

Due: Tuesday, Oct 31 at 9:30 am

Quiz on reading for chapter 9

Reading Quiz 10 (Chapter 10)



Due: Tuesday, Nov 07 at 9:30 am

Quiz on reading for chapter 10

Exam 2



Due: Tuesday, Nov 14 at 9:00 pm

Exam 2: Covers Chs 6-10

Reading Quiz 11 (Chapter 11)

Nov 16

Due: Thursday, Nov 16 at 9:30 am

Quiz on reading for chapter 11

Reading Quiz 12 (Chapter 12)

Nov 30

Due: Thursday, Nov 30 at 9:30 am

Quiz on reading for chapter 12

In-Class Quiz (Sex Addiction)

Dec **05**

Due: Tuesday, Dec 05 at 11:59 pm

Reading Quiz 13 (Chapter 13)

Dec **12**

Due: Tuesday, Dec 12 at 9:30 am

Quiz on reading for chapter 13

Extra Credit



Due: Tuesday, Dec 12 at 11:59 pm

It will consist of 4 options worth 5 Pts each. You will get credit for completing 2. The options include: 1) Abstain from something you like a lot for a week and write a paragraph about your experience; 2) Submit a course evaluation; 3) Participate as a subject in a research project; OR 4) Attend either a Psychology or Neuroscience Seminar.

Lab Report/Field Study

Dec 13

Due: Wednesday, Dec 13 at 11:59 pm

You will write a one-page, single-spaced report about your experience at an addiction recovery facility, which may include Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, or an LDS Family Services Drug or Pornography recovery program. You will need to obtain permission for any other type of addiction recovery program. The TA can help you find a program that would be of interest to you. However, they are easy to find on-line and there are plenty of opportunities in the community to attend one of these programs. Attend, observe their operations and report on your experience. Be sensitive about the confidential and anonymous nature of those attending the meeting. You do not have to report your real name. You need to act out a little. However, no one is expected to speak or share at the meeting. Just say "pass" or "I'd rather not share tonight". Don't say, "I am just here to observe". They will not like that.

Speakers Lab Report



Due: Wednesday, Dec 13 at 11:59 pm

We will have 4 quest speakers throughout the semester. To check for attendance I would like you to write a one-page, single-spaced report about what you learned from the speakers. Dedicate just a paragraph for each speaker. Please voice your thoughts, impressions, and opinions about specifics that were addressed. It is not enough to say, "I really enjoyed......". Be more specific so that I know you were there and attentive. If you miss one of the speakers you will still get credit for those you didn't miss.

Group Presentation

Dec **13**

Due: Wednesday, Dec 13 at 11:59 pm

This assignment consists of a group in-class oral presentation worth 50 points. Presentations will last 20-25 mins with 5 min of questions. The topics are indicated for your group on the schedule. The topics are typically associated with the lecture/Chapter reading material. The study of addiction is a very active area of research. Each member of your group should first read any textbook information on the topic. Then, make arrangements to meet with the instructor one week before your presentation during office hrs or make an appointment. The instructor will give you some materials and suggest approaches, explore directions to take, consider ways to present the material, etc... The presentation should be uploaded into LS within one week after the presentation. Presentations will be competitively graded based on the rubric above: 10 Pts Originality; 10 Pts Organization; 10 Pts Skill; 10 Pts Style; 10 Pts Teamwork.

Quizzes



Due: Wednesday, Dec 13 at 11:59 pm

There will be 20+ quizzes in the course. Most are associated with the reading, but there may be some at the end of a long section of lectures. They will be iClicker quizzes and will be taken in class at the time indicated on the schedule. They are mostly to encourage timely reading of the chapters in the textbook. I also reserve the right to have pop quizzes in class. Most quizzes will be of the same value, but there may be some larger quizzes. We will drop your lowest scores above 20 quizzes. There are really NO make-up quizzes. Certainly, there are good reasons to miss an occasional class and quiz. I will permit make-up quizzes due to circumstances beyond your control, like a death in the family, marriages, interviews, commitments to University-sponsored activities/sports, athletes, etc... In otherwords, a good excuse is needed, prior to the quiz. Make-up quizzes are problematical for us as we have to process them, email them, score them, annotate them manually, etc... Thus, there is a high likelihood that they will get lost in the shuffle that we are all prone to. The same is true of paper quizzes due to iClicker failures, which will invariably happen. I understand the need to do well in the course and hedge your bets by taking as many quizzes as possible. However, if you miss a few quizzes during the Semester it is probably OK.

Reading Quiz 15 (Chapter 15)



Due: Thursday, Dec 14 at 9:30 am

Quiz on reading for chapter 15

Exam 3



Due: Saturday, Dec 16 at 10:00 am

Coverage: Ch12, Sex Lectures (nothing on LDS Perspectives), Ch13 and Ch15. No Ch16.

University Policies

Honor Code

In keeping with the principles of the BYU Honor Code, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic work. Academic honesty means, most fundamentally, that any work you present as your own must in fact be your own work and not that of another. Violations of this principle may result in a failing grade in the course and additional disciplinary action by the university. Students are also expected to adhere to the Dress and Grooming Standards. Adherence demonstrates respect for yourself and others and ensures an effective learning and working environment. It is the university's expectation, and every instructor's expectation in class, that each student will abide by all Honor Code standards. Please call the Honor Code Office at 422-2847 if you have questions about those standards.

Sexual Misconduct

In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Brigham Young University prohibits unlawful sex discrimination against any participant in its education programs or activities. The university also prohibits sexual harassment-including sexual violence-committed by or against students, university employees, and visitors to campus. As outlined in university policy, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking are considered forms of "Sexual Misconduct" prohibited by the university.

University policy requires all university employees in a teaching, managerial, or supervisory role to report all incidents of Sexual Misconduct that come to their attention in any way, including but not limited to face-to-face conversations, a written class assignment or paper, class discussion, email, text, or social media post. Incidents of Sexual Misconduct should be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at <a href="mailto:text-occurrengerge-text-occurrengerge-text-occurrenge-text-occurr

BYU offers confidential resources for those affected by Sexual Misconduct, including the university's Victim Advocate, as well as a number of non-confidential resources and services that may be helpful. Additional information about Title IX, the university's Sexual Misconduct Policy, reporting requirements, and resources can be found at http://titleix.byu.edu (http://titleix.byu.edu (or by contacting the university's Title IX Coordinator.

Student Disability

Brigham Young University is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere that reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability which may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the University Accessibility Center (UAC), 2170 WSC or 422-2767. Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified, documented disabilities. The UAC can also assess students for learning, attention, and emotional concerns. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the UAC. If you need assistance or if you feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures by contacting the Equal Employment Office at 422-5895, D-285 ASB.

Academic Honesty

The first injunction of the Honor Code is the call to "be honest." Students come to the university not only to improve their minds, gain knowledge, and develop skills that will assist them in their life's work, but also to build character. "President David O. McKay taught that character is the highest aim of education" (The Aims of a BYU Education, p.6). It is the purpose of the BYU Academic Honesty Policy to assist in fulfilling that aim. BYU students should seek to be totally honest in their dealings with others. They should complete their own work and be evaluated based upon that work. They should avoid academic dishonesty and misconduct in all its forms, including but not limited to plagiarism, fabrication or falsification, cheating, and other academic misconduct.