

Course Outline

1. Staff

Position	Name	Email	Consultation times and locations	Contact Details
Course Convenor & Lecturer	Dr. Helena Pacitti	h.pacitti@unsw.edu.au	Mon-Fri 9 am to 5 pm via Moodle discussion forum or email. Available for consultation online via Moodle Chat 2-3pm each Thursday or meeting (via MS Teams).	Forum/ Email

2. Course information

Units of credit:	6
Pre-requisite(s):	None
Teaching times and locations:	Online via Moodle (see: PSYC1022 Timetable).

2.1 Course summary

This course deals with transdisciplinary issues pertinent to the understanding and treatment of drug addiction. Topics include: historic origins of drugs; manufacture, global distribution and black market economics; epidemiology of population uptake; biomedical harms; neuropharmacological actions; effects on learning, motivation, cognition and behaviour; psychiatric comorbidity; individual differences in vulnerability; brain mechanisms of reward and impaired cognitive control; treatment by behavioural interventions and pharmacotherapy; prevention by education; prohibition by criminal justice; and the role of scientific evidence in government policy. The course will provide a broad understanding of drug use and the systems in place to counteract it.

2.2 Course aims

The overall aim of this course is to enable students to develop an introductory understanding of biological, psychological and social factors involved in drug addiction through the investigation of major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends, with an emphasis on knowledge of research methods in this field.

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLO)

At the successful completion of this course the student should

2.4 Relationship between course and program learning outcomes and assessments

	Program Learning Outcomes					
CLO	1. Knowledge	2. Research Methods	3. Critical Thinking Skills	4. Values and Ethics	5. Communication,	Assessment

3. Strategies and approaches to learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

Lectures: the lecture content of this course is presented entirely online via the [Moodle](#) eLearning website. The format of the lectures involves PowerPoint slides with accompanying audio. In addition, PDF slides of the lectures are made available. Students should both read through the lectures and write separate notes to maximise their understanding and retention of the material. The lectures will be made available at the start of each week and will be left online for the duration of the course. This will allow students to go through the lectures at their own pace. While it will not be monitored directly, all students must listen to the lectures in the week in which they are set. The content of this course is extensive and at times complex; students who do not stay up to date with course material each week will likely find it difficult to prepare for assessment tasks and exams due to the cumulative nature of t of

5. Assessment

5.1 Assessment tasks

All assessments in this course have been designed and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

Assessment task	Length	Weight	Mark	Due date
Assessment 1: Topic quizzes (15)	Varied	0% (formative)	Varied	N/A

with the exception of SRL 4 (multiple-choice questions) whereby instructions are released Monday in Week 6 and must be completed by Sunday of Week 9. Each SRL activity is worth 2%, so students may earn a total of 10% of their final grade by completing them by the due dates (see above table). *Note, due to the participatory nature of the SRL activities, time extensions are not possible* (ELS adjustments are the only exception). Approved Special Consideration applications for an SRL activity will receive an aggreg

5.2 Assessment criteria and standards

Further details and marking criteria for each assessment will be provided to students closer to the assessment release date (see 4.1: UNSW Assessment Design Procedure).

5.3 Submission of assessment tasks

Essay: In accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy the final version of the essay must be submitted online via Turnitin. No paper or emailed copies will be accepted.

Late penalties: deduction of marks for late submissions

6. Academic integrity, referencing

