

Miami-Dade Community College
Department of Independent Studies
Kendall Campus

PSB 2442

The Psychology of Addiction

3 credits

Spring Term, 2002-2

Phone: (305) 237-2886

Room 3307

PSB 2442 The Psychology of Addiction - 3 credits

This course will examine the psychological, medical, pharmacological, sociological, and philosophical aspects of addiction. Substance addictions, such as addiction to heroin, cocaine, marijuana, alcohol, tobacco, and caffeine, will be addressed. In addition, behavioral addictions, co-dependency, recovery process, and prevention programs will be studied. An opportunity for individual research is provided. The twelve-step program of Alcoholics Anonymous provides the foundation for the examination of the recovery process.

Your performance will be evaluated primarily by tests and the completion of projects/learning activities.

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to demonstrate

1. comprehension of the process of addiction, understanding its definition and identifying its progression;
2. comprehension of different types of addiction, differentiating between psychological and physical dependence;
3. comprehension of the roots of addiction, including genetic and environmental factors;
4. knowledge of the disease concept of chemical dependency by listing the criteria required to classify an ailment as a disease;
5. understanding of the concept of tolerance by defining the term and also by recognizing it in certain substance addictions;
6. understanding the disease of alcoholism by defining the term and recognizing the symptoms;
7. comprehension of the concept of predisposition by defining the term and recognizing how it applies to the disease of alcoholism;
8. understanding the role society plays in the use and abuse of drugs
9. comprehension of societal effects of alcohol use by describing ways in which alcohol contributes to crime and accidents;
10. comprehension of the concept of co-dependency by defining the term, knowing its classification, and identifying its symptoms;
11. comprehension of enabling by defining the term and recognizing the behavioral patterns;
12. understanding the difference between abstinence and detoxification;

13. understanding the 12 steps of Alcoholics Anonymous as the program impacts recovery;
14. understanding of the 12 traditions of A.A. as the foundation of the program;
15. comprehension of the term “rehabilitation” by describing various treatment programs;
16. understanding of the term “recovery” by defining it and applying it to various addictions;
17. analysis of current professional studies in the field of addiction by examining research data pertaining to course topics;
18. understanding of the implications of taking over-the-counter drugs and herbs
19. application of course concepts by completing related research and activity projects.

PSB 2442 The Psychology of Addiction

Textbook: *Drugs, Society, and Human Behavior, 9th Ed.*, by Oakley Ray and Charles Ksir, 2002, McGraw-Hill

Additional Resource: *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc., 1952 (Twenty-third printing, 1996)*

FROM THE TEXTBOOK

For TESTS I AND II, objective tests are required. Test III OR Test IV must be chosen as your third objective test, and the remaining section will be a take-home essay exam.

		<u>Maximum Pts.</u>
Test I	Chapters 1 through 5 Drug Use in Modern Society Textbook—pages 1-114.	20 points Objective test
Test II	Chapters 6 and 7 How Drugs Work Textbook—pages 115-164.	20 points Objective test
*Test III	Chapters 8 through 10 Uppers and Downers Textbook—pages 165-240	20 points Objective test or Take-home exam
*Test IV	Chapters 11 through 15 Alcohol and Familiar Drugs Textbook—pages 241-373	20 points Objective test or Take-home exam

***ONLY ONE OF THESE TESTS MAY BE A TAKE-HOME EXAM - your choice!**

ADDITIONAL LEARNING ACTIVITIES - Up to 40 points

You may complete activities/projects from the list on the following page.

Additional Learning Activities:

You may earn a total of 40 additional points by completing learning activities and research from the list that follows:

1. **Select four of the drug-related issues/problems in the *Taking Sides* boxes found in each chapter.** Take a side in the debate on each issue, and express your thoughts and feelings in writing. Be certain to support your personal point of view with what you have learned in the course and from your life's experiences. **Max. 10 pts.**
2. **Complete all Review Questions at the end of chapters 1 through 15.** Submit brief written answers, typed and labeled correctly. **Max. 15 points.**
3. **Attend at least two open-discussion Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings.** Write up what you saw and heard (you must honor their anonymity), as well as your own reflections on the experience. Be sure you include time, date, and location of the meetings you attend. **Max. 10 points**
4. **Read and know the 12-Steps and 12 Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous.** After you have learned them completely and thought about them carefully, write up YOUR OWN RESPONSE to each of the 12 Steps. You will want to apply the thoughts to your life in whatever way is helpful to you. For example, Step One may be a shopaholic's credit card balances becoming unmanageable or an overeater becoming out of control. In this activity, it may not be an alcoholic addiction you are thinking about, but perhaps you will want to apply the 12 steps to another type of addiction or a behavior that is interfering with your life in some way. **Max. 10 points**
5. **For each of the chapters in the three objective exams you take, log on to the Online Learning Center (OLC) for access to chapter definitions, student interactive question and answer sites, and self-scoring chapter quizzes.** Complete the chapter quiz for each chapter and score it. Submit copies of your work to your professor. **Max. 10 points**
6. **Complete 10 activities suggested in purple boxes titled *Web Watch*.** Write up brief reviews of articles read, surveys completed, or whatever activities you choose to do. **Max. 10 points**

7. **Conduct an interview with a person who has followed the 12-Step program and has experienced sobriety for at least one year.** Have your questions approved by your instructor before you conduct the interview. Write up your questions and the responses, making sure to honor the person's anonymity. **Max. 5 points**

8. **Complete all the *HealthQuest Activities* suggested for at least 5 chapters.** These may be found in the blue boxes within most chapters. Write up your responses and be sure to include the chapter and page number of each HealthQuest assignment. **Max. 15 points**

9. **Complete 10 *Try It! Activities* usually found at the end of each chapter.** Respond to all questions, surveys, and suggested activities. Present your work to your instructor. **Max. 10 points**

10. **Design a learning activity that is related to course objectives and of personal interest to you.** This may be an observation, interview, research report, brochure, bibliography, survey, or other activity related to some aspect of addiction or treatment. Receive your instructor's approval before you proceed with the project. **Max. 15 points**

FINAL GRADES

Grade	Points
A	90 to 120
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59 and below

Important Dates for Spring Term, 2002-2 Jan. 7, 2003-May 1, 2003

Tuesday	January 7, 2003	Classes begin
IMPORTANT!	Jan.-mid. Feb.	Complete Test 1
Sat.-Mon.	Jan. 18-20	Martin Luther King Holiday, College closed.
Monday	Jan. 13	Last day to drop with refund
IMPORTANT!	Mid-Feb.-March	Complete Test 2
Thur.	March 6	Conference Day—no classes.
Wednesday	March 19	Last day to drop with “W”
IMPORTANT!	March-early Apr.	Complete Test 3
Fri.-Sun.	April 18-20	Spring break—College closed
IMPORTANT!	April 1-25	Complete Test 4 and submit ALL projects