

OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code:	COUN-1019
Short Title:	Understanding Pharmacology
Long Title:	Understanding Pharmacology from a Counsellor's Perspective
Prerequisites:	Understanding Substance Use (COUN-1100)
Co-requisites:	None
School:	School of Health, Community & Social Justice
Division/Academy/Centre:	Centre for Counselling & Community Safety
Previous Code & Title:	EP308 – Understanding Pharmacology from a Counsellor's Perspective
Course First Offered:	

Credits:	1.0
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Course Description

This course is for any helping professional interested in expanding their knowledge of pharmacology and how it pertains to clinical counselling situations. Topics include the central nervous system, anti-depressant medications, anti-anxiety medications, and drugs used to treat schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. Special emphasis is placed on substance abuse and the consequences of mixing psychotropic medications with street drugs. Through discussion and case scenarios, participants will gain knowledge of psychotropic medications, including their effects, side effects, lethality, and interactions with street medications.

Course Goals

Upon successful completion of this 14 hour, two day course, the participant will be able to identify various medications and their uses. As well, they will be able to have some understanding of the various side effects of medications and advocate for clients in clinical situations.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the learner will be able to:

1. Discuss psychotropic medications.
2. Describe the effects of the mixture of psychotropic medications and street drugs.
3. Describe the various components and chemistry of the brain and how it reacts to drugs.

Course Topics/Content

- What is psycho-pharmacy?
- Generic versus brand: what's in a name?
- Types of neurotransmitters
- Genetics

- Mental disorders
- Classifications of antidepressant medication, anti-anxiety, anti-psychotic medication and mood stabilizers
- Side effects of psychotropic medications
- Eating disorders
- Sleep disorders
- Personality disorders
- Concurrent disorders
- Criteria (DSM-IV-TR) substance abuse
- Drugs used to treat drug abuse

Text & Resource Materials

Use APA style; specify chapters where applicable. ([APA Style Guidelines](#))

Equivalent JIBC Courses

None

Instructional Method(s)* <i>(select all that apply)</i>	Hours
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct Instruction (lecture, seminar, role plays, independent study, etc.)	14
<input type="checkbox"/> Supervised Practice (includes simulations & labs)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Practice Education, Field Placement, Internship or Co-op	
Totals	14

Course Evaluation

The evaluation criteria used for this course are represented below. Specific course evaluation information will be provided by the instructor at the start of the course.

Criterion	% of Final Grade <small>(may be represented as a range)</small>
Course work (activities, assignments, essays, reports, etc.)	
Quizzes and exams	
Simulations/Labs	
Attendance/Participation (in class or online)	100%
Practice Education/Internships	
Total	100%

Comments on Evaluation

100% attendance in all classes.

Active contribution in large and small group discussions and activities.

Successful completion of written assignment for Substance Use Certificate

Course Grading Scheme*

JIBC1 (A to F) JIBC2 (MAS/NMA) JIBC3(CM/IN) JIBC4 (P/F)

(* <http://www.jibc.ca/policy/3304> Grading policy)

Other Course Guidelines, Procedures and Comments

This course is required for the Substance Use Certificate.

View official versions of related JIBC academic regulations and student policies in the JIBC Calendar on the following pages of the JIBC website:

Academic Regulations:

<http://www.jibc.ca/programs-courses/jibc-calendar/academic-regulations>

Student Academic Integrity Policy
Academic Progression Policy
Admissions Policy
Academic Appeals Policy
Evaluation Policy
Grading Policy

Student Policies:

<http://www.jibc.ca/about-jibc/governance/policies>

Access Policy
Harassment Policy – Students
Student Records Policy
Student Code of Conduct Policy

JIBC Core Competencies

The JIBC promotes the development of core and specialized competencies in its programs. Graduates of our programs will demonstrate high levels of competence in the following areas:

- Critical thinking:** Identify and examine issues and ideas; analyze and evaluate options in a variety of fields with differing assumptions, contents and methods.
- Communication, Oral and written:** Demonstrate effective communication skills by selecting the appropriate style, language and form of communication suitable for different audiences and mediums.
- Leadership:** Inspire individuals and teams to reach their potential by embracing innovation through strategic thinking and shared responsibility.
- Independent learning:** Show initiative by acting independently in choosing effective, efficient and appropriate applied learning, research and problem solving strategies.
- Globally minded:** Self-aware of own identity and culture, recognize the
- Problem solving:** State problems clearly; effectively and efficiently evaluate alternative solutions; choose solutions that maximize positive and minimize negative outcomes.
- Interpersonal relations:** Know and manage ourselves; recognize and acknowledge the needs and emotions of others including those with diverse cultures, backgrounds and capabilities.
- Inter-professional teamwork:** Understand and work productively within and between groups, respect others' perspectives and provide constructive feedback with special attention to inter-professional relationships.
- Information literacy:** Recognize and analyze the extent and nature of an information need; efficiently locate and retrieve information; evaluate it and its sources

interconnectedness of world events and issues; interact respectfully and authentically across cultures; value multiple perspectives; utilize curiosity to learn with and from others.

critically, and use information effectively and ethically.