



**UNSW**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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# Science

Faculty of Science  
School of Psychology

Course Code  
Course Name

Semester 1, 2013

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1. Information about the Course			
<b>FACULTY</b>	Science		
<b>SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT</b>	Psychology		
<b>COURSE CODE</b>	GENS9004		
<b>COURSE NAME</b>	Psychology of Addiction		
<b>SEMESTER</b>	Semester 1	<b>YEAR</b>	2013
<b>UNITS OF CREDIT</b>	6	<b>LEVEL OF COURSE</b>	General
<b>ASSUMED KNOWLEDGE, PREREQUISITES OR CO-REQUISITES</b>	None		
<b>SUMMARY OF THE COURSE</b>	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. Staff Contact Details				
<b>COURSE COORDINATOR</b>				
<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Contact Time &amp; Availability</b>
Dr Lee Hogarth	93853038	l.hogarth@unsw.edu.au	507	By appointment
<b>LECTURERS</b>				
<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Contact Time &amp; Availability</b>
<b>TUTORS &amp; DEMONSTRATORS</b>				
<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Contact Time &amp; Availability</b>

3. Course Timetable				
Component	Class Number	Day	Time	Location
Lecture 1, 2		Available week starting	04/3/2013	Web
Lecture 3, 4		Available week starting	11/3/2013	Web
Lecture 5, 6		Available week starting	18/3/2013	Web
Lecture 7, 8		Available week starting	25/3/2013	Web
Lecture 9, 10		Available week starting	08/4/2013	Web
Lecture 11, 12		Available week starting	15/4/2013	Web
Lecture 13, 14		Available week starting	22/4/2013	Web
Lecture 15, 16		Available week starting	29/4/2013	Web
Lecture 17, 18		Available week starting	06/5/2013	Web
Lecture 19, 20		Available week starting	13/5/2013	Web
Lecture 21, 22		Available week starting	20/5/2013	Web
Lecture 23, 24		Available week starting	27/5/2013	Web
<i>NB. Course timetables are subject to change without notice. Students are advised to check regularly for updates on the Blackboard course site.</i>				

#### 4. Aims of the Course

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.

#### 5. Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course you will be able to:

1. A knowledge and understanding of addiction psychology with regard to:	<p>1.1. Transdisciplinary domains of psychology and their major objectives in addiction research and theory.</p> <p>1.2. Major focus on themes in physiological psychology and psychopharmacology relating to the behavioural vs. neural underpinnings of motivation.</p> <p>1.3. The ability to explain psychological phenomena using concepts, language and major theories drawn from transdisciplinary domains of psychology.</p>
2. A knowledge of research methods in psychology, enabling you to:	<p>2.1. Describe, apply and evaluate different research methods used in psychology.</p> <p>2.2. Use basic web-search programs to locate and evaluate scholarly material relevant to the course content.</p> <p>2.3. Interpret numerical data in relation to broader theoretical issues.</p>
3. Developed advanced critical thinking skills in Psychology, enabling you to	<p>3.1. Question claims that arise from myth, stereotype, pseudo-science or untested assumptions.</p> <p>3.2. Demonstrate an attitude of critical thinking that includes persistence, open-mindedness, and intellectual engagement.</p> <p>3.3. Evaluate the quality of information, including differentiating empirical evidence from speculation.</p> <p>3.4. Recognise and defend against the major fallacies of human thinking.</p> <p>3.5. Evaluate issues using different theoretical and methodological approaches.</p> <p>3.6. Use reasoning and evidence to recognise, develop, defend, and criticise arguments and persuasive appeals.</p>
4. Developed an advanced appreciation of values in Psychology, including the ability to:	<p>4.1. Use information in an ethical manner.</p> <p>4.2. Consider how prejudicial attitudes and discriminatory behaviours might exist in oneself and in others.</p> <p>4.3. Exhibit a scientific attitude in critically thinking about, and learning about, behaviour, creative and pragmatic problem solving.</p> <p>4.4. Promote evidence-based approaches to understanding and changing human behaviour.</p>
5. Developed effective communication skills in Psychology, including the ability to:	<p>5.1. Write effectively in essay format for the purpose of informing and arguing.</p>

#### 6. Graduate Attributes

Science Graduate Attributes *	Level of Focus	Activities/Assessment
	0 = No focus 1 = Minimal	

\* The *Graduate Attributes of the Australian Undergraduate Psychology Program* was produced as part of the Carrick Associate Fellowship project, "Sustainable and evidence-based learning and teaching approaches to the undergraduate psychology curriculum", and "Designing a diverse and future-oriented vision for undergraduate psychology in Australia", a Discipline-based Initiative funded by the Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education (see Appendix II), and supported by the Australian Psychological Society, and the University of New South Wales (School of Psychology; Learning and Teaching @UNSW).

	2 = Minor 3 = Major	
1. Core knowledge and understanding	3	Acquire knowledge of abnormal psychology, biological bases of behaviour, cognition, individual differences, learning, lifespan development, motivation and emotion, historical psychology, clinical service delivery, social policy, epidemiology.
2. Research methods in psychology	2	Understand science of psychology, apply and evaluate different research methods, critically analyse theoretical and empirical studies
3. Critical thinking skills	3	Apply knowledge of the scientific method in thinking about problems related to addiction.
4. Values, research and professional ethics	0	
5. Teamwork, collaborative and management skills	0	
6. Communication skills	2	Write a standard research report using American Psychological Association (APA) structure and formatting conventions.
7. Learning and the application of psychology	3	Apply knowledge of psychology, society, clinical practice and government policy.

### **7. Rationale for the Inclusion of Content and Teaching Approach**

This course provides a broad understanding of scientific perspectives on addiction and its treatment. It is both complementary and serves as a primer for biological, clinical and applied courses in psychology.

### **8. Teaching Strategies**

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<b>9. Course Schedule</b>			
<b>Week</b>	<b>Lecture Topic &amp; Lecturer (Hogarth all)</b>	<b>Tutorial/Lab Content</b>	<b>Suggested Readings</b>
1	Origins of drugs	<i>2 web lectures</i>	
2	Distribution and bioavailability	<i>2 web lectures</i>	
3	Epidemiology and harms	<i>2 web lectures</i>	
4	Withdrawal and tolerance	<i>2 web lectures</i>	
5	Learning and conditioning	<i>2 web lectures</i>	
6	Reward and choice	<i>2 web lectures</i>	
7	Behavioural economics and cognitive bias	<i>2 web lectures</i>	
8	Comorbidity and individual differences	<i>2 web lectures</i>	
9	Brain mechanisms of reward and control	<i>2 web lectures</i>	
10	Treatment services and behaviour therapy	<i>2 web lectures</i>	
11	Pharmacotherapy and prevention	<i>2 web lectures</i>	
12	Prohibition and government policy	<i>2 web lectures</i>	

10. Assessment								
Assessment Task	Weight	Learning Outcomes Assessed	Graduate Attributes Assessed	Date of		Feedback		
				Release	Submission	Who	When	How
A self-assessed (non-assessed) 20 question multiple choice questionnaire (MCQ) test.	0			22/3/2013	N/A			
1000 word essay submitted to Turnitin	30%			Week 1	31/5/2013	Hogarth	14.6.13	Written
60 question, one-hour MCQ exam	70%				Exam period semester 1	Hogarth	End of exam period	Written
<p>The course will cover topics listed in the summary above. In each week of semester 1, two new lectures will become available for viewing in Moodle, to which students must attend. There will be three forms of assessment of students' learning of this lecture material.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A self-assessed (non-assessed) 20 question multiple choice questionnaire (MCQ) test will be distributed on 22/3/2013. The purpose of this test is to help students determine if they wish to continue enrolment in the course beyond the census date (31/3/2013) and incur liability for course fees.</li> <li>2. A single 1000 word essay must be submitted to Turnitin by the deadline 31/5/2013. This essay is worth 30% of the overall course mark. Essay titles and the Turnitin link will be available in Moodle.</li> <li>3. A 60 question, one-hour assessed MCQ exam will be held during the exam period at the end of semester 1 (14/6 - 1/7/2013, exact time and place TBA).</li> </ol>								

### 11. Expected Resources for Students

<b>TEXTBOOKS</b>	No set text
<b>COURSE MANUAL</b>	Available via course website
<b>REQUIRED READINGS</b>	Available via course website
<b>RECOMMENDED INTERNET SITES</b>	Moodle

### 12. Course Evaluation & Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered using various means including UNSW's Course and Teaching Evaluation and Improvement (CATEI) process.

### 13. Plagiarism & Academic Integrity

#### What is plagiarism?

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's thoughts or work as your own. It can take many forms, from not having appropriate academic referencing to deliberate cheating.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- **Copying:** using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.
- **Inappropriate paraphrasing:** changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit. It also applies to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without referencing and a student's own analysis to bring the material together.
- **Collusion:** working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- **Duplication:** submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

#### Where can I find out more information?

In many cases plagiarism is the result of inexperience about academic conventions. The University has resources and information to assist you to avoid plagiarism. The first place you can look is the section about referencing and plagiarism in each Course Guide, as this will also include information specific to the discipline the course is from. There are also other sources of assistance at UNSW:

- **How can the Learning Centre help me?**

The Learning Centre assists students with understanding academic integrity and how to not plagiarise. Information is available on their website: [www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism](http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism). They also hold workshops and can help students one-on-one.

- **How can Elise help me?**

ELISE (Enabling Library & Information Skills for Everyone) is an online tutorial to help you understand how to find and use information for your assignments or research. It will help you to search databases, identify good quality information and write assignments. It will also help you understand plagiarism and how to avoid it. All undergraduate students have to review the ELISE tutorial in their first semester and complete the quiz, but any student can review it to improve their knowledge: <http://elise.library.unsw.edu.au>.

- **What is Turnitin?**

Turnitin is a checking database which reviews your work and compares it to an international collection of books, journals, Internet pages and other student's assignments. The database checks referencing and whether you have copied something from another student, resource, or off the Internet. Sometimes

students submit their work into Turnitin when they hand it in, but academics can also use it to check a student's work when they are marking it. You can find out more about Turnitin here: <http://telt.unsw.edu.au/turnitin>.

### **What if plagiarism is found in my work?**

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student's work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism in a honours thesis) even suspension from the university. The Student Misconduct Procedures are available here

[www.unsw.edu.au/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf](http://www.unsw.edu.au/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf)

### **Examples of plagiarism**

#### **Using the internet appropriately**

A first year student handed in an assignment where she had copied from a website. Her lecturer realised she didn't understand you have to reference websites in the same way you reference books and journal articles. The lecturer explained how to reference and sent her to a workshop at the Learning Centre to help her improve her skills.

#### **Working together on a math assignment**

A group of Mathematics students worked together on an assignment when they had been told this was not allowed. All questions where the students had worked together were given zero, and this led to some student failing the assessment.

#### **No referencing in an assessment**

A third year student submitted a major assessment that included material from a journal article published in Canada. When his essay was submitted into Turnitin, it let the academic know that the student didn't reference the material. The student was given zero for the essay, and because it was worth 50 per cent he failed the course.

#### **Copying design work**

A final year design student used images of someone else's designs in her work and he said the designs were his own. The matter was formally investigated by his Faculty and he was found to have committed academic misconduct and failed the course.

#### **Further information and assistance**

If you would like further information or assistance with avoiding plagiarism, you can contact the Learning Centre. The Learning Centre at The University of New South Wales has two locations:

#### **UNSW Learning Centre**

Lower Ground Floor, North Wing, Chancellery Building  
(C22 Kensington Campus – near Student Central)

[www.lc.unsw.edu.au](http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au)

**Phone:** 9385 2060

**Email:** [learningcentre@unsw.edu.au](mailto:learningcentre@unsw.edu.au)

#### **Opening Hours:**

Monday to Thursday: 9am - 5pm and

Friday: 9am - 2.30pm

#### **COFA Campus Learning Centre**

**Email:** [cofalearningcentre@unsw.edu.au](mailto:cofalearningcentre@unsw.edu.au)

**Phone:** 9385 0739

#### 14. Administrative Matters

The *School of Psychology Student Guide*, available on [http://www.psy.unsw.edu.au/students/current/files/Student Guide.pdf](http://www.psy.unsw.edu.au/students/current/files/Student%20Guide.pdf), contains School policies and procedures relevant for all students enrolled in undergraduate or Masters psychology courses, such as:

- Attendance requirements;
- Assignment submissions and returns;
- Assessments;
- Special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- Student Code of Conduct;
- Student complaints and grievances;
- Student Equity and Disability Unit; and
- Occupational Health & Safety.

Students should familiarise themselves with the information contained in this *Guide*.