CASPER COLLEGE
COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Number and Title: PSYC 2210, Drugs and Behavior
Semester/Year: Spring 2006

Lecture Hours: 3 Lab Hours: 0 Credit Hours: 3
Class Time: 12:00 – 1:15 p.m Days: TTH

Instructor's Name: Lesley Travers, PhD, NCC, LAT, LPC, LMFT
Academic Assistant: Julie Laib, Social and Behavioral Sciences Division, AD 175, 268-2368
Instructor's Office #: AD175D
Phone #: (307) 268-2448; email address: ltravers@caspercollege.edu
Office Hours: M 1-2 pm; T 11am -12 pm and 3-4 pm; W 11am -12 pm ; TH 11 am -12 pm; F 11 am -12 pm; and other times available by appointment

Course Description: This course provides students with an opportunity to explore human behavior from an addiction perspective.

Extended Course Description: This course is intended as an introduction to effects of psychoactive drugs, from the interactions between chemicals and brain cells to the psychological and physiological effects on the individual and the impact upon community.

Statement of Prerequisites: General Psychology 1000 is a prerequisite for this class.

ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT STUDENTS’ ENTRY LEVEL SKILLS

This is a basic course in which students will demonstrate competencies and skills learned from the knowledge and application taught in this course. It is the belief that students will have basic life skills that they can apply to the field of addictions and in particular, drug use and behaviors. The student’s competencies and skills will include:
1) A basic knowledge of life and its trials and tribulations;
2) Ability to grasp the complexity of individuals’ lives;
3) Basic concept and understanding of life issues;
4) Reading and writing skills;
5) Willingness to contribute and participate in classroom discussions;

Goal: This course is intended to introduce the student to psychoactive drugs and their interactions.

Specific Objectives (Outcomes): Through active participation in this course, each student will:

1. Identify and become familiar with effects of psychoactive drug use on the brain and behavior.
2. Demonstrate a basic understanding and knowledge of addictions and their issues.
3. Demonstrate familiarity with human behavior from a biological context.
4. Identify basic effects of drug use on society and its influence on the individual.
5. Understand the social and political influences of psychoactive drugs.

Methodology: The instructional procedures are a combination of lectures, interactive classroom experiences, simulated activities that include role plays, and class discussions.
Evaluation Criteria

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<tr>
<th>Reaction Papers:</th>
<th>10 points each</th>
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<td>Chapter Exams:</td>
<td>100 points each (total of 400 points)</td>
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Grading Scale:
- A = 90-100%
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- F = 59 and below

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Each student will be encouraged to attend and participate in all class meetings. Active class participation and attendance is expected. **Attendance means** being in class, arriving on time, and engaging in class discussions, demonstrations, and other exercises as directed. This course requires honest and open dialogue to accomplish its goals, and students are expected to respect the rules of confidentiality so that this class can have open and honest communication and sharing.

2. **Reaction Papers:** Occasionally students will need to write a reaction paper to a topic at the end of certain classes. The reaction paper will include topics that are important and often controversial regarding certain societal and drug-related issues and are only your opinion. The student does not need references or anything but their opinion on these papers.

3. **Exams:** Four exams will be given. All make-up exams will be given at the end of the semester during finals week.

Course Specific Detail:

Underlying Philosophy: The education and training of addiction personnel involves assisting some clients with addiction issues, such as drugs and behavior. This course will introduce the beginning student to drug use and behaviors and the field of social services and addictions. The effects of drug use on society are multifaceted problems that require comprehensive, multidimensional discussion.


CLASS POLICIES: Last date to change to audit status or to withdraw with a W grade: November 3, 2006.

1. Academic honesty: The honesty policy of Casper College will be fully adhered to in this course. Grades and degrees earned through dishonest means devalue those earned by all students. Academic dishonesty involves acts that may subvert or compromise the integrity of the academic process.

2. Attendance and participation are expected.

3. All papers and assignments are to be turned in on time. There will be a loss of points equal to one letter grade for late submissions.
4. All work must be carefully edited and completed. Work that is below a college level standard of writing and thought will be returned. You will have the opportunity to rewrite a paper and it may automatically lose a letter grade or more depending on the quality and timeliness of the revisions.

**Disclaimer:** Information contained in this syllabus was, to the best knowledge of this instructor, considered correct and complete when distributed to the student. This syllabus cannot be considered a contract between Casper College and any student. The instructor reserves the right, acting within policies and procedures of Casper College to make necessary changes in course content or instructional techniques without notice or an obligation to the student.

**Student Rights and Responsibilities:** Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

**Chain of Command:** If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor in order to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take your problem through the appropriate chain of command starting with the department head, then the division chair, and lastly the vice president for academic affairs.

**Academic Dishonesty - Cheating and Plagiarism:** Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct.

**ADA Statement:** It is the policy of Casper College to provide appropriate accommodations to any student with a documented disability. If you have a need for accommodation in this course, please make an appointment to see me at your earliest convenience.
Tentative Course Agenda

Week of August 28:  Chapter 1: Drug Use in Modern Society
  Chapter 2: Drug Use as a Social Problem
Week of September 4:  Chapter 3: Drug Products and their Regulations
Week of September 11:  Chapter 4: The Nervous System
Week of September 18:  Chapter 5: The Actions of Drugs
  September 21:  Test  (Chapter 1-5)
Week of September 25:  Chapter 6: Stimulants
Week of October 2:  Chapter 7: Depressants and Inhalants
Week of October 9:  Chapter 8: Medication for Mental Disorders
Week of October 16:  Chapter 9: Alcohol
  October 23 and 24:  Fall Vacation
  Week of October 23:  Chapter 10: Tobacco
  October 31:  Test  (Chapter 6-10)
Week of November 6:  Chapter 11: Caffeine
Week of November 13:  Chapter 12: OTC and Dietary Supplements
Week of November 20:  Chapter 13: Opioids
Week of November 27:  Chapter 14 Hallucinogens
  November 30:  Test  (Chapter 11-14)
Week of December 4:  Chapter 15: Marijuana and Chapter 16: Performance-Enhancing Drugs
Week of December 11:  Chapter 17: Preventing Substance Abuse
  Chapter 18: Treating Substance Abuse and Dependence
Week of December 18:  Test  (Chapter 15-18)