JIBC

Justice Institute of British Columbia
COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code: EP308

Course Title: Understanding Pharmacology from a Counsellor's Perspective

Prerequisite Courses: Understanding Substance Use (AD400)

School: School of Community and Social Justice

Division/Academy/Centre: Centre for Counselling and Community Safety – Counselling and Capacity Building

Previous Course Code & Title:

Course First Offered:

# of Credits:	1.0

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 Goal(s):

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 psychotropics and street drugs.
3. Describe the various components and chemistry of the brain and how it reacts to drugs.

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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 Psychotropics

- Eating disorders

- Sleep disorders

- Personality disorders

- Concurrent disorders

- Criteria (DSM-IV-TR) substance abuse

- Drugs used to treat drug abuse

Text and Resource Materials: Use APA style; specify chapters where applicable. (APA Style Guidelines)

Required:

Recommended:

Course Level:

x	First Year		Second Year		Third Year		Fourth Year
	Graduate		Other (describe):				

Equivalent Course(s) within the JIBC:

Class Delivery Methods:

Delivery Methods	Class Option A (Hours)	Class Option B (Hours)	Class Option C (Hours)	Class Option D (Hours)
Classroom/Lecture/Discussion	14.0			
Simulation/Lab	N/A			
Practicum/Fieldwork	N/A			
Online	N/A			
Correspondence	N/A			
Total Class Hours	14.0			

Comments on Delivery Methods:

Course Grading System:

	Letter Grades		Percentage	x	Pass/Fail
	Complete/Incomplete		Attendance Only		

Passing Grade:	Pass

Evaluation Activities and Weighting:

Final Exam	%	Assignments	%	Project	%	Capstone Project	%
Midterm Exam	%	Portfolio	%	Participation	100%	Other	%
Quizzes/Test	%	Simulations	%	Practicum	%	TOTAL	100%

Comments on Evaluation Activities and Weighting:

100% attendance in all classes.

Active contribution in large and small group discussions and activities.

Successful completion of written assignment for Substance Use Certificate.

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/programs-courses/jibc-calendar/student-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.

Problem solving

State problems clearly; effectively and efficiently evaluate alternative solutions; choose solutions that maximize positive and minimize negative outcomes.

Communication, oral and written

Demonstrate effective communication skills by selecting the appropriate style, language and form of communication suitable for different audiences and mediums.

Interpersonal relations

Know and manage oneself; recognize and acknowledge the needs and emotions of others including those with diverse backgrounds and capabilities.

Leadership

Inspire individuals and teams to reach their potential by embracing innovation through strategic thinking and shared responsibility.

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.

Independent learning

Show initiative by acting independently in choosing effective, efficient and appropriate applied learning, research and problem solving strategies.

Information literacy

Recognize and analyze the extent and nature of an information need; efficiently locate and retrieve information; evaluate it and its sources critically, and use information effectively and ethically.

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