UNSW Course Outline

PSCY9912 Substance Use Problems and Offending - 2024

Published on the 25 Aug 2024

General Course Information

Course Code : PSCY9912
Year : 2024
Term : Term 3
Teaching Period : T3
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : Faculty of Medicine and Health
Academic Unit : School of Clinical Medicine
Delivery Mode : Online
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington
Campus : Sydney
Study Level : Undergraduate, Postgraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

Handbook Class Timetable

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

The course is an overview of substance use problems and the associations between substance use problems and a range of criminal behaviours and violence, and the interface with the forensic system. We will review the management of people with substance use problems in the

forensic system and discuss projects such as the compulsory drug treatment program. Finally, we will look at the ethics of drug policy and harm minimisation principles. Some of the newer addictions will be mentioned.

This course will cover the following material:

- Understanding the nature of substances including alcohol, amphetamines and methamphetamine, cannabis, opioids and other special groups.
- Understanding the bio-psycho-social model of drug use.
- The psychiatry of substance abuse.
- Treatment and control of substance abuse.
- Association between addictive behaviours, substance use and a range of criminal behaviours and violence.
- Explore the interface between substance use and the Criminal Justice System including NSW Drug Court and therapeutic jurisprudence.
- Ethics of drug policy and harm minimisation principles.
- Substance use among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Dual Diagnosis treatment strategies and models of care.

Course Aims

The aim of this course is to provide you with an understanding of some of the reasons why people take drugs, a greater knowledge of the range of drugs, and the range of treatments including medications, psychological and social interventions.

This course will help develop your knowledge and skills that will those who are:

- Pursuing a career in health management
- Working (or are intending to work) in forensic mental health services as a clinical professional intending to pursue an academic career in forensic mental health.
- Interested in forensic mental health

Relationship to Other Courses

This course is an elective course for students enrolled in the Forensic Mental Health program.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Explain the biological, psychological and social factors associated with substance use and abuse
CLO2 : Identify the main classifications of substance use disorders and the main categories of substances of abuse
CLO3 : Explain the association between addictive behaviours, substance use and a range of criminal behaviours and violence.
CLO4 : Explain the treatment options and models of care available for the treatment of substance use disorders and dual diagnosis.
CLO5 : Critically analyse the ethics of current substance use policies and harm minimisation strategies.
CLO6 : Analyse the interface between substance use and criminal justice system such as the NSW Drug Court and therapeutic jurisprudence.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Explain the biological, psychological and social factors associated with substance use and abuse	• Assignment 1 • Assignment 2 • Online Discussion • Online Quizzes
CLO2 : Identify the main classifications of substance use disorders and the main categories of substances of abuse	• Assignment 1 • Assignment 2 • Online Discussion • Online Quizzes
CLO3 : Explain the association between addictive behaviours, substance use and a range of criminal behaviours and violence.	• Assignment 1 • Assignment 2 • Online Discussion • Online Quizzes
CLO4 : Explain the treatment options and models of care available for the treatment of substance use disorders and dual diagnosis.	• Assignment 1 • Assignment 2 • Online Discussion • Online Quizzes
CLO5 : Critically analyse the ethics of current substance use policies and harm minimisation strategies.	• Assignment 1 • Assignment 2 • Online Discussion
CLO6 : Analyse the interface between substance use and criminal justice system such as the NSW Drug Court and therapeutic jurisprudence.	• Assignment 1 • Assignment 2 • Online Discussion

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Zoom

Learning and Teaching in this course

See LMS

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Assignment 1 Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (7 days)	30%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 06/10/2024 11:59 PM
Assignment 2 Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (7 days)	50%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 10/11/2024 11:59 PM
Online Discussion Assessment Format: Individual	10%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Week 1: 09 September - 15 September, Week 2: 16 September - 22 September, Week 3: 23 September - 29 September, Week 4: 30 September - 06 October, Week 5: 07 October - 13 October, Week 6: 14 October - 20 October, Week 7: 21 October - 27 October, Week 8: 28 October - 03 November, Week 9: 04 November - 10 November, Week 10: 11 November - 17 November
Online Quizzes Assessment Format: Individual	10%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Week 1: 09 September - 15 September, Week 2: 16 September - 22 September, Week 3: 23 September - 29 September, Week 4: 30 September - 06 October, Week 5: 07 October - 13 October, Week 6: 14 October - 20 October, Week 7: 21 October - 27 October, Week 8: 28 October - 03 November, Week 9: 04 November - 10 November, Week 10: 11 November - 17 November

Assessment Details

Assignment 1

Assessment Overview

Essay: 2000 words. The due date of this assignment will be displayed on the course LMS.

You will discuss the principles and initiatives in policing, legal, and health jurisdictions to tackle the issues of crime and violence with particular regard to drug and alcohol use/misuse. Further, you will discuss the association between crime, violence, and drug and alcohol misuse.

This assignment will require comprehensive research and reading to produce a clearly written and well-structured response to the question, with integration of critical analysis and evaluation of the source material. It will be assessed against a marking guide which provides breakdown of performance across specific assessment criteria. Guidance regarding these expectations will be provided to you during the term.

You will receive individual written feedback which will identify both strengths and weakness in the submitted work as well as a numerical grade.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explain the biological, psychological and social factors associated with substance use and abuse
- CLO2 : Identify the main classifications of substance use disorders and the main categories of substances of abuse
- CLO3 : Explain the association between addictive behaviours, substance use and a range of criminal behaviours and violence.
- CLO4 : Explain the treatment options and models of care available for the treatment of substance use disorders and dual diagnosis.
- CLO5 : Critically analyse the ethics of current substance use policies and harm minimisation strategies.
- CLO6 : Analyse the interface between substance use and criminal justice system such as the NSW Drug Court and therapeutic jurisprudence.

Assessment Length

2000

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Generative AI Permission Level

Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use to complete your assessment. These functions are described below. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other media, whether based on your own work or not.

If your Convenor has concerns that your submission contains passages of AI-generated text or media, you may be asked to account for your work. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see here.

Assignment 2

Assessment Overview

Essay: 3000 words. The due date of this assignment will be displayed on the course LMS.

You will find an example in case law that explores the interface between substance use disorders, mental health, and the law. Further, you will explore the clinical, legal, and ethical issues in that case.

This assignment will require comprehensive research and reading to produce a clearly written and well-structured response to the question, with integration of critical analysis and evaluation of the source material. It will be assessed against a marking guide which provides breakdown of performance across specific assessment criteria. Guidance regarding these expectations will be provided to you during the term.

You will receive individual written feedback which will identify both strengths and weakness in the submitted work as well as a numerical grade.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explain the biological, psychological and social factors associated with substance use and abuse
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- CLO4 : Explain the treatment options and models of care available for the treatment of substance use disorders and dual diagnosis.
- CLO5 : Critically analyse the ethics of current substance use policies and harm minimisation strategies.
- CLO6 : Analyse the interface between substance use and criminal justice system such as the

NSW Drug Court and therapeutic jurisprudence.

Assessment Length

3000

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Generative AI Permission Level

Simple Editing Assistance

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Online Discussion

Assessment Overview

You are required to engage in weekly online discussions (10 forums) with your peers and the course convenor(s) regarding the relevant week's topic. You also have the opportunity to engage with your peers in two, voluntary, live collaborative sessions, which will be held virtually. The links to join the sessions will be made available to you within the LMS.

The task is designed to stimulate your thinking on the provided course material, and promote communication skills, without requiring further research. Each week your participation will contribute to 1% of the total grade for all the discussion forums (total 10%). You will be required to contribute once per week to achieve the maximum mark for this assessment task. Feedback is provided during the course of the discussion.

Each live session is run twice (one weekday and one weekend) within the relevant week of the term which will be communicated to you on the course LMS, to maximise opportunity for you to be available to participate. The sessions are voluntary, and recordings will be made available to if you are unable to attend the live virtual session.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explain the biological, psychological and social factors associated with substance use and abuse
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- CLO4 : Explain the treatment options and models of care available for the treatment of substance use disorders and dual diagnosis.
- CLO5 : Critically analyse the ethics of current substance use policies and harm minimisation strategies.
- CLO6 : Analyse the interface between substance use and criminal justice system such as the NSW Drug Court and therapeutic jurisprudence.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Generative AI Permission Level

Simple Editing Assistance

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Online Quizzes

Assessment Overview

Ten online MCQ quizzes (open-book) based on lectures and reading material, designed to ensure that you have accessed and understood the content provided for each of the ten weekly topics. Each quiz has between 3 - 5 questions and the total score for each weekly quiz contributes up to 1% of the total course grade. Numerical grade and written feedback are provided immediately upon answer submission.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explain the biological, psychological and social factors associated with substance use

and abuse
- CLO2 : Identify the main classifications of substance use disorders and the main categories of substances of abuse
- CLO3 : Explain the association between addictive behaviours, substance use and a range of criminal behaviours and violence.
- CLO4 : Explain the treatment options and models of care available for the treatment of substance use disorders and dual diagnosis.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Generative AI Permission Level

Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use to complete your assessment. These functions are described below. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other media, whether based on your own work or not.

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General Assessment Information

Please ensure that your referencing style is consistent. We prefer APA, however if you do use another referencing style ensure that this is used consistently throughout your assignment.

Week 3 and Week 10 will be collaborative sessions, these are live sessions held via Zoom where both courses running during T3 come together to discuss an issue relevant to both courses. Information pertaining to the collaborative sessions will be provided in your LMS. If you are unable to attend a live session you will be provided with an alternate activity to participate in.

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

All components of the course must be attempted

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Online Activity	MCQ
	Lecture	Drugs and Alcohol Use and Abuse. Why Do People Take Drugs?
	Activity	Discussion board participation
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Lecture	Ethics of Drug Policy and Harm Reduction
	Activity	MCQ
	Activity	Discussion board participation
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Lecture	The Drugs of Abuse, Alcohol and Links with Offending Behaviours
	Activity	MCQ
	Activity	Discussion board participation
	Group Activity	Collaborate session. Wednesday 25/9/24 at 8pm, or Saturday 28/9/24 at 4pm (AEST)
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Lecture	Evidence Based Policy and Substances of Abuse
	Activity	MCQ
	Activity	Discussion board participation
	Assessment	Assessment 1 due: 11:59pm Sunday 6th October 2024
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Lecture	Management and Treatment of Substance Use Disorders
	Activity	MCQ
	Activity	Discussion board participation
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Lecture	Interface Between Substance-Use Disorders and the Law
	Activity	MCQ
	Activity	Discussion board participation
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Lecture	The Special Commission of Inquiry into the Drug 'Ice'
	Activity	MCQ
	Activity	Discussion board participation
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Lecture	Opioid Substitution in Prisons: Strategic Approaches and Developments
	Activity	MCQ
	Assessment	Discussion board participation
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Lecture	Specialist Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment in Residential Settings: Models of Care
	Activity	MCQ
	Activity	Discussion board participation
	Assessment	Assignment 2 due: 23:59 10th November 2024 (AEDT)
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Lecture	Substance Use and Offending Tutorial: Bringing it Together Further details will be provided on your LMS
	Activity	MCQ
	Activity	Discussion board participation
	Group Activity	Collaborate session. Wednesday 13/11/24 at 8pm, or Saturday 16/11/24 at 4pm (AEDT)

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

General Schedule Information

Each week consists of at least one pre-recorded lecture, a multiple choice quiz, and a discussion

board entry. In Weeks 3 and 10 we will run a collaborative session, delivered live via Zoom, You are encouraged to attend, however there will be an alternate activity for those unable to attend. Information will be provided in your LMS.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Nil

Recommended Resources

Course readings and self-reading

Additional Costs

Nil

Course Evaluation and Development

Please see your LMS for course evaluation links/resources

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
	Lee Knight					No	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

As a student of UNSW Medicine & Health you are expected to familiarise yourself with the contents of this course outline and the UNSW Student Code and policies and procedures related to your studies.

Student Code of Conduct

Throughout your time studying at UNSW Medicine & Health, you share a responsibility with us for maintaining a safe, harmonious and tolerant University environment. This includes within the courses you undertake during your degree and your interactions with the UNSW community, both

on campus and online.

The UNSW Student Code of Conduct website provides a framework for the standard of conduct expected of UNSW students with respect to both academic integrity and your responsibility as a UNSW citizen.

Where the University believes a student may have breached the code, the University may take disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Misconduct Procedure.

The Student Conduct and Integrity Office provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student at UNSW.

Academic Honesty and Plagarism

Academic integrity

UNSW has an ongoing commitment to fostering a culture of learning informed by academic integrity. All UNSW staff and students have a responsibility to adhere to the principle of academic integrity, and ethical scholarship of learning is fundamental to your success at UNSW Medicine & Health.

Plagiarism, contract cheating, and inappropriate use of generative AI undermine academic integrity and are not tolerated at UNSW. For more information see the Academic Integrity and Plagiarism toolkit.

In addition to the information you are required to review in your ELISE training, UNSW Medicine & Health strongly recommends that you complete the Working with Academic Integrity module before submitting your first assessment task.

Referencing

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. Preferred referencing styles vary among UNSW Medicine & Health disciplines, so check your course Learning Management System (e.g. Moodle or Open Learning) page for information on preferred referencing styles.

For further information on referencing support and styles, see the Current Student Referencing page.

Academic misconduct and plagiarism

At UNSW, academic misconduct is managed in accordance with the Student Misconduct Procedure. Allegations of plagiarism are generally handled according to the UNSW Plagiarism Management Procedure. Plagiarism is defined in the UNSW Plagiarism Policy and is not tolerated at UNSW.

Use of Generative AI and other tools in your assessment

UNSW has provided guiding statements for the use of Generative AI in assessments. This will differ, depending on the individual assessment task, your course requirements, and the course stage within your program.

Your course convenor will outline if and how you can use Generative AI in each of your assessment tasks. Inappropriate use of generative AI is considered academic misconduct.

Options for the use of generative AI include: (1) no assistance (for invigilated assessments); (2) simple editing assistance; (3) drafting assistance; and (4) full assistance with attribution; and (5) Generative AI software-based assessments. See your individual assessment descriptions for the level of permitted use of generative AI for each task and see your course Moodle (or Open Learning) page for the full instructions on permitted use of generative AI in your assessment tasks for this course.

Instructions may include a requirement to submit the original generative AI responses, or drafts of your original work, or provide on request.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Short extensions and special consideration

Short extension

UNSW has a short extension procedure for submission of assessment tasks. Not all tasks are eligible, and eligible tasks have a predetermined extension length. UNSW Medicine and Health have set School-level extension lengths for eligible assessment tasks. See your course assessment descriptions for more information.

Students must check the availability of a short extension in the individual assessment task information for their courses.

Short extensions do not require supporting documentation. They must be submitted through Special Consideration before the assessment task deadline. No late applications will be accepted.

Late penalties apply to submission of assessment tasks without approved extension.

Special consideration

In cases where illness, misadventure or other circumstances beyond your control will prevent you from submitting your assessment by the due date and you require an extension, you need to formally apply for Special Consideration through myUNSW.

UNSW has a **Fit to Sit/Submit rule**, which means that by sitting or submitting an assessment on the scheduled assessment date, you are declaring that you are fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. Examinations include centrally timetabled examinations and scheduled, timed examinations and tests managed by your School.

Important information relating to Short Extension and Special Consideration is available here, including eligibility for Special Consideration, circumstances where students with Equitable Learning Plans can apply for Short Extensions and Special Consideration, and the appeals process.

Examinations

Information about the conduct of examinations in your course is provided on your course Moodle page.

Timed online assessment tasks

If you experience a technical or connection problem during a timed online assessment, such as a timed quiz, you can apply for Special Consideration. To be eligible to apply you need to contact the Course Convenor and advise them of the issue immediately. You will need to submit an application for Special Consideration immediately, and upload screenshots, error messages or other evidence of the technical issue as supporting documentation. Additional information can be found on: https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration

Other assessment tasks

Late submission of assessment tasks

UNSW has standard late submission penalties as outlined in the UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure, with no permitted variation. All late assignments (unless extension or exemption previously agreed) will be penalised by 5% of the maximum mark per calendar day (including Saturday, Sunday and public holidays).

Late submissions penalties are capped at five calendar days (120 hours). This means that a student is not permitted to submit an assessment more than 5 calendar days (120 hours) after the due date for that assessment (unless extension or exemption previously agreed).

Failure to complete an assessment task

You are expected to complete all assessment tasks for your courses. In some courses, there will be a minimum pass mark required on a specific assessment task (a "hurdle task") due to the need to assure clinical competency.

Where a hurdle task is applicable, additional information is provided in the assessment information on your course Moodle page.

Feedback on assessments

Feedback on your performance in assessment tasks will be provided to you in a timely manner. For assessment tasks completed within the teaching period of a course, other than a final assessment, feedback will be provided within 10 working days of submission, under normal circumstances.

Feedback on continuous assessment tasks (e.g. laboratory and studio-based, workplace-based, weekly quizzes) will be provided prior to the midpoint of the course.

Any variation from the above information that is specific to an assessment task will be clearly indicated in the course and assessment information provided to you on your course Moodle (or Open Learning) page.

Faculty-specific Information

Additional support for students

The university offers a wide range of support services that are available for students. Here are some links for you to explore.

- The Current Students Gateway: https://student.unsw.edu.au

- Academic Skills and Support: https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills

- Student support: https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/support

- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing

Mind Smart Guides are a series of mental health self-help resources designed to give you the psychological flexibility, resilience and self-management skills you need to thrive at university and at work.

- Mind Smart Guides: https://student.unsw.edu.au/mindsmart

- Equitable Learning Services: https://student.unsw.edu.au/els

- Guide to studying online: https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/online-study

Most courses in UNSW Medicine & Health use Moodle as your Learning Management System. Guidance for using UNSW Moodle can be found on the Current Student page. Difficulties with Moodle should be logged with the IT Service Centre.

- Moodle Support: https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle-support

The IT Service Desk is your central point of contact for assistance and support with remote and on-campus study.

- UNSW IT Service Centre: https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au/services/students

Course evaluation and development

At UNSW Medicine & Health, students take an active role in designing their courses and their overall student experience. We regularly seek feedback from students, and continuous improvements are made based on your input. Towards the end of the term, you will be asked to participate in the [myExperience survey](#), which serves as a source of evaluative feedback from students. Your input to this quality enhancement process is valuable in helping us meet your learning needs and deliver an effective and enriching learning experience. Student responses are

carefully considered, and the action taken to enhance educational quality is documented in the myFeedback Matters section of your Moodle (or Open Learning) course page.

School-specific Information

Recording of lectures, tutorials and other teaching activities

Lectures, tutorials and other teaching activities may be recorded. Students should be advised that they are consenting to the recording by their enrolment in the course or participation in the activity. The purpose of audio and video recordings is to enhance the student experience by supporting engaged learning in an online teaching environment and ensure equitable access to all course resources for our students. If you have concerns about accessing course recordings, or being recorded, please contact the Course Convenor.

School Contact Information

School guidelines on contacting staff:

Course questions

All questions related to course content should be posted on Moodle or as directed by your Course Convenor.

In cases where email communication with course convenors is necessary, we kindly request the following:

- Use your official email address for any correspondence with teaching staff.

- We expect a high standard of communication. All communication should avoid using short-hand or texting language.

- Include your full name, student ID, and your course code and name in all communication.

Our course convenors are expected to respond to emails during standard working hours of Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm.

Administrative questions

If you have an administrative question about your program of study at the School please submit

your enquiry online at UNSW Ask Us.

Complaints and appeals

Student complaints and appeals: https://student.unsw.edu.au/complaints

If you have any grievances about your studies, we invite you to address these initially to the Course Convenor. If the response does not meet your expectations, you may then contact the School Grievance Officer, A/Prof Sean Kennedy (sean.kennedy@unsw.edu.au)