



Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
IMPH-495	Drug Misuse and Addiction/ Κατάχρηση Φαρμάκων και Εξάρτηση	4
Prerequisites	Department	Semester
None	Health Sciences	Fall/Spring
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Elective	Pharmacy	Greek/English
Level of Course	Lecturer(s)	Year of Study
1 st Cycle	Dr Christos Petrou	4 th
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Corequisites
Face-to-Face	N/A	N/A

Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are to:

- Define terms common to drug use, misuse, abuse and dependency
- Understand the basic principles of the science of addiction and substance use disorders
- Classify and explain the drug stages of use, abuse, dependency, and stages of addiction:
- Point out drug abuse severity in drugs of abuse categorize physiological stages of abuse
- Identify the components of the central nervous system and explain their general function in relation to drug use and misuse
- Explain the physiological, psychological and sociological effects of drugs or addictive behavior on the major systems of the body
- Identify classes of psychoactive drug
- State effective prevention and treatment approaches of drug misuse and addiction
- Describe the harmful consequences of drug misuse
- Discuss whether the drug addiction can be cured or prevented
- Understand the health consequences of drug misuse

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

- Describe the physiological, pharmacological and psychological effects of licit and illicit

drugs, related to use, misuse and abuse

- Get an understanding of how dependence and addiction occurs including (but not limited to) treatments and prevention strategies
- Get a theoretical understanding of substance use, abuse, misuse and addictions, and how these phenomena affect individuals, families, groups, and communities.
- Identify the stages, characteristics and process of addiction and the development of characteristics of personality related to addiction
- Know the different psychotropic drugs and describe their structure, effects and actions.
- Describe the effects of different abusive drugs and classify the theories of addictive behaviors
- Demonstrate an understanding of major preventive and treatment approaches to drug addiction. Know the pharmacology and behavioral aspects of abused substance

Course Content:

- Introduction to drug use and abuse
- Drug use, drug abuse, drug legislation
- The biology of psychoactive substances: Neurobiology and brain reward systems
- Dependence and addiction
- Depressants
- Stimulants
- Hallucinogens, "Club drugs" Marijuana, inhalants, and prescription drugs
- Lifestyle drugs
- Drugs misuse in sports
- The psychology of drug use and abuse
- Drug use and abuse: prevention
- Drug use and abuse: treatment
- Possible health effects (short / long term health effects) and other health-related issues of taking such drugs
- Withdrawal symptoms, common names/commercial names, common forms, common routes of administration of the following misused drugs

Substances considered:

Cocaine

Heroin

Marijuana (Cannabis)

MDMA (Ecstasy/Molly)

Methamphetamine

Synthetic Cannabinoids

Tobacco

Alcohol

Prescriptions and OTCs [Central Nervous System Depressants (Barbiturates, Benzodiazepines), Opioids (Codeine, Fentanyl, Hydrocodone, Hydromorphone, Meperidine, Methadone, Morphine, Oxycodone, Oxymorphone), Stimulants (Amphetamine, Methylphenidate), Anabolic steroids (Nandrolone, Oxandrolone, Oxymetholone, Testosterone cypionate), OTC (Dextromethopane, Loperamide)]

Hallucinogens (ketamine, LSD, mescaline (peyote), PCP, psilocybin, *Salvia divinorum*, DMT)

GHB (Gamma-hydroxybutyrate)

Inhalants

Synthetic Cathinones

Fentanyl

Kratom (*Mitragyna speciosa*)

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures, class discussion – tutorials

Assessment Methods:

Final exam, Midterm exam

Required Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Drug Use, Misuse and Abuse: Psychopharmacology in the 21st Century	Cecile A. Marcinski	Wiley	2014	978-1-118-53910-1
Drug Use and Abuse: A Comprehensive Introduction	Howard Abadinsky	Cengage Learning; 9 edition	2017	978-1305961548