

**William Paterson University**  
**College of Humanities and Social Sciences**  
**Department of Psychology**  
**Syllabus Substance Abuse Interventions**  
**Winter 2019**  
**PSY 3830 80**

**Meeting Time:** ONLINE

**Professor:** Mary Beth McDonald, MA, LPC, LCADC, ACS

Professor's email: [mcdonaldm@wpunj.edu](mailto:mcdonaldm@wpunj.edu)

**\*\*\*When using email, students MUST use their WPU email\*\*\***

**\*\*This Syllabus may be changed at my discretion; changes will be announced and posted on  
blackboard\*\*\***

**Welcome to PSY 3830: Substance Abuse Interventions ONLINE!**

**Course Description:** The aim of this course is to provide students with basic knowledge about pharmacology and toxicities of drugs of abuse and about substance abuse disorders. This course also introduces students to the therapeutic approaches and community resources that are most useful in intervening in these disorders. The course also addresses other addictive/compulsive disorders such as gambling addictions. Students learn counseling intervention techniques for individuals with addictive/compulsive disorders.

**Syllabus:** You are responsible for all the information contained in this syllabus and for any changes to the syllabus that I post on Blackboard. Please read this syllabus thoroughly and refer to it throughout the term. Please check Blackboard at least twice daily.

**Blackboard:** To successfully complete this course you will need access to Blackboard (<http://wpunj.edu/bb/>) the online learning center for William Paterson University. It is your responsibility to gain access to blackboard and become proficient in using it. Online tutorials are available on the website, and the Instructional Technology Center at WPUNJ can be contacted with any questions.

The Blackboard site is used to communicate with you and provide tools for the class. Please check the Blackboard site **AT LEAST TWICE EVERY DAY** for updates. All announcements will also be posted. Please check the site instead of emailing me if you need any class documents. If you do email me, I will do my best to respond to emails on the same day I

receive them, but I cannot promise that I will always be able to do this. Any questions about the material should be posted for the class to see as well on Discussion Board.

### **SPECIAL NOTE FOR WINTER SESSION:**

- a) [Winter@wpunj.edu](mailto:Winter@wpunj.edu) : this email address is the most critical administrative contact during the winter session. Students **MUST** contact this email address with requests to withdraw from courses or other administrative changes. No other departments are open during the early part of winter session and campus itself is completely closed Dec. 25 to Jan. 1.
- b) Dec. 26-last day for 100% refund on withdrawal; Dec. 26-last day to request pass/fail option; Dec. 27-last day for 50% refund withdrawal; Jan. 3 last day for 0% refund withdrawal. Again, students should make these requests to [winter@wpunj.edu](mailto:winter@wpunj.edu) and refund is determined by the date these requests are received, and only with emails using the wpu mail system (they discourage use of external mail, including GMAIL and Yahoo accounts). See the Winter [calendar here](#).
- c) The library maintains a virtual presence that students can access even when the buildings are closed. Library (including an online chat function with librarians) is found here:  
<http://www.wpunj.edu/wintersession/library.html>

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### **Course Objectives:**

1. Understand the major drugs of abuse, including alcohol
2. Understand a variety of therapeutic approaches Counseling intervention techniques and community resources available to individuals with Substance Use Disorders.
3. Understand other addictive disorders

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**Required Text:** Perkinson, Robert R., Chemical Dependency Counseling: A practical Guide. (5<sup>th</sup> edition. Sage Publication..

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**Format of Course:** As this is an intense, 20 day semester, you are responsible for keeping up with the reading and coursework **daily**. We will be covering 15 chapters within this semester. Please take note that the readings are not necessarily in sequential order, and please take note of the dates of the quizzes, which chapters you are responsible for in these quizzes, and the due dates of the discussion questions. You will need to: **1).** Read and thoroughly study the assigned chapters, **2).** Answer a Discussion Board Question, **3).** Provide your own responses (**a minimum of ten**) to your peers' Discussion Board Posts throughout the semester (participation), **4).** Complete online quizzes.

Your final grade will be determined by your performance in three areas:

- 1) **On-line quizzes for assigned chapters in the text (30%)**
- 2) **200 word responses to Discussion Board questions (60%)**
- 3) **Participation on Discussion Boards (10%)**

- 1) **Chapter Quizzes (30%) of Final grade):** The quizzes will test your knowledge of the assigned chapters. The quizzes will be available on Blackboard under the assignments tab. Each quiz will cover the reading material from the previous reading assignments (THE QUIZZES ARE NOT CUMULATIVE). On the day the quizzes are due (see course content calendar below for due dates), the quiz will be available from 5:00am that day until 11:30 pm that day. Each quiz will consist of 5, 10 or 20 multiple choice questions. There will be 9 quizzes. You will have one attempt to complete a quiz and quizzes cannot be made up. However, I will give each student one chance to retake one of the 9 quizzes **for any technical reason** (e.g. your computer froze, the quiz quit for no reason, etc.) You must contact me ASAP to let me know you would like to retake it while the quiz is still active. You will have one of these “second attempt at a quiz” available to you for the entire semester. Please use it wisely.
- 2) **Discussion Questions (60% of final grade):** Each student must provide a response to discussion questions that are posted on the Discussion Board. Your response should be 200 words and include information from the chapters in addition to your own impressions. Responses should be well-written, coherent and organized. **PLEASE NOTE: Do not wait until the last possible moment that the discussion responses are due. There needs to be enough time for your fellow students to respond to your discussion question responses.** (see course content calendar below for due dates). There are 6 discussion questions. **You must provide a response by 11:30 pm on the day they are due. Late responses will not be accepted, however, you will be able to make comments on your fellow students’ responses throughout the week.**
- 3) **Participation (10%):** Participation includes asking and answering questions on Discussion Boards (that means making a minimum of ten comments to others’ discussion responses for the entire semester) and completion of the introduction and syllabus assignment.

Also there is a General Class Discussion Board. Feel free to use the General Class Discussion Board to ask questions about class materials, answer other students’ questions, or share other general thoughts about the material. **The link to the discussion questions, the introduction and syllabus assignment and the general class discussion board are located under Discussions tab on the left side of your screen.**

### **Class Policies:**

**Contacting me:** If you have a question about the class, you should ask it on the General Class Discussion Board (unless it is of a personal nature). Other students usually have similar

questions. If you have a question that is personal in nature, you may email me at [mcdonaldm@wpunj.edu](mailto:mcdonaldm@wpunj.edu). Please include PSY 3830 in the subject line.

**Personal Responsibility:** You are expected to take personal responsibility for your learning in this class. This is done by: reading all required material, being prepared for quizzes and discussions, and completing all assignments. If you do not understand something, you need to take the initiative to ask a question on the Discussion Board. I am always happy to talk to students and am often able to suggest additional resources to support your learning efforts if needed.

**Academic Integrity:** All students are expected to abide by the University’s policy on Academic Honesty which is outlined on the WPUNJ website.

**Respect:** Mutual respect is necessary for productive learning. Respecting another person’s opinion even if it differs from your own is essential for a constructive dialogue.

**Course Content Calendar**  
(The course content calendar is tentative and subject to change)

Dates	Topic	Required Chapter/Assignment
12/26	First Contact	Chapter 1 <b>Syllabus assignment due</b>
12/27	Drugs of Abuse	Chapter 7 <b>Introduction assignment due</b> <b>Quiz one (on chapters 1, 7)</b> <b>Discussion question one due</b>
12/28	First Hours of Treatment	Chapter 2
12/29	Biopsychosocial Interview	Chapter 3 <b>Quiz two (on chapters 2 and 3)</b>
12/30	The Clinical Staff	Chapter 14
12/31	The Good Counselor	Chapter 16
01/01	Treatment Plan	Chapter 4 <b>Quiz three (on chapters 14, 16 and 4 )</b> <b>Discussion question two due</b>

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Required Chapter/Assignment</b>
01/02	Individual Treatment	Chapter 5
01/03	Group Therapy	Chapter 6 <b>Quiz four (on chapters 5 and 6)</b> <b>Discussion question three due</b>
01/04	Special Problems	Chapter 11
01/05	Adolescent Treatment	Chapter 12 <b>Quiz five (on chapter 11)</b>
01/06	Adolescent treatment	Chapter 12
01/07	Family Program	Chapter 13 <b>Quiz six (on chapters 12 and 13)</b> <b>Discussion question four due</b>
01/08	Recovery Skills	Chapter 8
01/09	Recovery Skills	Chapter 8 <b>Quiz seven (on chapter 8)</b>
01/10	Steps	<b>Chapter 9</b>
01/11	Steps	<b>Chapter 9</b> <b>Quiz eight (on chapter 9)</b> <b>Discussion question five due</b>
01/12	Lectures	<b>Chapter 10</b>
01/13	Lectures	<b>Chapter 10</b> <b>Discussion question six due</b>
01/14	Discharge/Continuing care	<b>Chapter 15</b> <b>Quiz nine (on Chapters 10 and 15)</b>

**Support Services:**

Please feel free to contact me during the semester.  
Academic support services include assistance with peer tutoring, workshops, academic counseling, and study groups. 720-3324

The Writing Center will assist you in improving your writing skills. 720-2633

The Office of Disability Service can provide assistance as well. 720-2218

Career Development Center. 720-2282

The Counseling Center can also help you with managing the stress of daily life and can provide assistance with emotional issues. 720-2506