

COURSE NAME: MHA235 Pharmacology for MHA Workers

Credit Value: 4
Total Course Hours: 56
Prerequisite Course(s): MHA180
Corequisite Course(s): None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to the pharmacology of mental health and addictions. Study includes: basic neurobiology, the physiological base of mental disorders, including substance use disorders, principles of pharmacokinetics, and major drug classification of drugs of abuse and psychotropic medication. Students apply theoretical knowledge to analyze several diagnostic categories of the DSM-5, including but not limited to substance-related disorders, anxiety disorders, mood disorders, and psychotic disorders.

PLAR INFORMATION

This course is eligible for Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition. Students are advised to discuss options with their program coordinator.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, the student will have reliably demonstrated the ability to:

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| <p>1.0 Identify how drugs interact with the brain and the nervous system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1.1 Identify the various sub divisions of the nervous system and brain anatomy.1.2 Describe how nerves transmit information.1.3 Define what neurotransmitters are and explain the role they play in chemical communication within the nervous system.1.4 Explain the life cycle of a neurotransmitter.1.5 Describe action potentials.1.6 Differentiate between the various routes of administration of drugs, and how various drugs get to the brain. <p>2.0 Explain the physiological base of mental disorders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">2.1 Describe the physiological base substance-use disorders.2.2 Describe the physiological base of anxiety disorders.2.3 Describe the physiological base of mood disorders.2.4 Describe the various theories of the physiological base of psychotic disorders.2.5 Analyze the physiological relationship between various mental disorders, and the prevalence of concurrent disorders. | <p>3.0 Describe and apply pharmacokinetic principles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">3.1 Outline the principles of drug action in terms of absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion.3.2 Calculate a therapeutic index based on effective dose 50 and lethal dose 50.3.3 Analyze dose-response relationships and their impact on effectiveness, safety, and potency.3.4 Differentiate between the concepts of tolerance and withdrawal.3.5 Summarize agonistic and antagonistic effects of drugs. <p>4.0 Review the major classification of commonly abused drugs of and psychiatric medication.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">4.1 Name and describe the major categories of drugs that are commonly abused.4.2 Name and describe the major categories of psychiatric medication.4.3 Describe a range of substance, common chemicals in each category, the origins of their use, and possible toxic effects.4.4 Identify and appraise various websites on their utility to provide drug reference |
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information.

5.0 Apply knowledge and skill to complete appropriate history-taking, screening, and assessment.

5.1 Differentiate between chemical, generic, trade, and street names of drugs, and common Latin abbreviations relating to prescription drugs and record keeping.

5.2 Investigate examples of "medication incidents/errors" in relation to the importance of medication safety, including the role of the Institute for Safe Medication Practice.

5.3 Summarize select strategies to improve medication safety such as the "do not use" list, tall person lettering, and updated medication lists.

5.4 Perform trauma-informed techniques such as documenting a thorough client history.

5.5 Outline and apply the various domains of a mental status examination.

5.6 Describe the importance of using valid and reliable instruments in screening and assessment.

6.0 Explain the basic pharmacological principles related to alcohol.

6.1 Review the history of alcohol, and its sources.

6.2 Describe the pharmacokinetics of alcohol.

6.3 Classify the physiological and behavioral effects of alcohol.

6.4 Outline the effects of chronic use of alcohol on various body systems.

6.5 Differentiate between tolerance, dependence, and withdrawal related to alcohol abuse.

6.6 Identify and evaluate various pharmacological treatments alcohol use disorder.

6.7 Describe fetal alcohol spectrum disorder.

7.0 Outline the pharmacological treatment for various mental disorders.

7.1 Outline and describe the treatment for anxiety disorders.

7.2 Outline and describe the treatment for mood disorders

7.3 Outline and describe the treatment for psychotic disorders

7.4 Outline the duration and management of withdrawal symptoms for select medications used to treat mental disorders.

GENERAL EDUCATION

This is not a General Education course.

PROGRAM VOCATIONAL OUTCOMES

This course contributes to the following Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities approved program vocational learning outcomes (PVLO):

Indigenous Wellness And Addictions Prevention

2. explain the effects chemical and alcohol dependence have on wellness (physical, emotional, mental and spiritual).

Mental Health And Addiction Worker

1. Promote the optimal functioning of individuals and families in communities through the application of knowledge, skills, and attitudes relevant to mental health and addiction.

2. Advocate on behalf of individuals and families with mental health and addiction issues by using awareness of community resources.

3. Apply effective oral and written communication skills to enhance the quality of services.

4. Collaborate as a member of a multidisciplinary team in the implementation of individual-centred intervention strategies based on current mental health and addiction models of recovery and relapse prevention.

5. Establish effective relationships with individuals, families, and community services that adhere to professional, legal, and ethical standards and workplace policies and procedures.
6. Use effective counselling skills to promote self-efficacy and positive change with individuals and families who are experiencing mental health and addiction issues.
7. Implement personal and professional strategies to improve job performance and work relationships.
8. Use appropriate evaluation- and evidence-based research methods to enhance the effectiveness and quality of mental health and addiction service delivery.

ESSENTIAL EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS OUTCOMES

This course contributes to the following Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities approved essential employability skills (EES) outcomes:

1. Communicate clearly, concisely, and correctly in the written, spoken, and visual form that fulfils the purpose and meets the needs of the audience.
2. Respond to written, spoken, or visual messages in a manner that ensures effective communication
3. Execute mathematical operations accurately
5. Use a variety of thinking skills to anticipate and solve problems
6. Locate, select, organize, and document information using appropriate technology and information systems.
7. Analyse, evaluate, and apply relevant information from a variety of sources.
8. Show respect for the diverse opinions, values, belief systems, and contributions of others
9. Interact with others in groups or teams in ways that contribute to effective working relationships and the achievement of goals.
10. Manage the use of time and other resources to complete projects.
11. Take responsibility for one's own actions, decisions, and consequences.

EXTERNAL COURSE ACCREDITATIONS AND CONDITIONS

COURSE EVALUATION

Quizzes and Tests 50%

Group Project and/or Presentation and/or Group Discussions 20%

Individual Assignments 30%

PROGRAM SPECIFIC GRADING

Per College Grading System

All evaluation items must be completed in order to get credit in this course.

GRADING SYSTEM

A+:	90-100%	B+:	77-79%	C+:	65-69%	D:	50-54%	S - Satisfactory
A:	85-89%	B:	73-76%	C:	60-64%	F:	0-49%	I - Incomplete
A-:	80-84%	B-:	70-72%	D+:	55-59%			F - Repeat course

*For a complete detailed description please refer to the College website.

LEARNING RESOURCES

Required:

Hancock, S. & McKim, W. (2018). *Drugs and behaviour: An introduction to behavioural pharmacology*. Eighth edition. New York: Pearson. ISBN: 978-0-134-40502-05 [looseleaf]

Recommended:

Csiernik, R. (2016). *Substance use and abuse: Everything matters*. Second edition. Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press Inc. ISBN: 978-1-55130-891-3

Sinacola, R. & Peters-Strickland, T. (2012). *Basic psychopharmacology for counselors and psychotherapists*. 2nd edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson. ISBN: 978-0-13-707980-3

Resources listed on the course outline support the achievement of learning outcomes, and may be used throughout the course to varying degrees depending on the instructor's teaching methodology and the nature of the resource.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

lecture and video content

small group discussion

out of class readings and accompanying online activities

DELIVERY MODE

4 hours per week X 14 weeks in class

Lecture, group discussion and debate, group presentation

Hybrid activities and assignments

ACADEMIC POLICIES

- Academic Integrity
- Academic Appeal
- Academic Attendance
- Grading and Assessment

For academic policies please see: <http://www.canadorecollege.ca/about-us/corporate-policy-manual>.

COLLEGE POLICIES

- Protecting human rights in support of a respectful college community

For college policies please see: <http://www.canadorecollege.ca/about-us/college-policies>.

STUDENT SUCCESS SERVICES

YOUR SUCCESS MATTERS!

We offer comprehensive, student-focused services designed to help you succeed. Canadore is committed to Student Success and offers CONFIDENTIAL services to help you in your studies. We offer:

- Study skills workshops
- Peer tutoring
- Career guidance
- Mental health and wellness tips and strategies
- Resource centre
- Assistive devices

The ultimate goal of Student Success Services is to support students so they can achieve success academically, in their career aspirations, and in their personal lives. Please don't hesitate to drop by C262 or to book an appointment please call 1-705-474-7600 ext. 5205.

FIRST PEOPLES' CENTRE:

We offer a culturally safe environment where our student focused services provide you with the following CONFIDENTIAL services:

- One on one counselling
- Elder in residence
- Peer tutoring
- Peer mentorship
- Lunch & learn workshops on study skills, self-care, life skills
- Resource Centre

Drop by our offices at C254 College Drive, E101 Commerce Court or call 705 474 7600 Ext. 5961 College Drive / 5647 Commerce Court.

WAIVER OF RESPONSIBILITY

Every attempt is made to ensure the accuracy of this information as of the date of publication. The college reserves the right to modify, change, add, or delete content.

HISTORICAL COURSE OUTLINES

Students use course outlines to support their learning. Students are responsible for retaining course outlines for future use in applications for transfer of credit to other educational institutions.

