



BAKER COLLEGE
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
PSY2250 Psychology of Drug Use and Addiction
3 Semester Credit Hours

Student Learning Outcomes and Enabling Objectives

1. Explore the biological, psychological, behavioral, social, and cultural factors impacting substance use and addiction. (APA 1.1a, d; 2.1a)
 - a. Compare biological versus environmental factors involved in substance use and addiction.
 - b. Examine how cultural expectations and attitudes impact substance use and addiction.

2. Examine the assessment process related to diagnosing substance abuse and dependence. (APA 1.3c)
 - a. Explain the diagnostic criteria related to substance use and related disorders.
 - b. Examine the concept of comorbidity and how it affects assessment and treatment.

3. Analyze substances and behaviors associated with addiction. (APA 1.1a)
 - a. Identify the physical and psychological effects when using and withdrawing from commonly abused substances, including:
 - i. Alcohol
 - ii. Depressants
 - iii. Stimulants
 - iv. Hallucinogens
 - v. Nicotine
 - vi. Cannabis
 - vii. Opioids
 - viii. Synthetics/designer drugs
 - b. Explore abuse and addiction of legal substances (i.e. medications, huffing, etc.).
 - c. Examine other addictions such as food, sex, Internet, and gambling.

4. Analyze common treatment approaches for substance abuse and addiction. (APA 1.3a)
 - a. Explore various historical and theoretical models of addiction. (APA 1.2c)
 - b. Examine the benefits and challenges of different treatment approaches.

5. Explore potential career options related to working with those who have substance abuse/addiction issues. (5.5a, c)
 - a. Identify educational and licensing credentials associated with various careers.
 - b. Explore professional organizations related to understanding and treating addiction.

Note: Each SLO/EO is aligned to the American Psychological Association (APA) guidelines for undergraduate learning outcomes.

Big Ideas and Essential Questions

Big Ideas

- Etiology
- Categories of substances
- Assessment and Diagnosis
- Treatment
- Careers

Essential Questions

1. Why are some people able to use substances safely and other people develop addictive behaviors?
2. Why is it important to understand how different substances affect people psychologically and physiologically?
3. How do different interventions address the symptoms of addiction?
4. How does diagnosis play a role in the treatment of substance use and related disorders?
5. How does one prepare for substance use and addiction-related careers?

These SLOs are not approved for experiential credit.

Effective: Fall 2022