

Introduction to Psychoactive Substances (PSYC2007 PSB210)

Essay (50% of final grade)

This assessment is an individual submission.

Due: Friday 27th November by 5pm (AWST).

Turnitin: You must submit this document via Turnitin.

Length: 1500 words maximum. Penalties apply for exceeding this amount (i.e. No +10% allowance)

Font: Times New Roman 12 pt font, Double line spacing, 2.5cm margins.

Referencing: APA 7th ed.

Write an essay of 1500 words on the following topic:

Harm reduction: good in theory but impossible in practice. Discuss.

Drawing from the peer-reviewed literature, form an argument related to the above topic and support your proposition with scientific evidence. You should choose a position and build a comprehensive justification.

Place a title at the beginning of your essay. Organise your essay by using subheadings to indicate the main theme that you are addressing in each section. Typically, an essay of this length will have three to four subheadings.

Please read widely for your essay, well beyond the required readings, and reference appropriately using APA format. Make sure you refer to recent literature.

Write in third person, using formal, professional English.

Your title page and reference list do not count in the word limit.

APA Formatting and Referencing

Your written assignment should conform strictly to the stated formatting requirements and the 7th edition of the APA Publication manual. This includes (but is not necessarily limited to) the formatting of your in-text citations and references, page headers, section headings, text, numbers and statistical notation. Similarly your writing

style and general presentation should fit with APA standards. Note that the APA's publication manual should be considered the definitive source for all APA style matters, and if you use an APA style guide from another source, you do so at your own risk.

The Curtin University LibGuide is a good resource for the new publication manual:

<https://libguides.library.curtin.edu.au/apa-7>

American Psychological Association (2019). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Plagiarism: The School of Psychology and the University regard plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct as extremely serious offences. As future professionals, it is indefensible to present the work (either words or ideas) of others, either knowingly or "accidentally", as though it is your own. The following information comes (with permission from the author) from a Curtin University Study Skills Information Sheet.

WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?

Plagiarism seems to be viewed in academia as a crime only just below mass murder. It may be simply defined as the use of someone else's work without acknowledging that you have used it.

There appear to be four common sorts of plagiarism:

- a. Using some words or ideas from something, which has been published, and not stating what the source was.
- b. Using an exact quotation from another writer and not showing that it is an exact quotation – even though you may acknowledge the source. [This is the most misunderstood form of plagiarism and consequently, appears to be the most common form of plagiarism].
- c. Arranging someone else to do the work for you.
- d. Using another student's material. For example, it is not acceptable (in a state of being in a terrible hurry) to borrow someone else's assignment and copy it.

Please ensure that you know what constitutes plagiarism and how it can be avoided (i.e., through proper referencing). More information about academic integrity and plagiarism can be found here: <http://academicintegrity.curtin.edu.au/>.

Assignment submission: This assignment will be marked and returned to you electronically via Turnitin GradeMark. You will find the submission point in the 'Assessments' section of the Blackboard site for this unit. Note that you can submit as many drafts as you want (and will receive an originality report for each, although the second and subsequent will be delayed for 24 hours after production of the first), but the copy of the assignment that is in the system at 5:00pm on Friday 27th November 2020 (AWT) will be considered 'final', and cannot be overwritten¹. It is not necessary to include an 'Assignment Cover Sheet' with your submission, as you will be required to declare that it is your own work as a part of the submission process.

Extensions, late penalties, academic integrity etc.: Please refer to your unit outline.

Asking questions: We are very happy to answer questions about this assignment. However, in the interests of fairness, we request that these questions be asked on the Blackboard discussion board, rather than by email or telephone. This ensures that all students have access to the same information when working on their assignments.

¹ Unless you have been granted an extension. If this is the case, and you are unable to submit your final copy because there is already a 'draft' in the system, please email the unit coordinator a copy of your assignment before your revised due date/time, and it will be uploaded on your behalf.

