

## PSY 319 PSYCHOLOGY OF ADDICTION MIDTERM ASSIGNMENT

**TOPIC:** "Neurobiological Basis of Addiction: Role of Brain Structures and Effect of Neurotransmitters"

**SCOPE:** This assignment includes a literature review aimed at understanding the neurobiological processes underlying addictive behavior. The major brain structures associated with addiction (e.g., amygdala, prefrontal cortex, mesolimbic dopamine system) and the role of addiction-related neurotransmitters (dopamine, serotonin, GABA, etc.) should be examined. The assignment should review current research and theories on how addictive behavior initiates a process of change in the brain.

**MATERIALS:** This assignment should include at least 10 journal articles.

**MECHANICS:** The sources for this assignment should have proper in-text and reference citations due to APA 7th version.

**LENGTH:** This assignment must be at least 10 pages long, excluding references.

**P.S.:** Please mind the rubric below for the assessment of your submission.

### Rubric for Literature Review: Neurobiological Basis of Addiction

Criteria	Exemplary (A) 25 pts	Proficient (B) 25 pts	Satisfactory (C) 25 pts	Needs Improvement (D) 25 pts
<b>1.Introduction and Scope (10%)</b>	Provides a well-defined introduction that sets clear context for the topic and scope.The research question and thesis are articulated clearly, establishing a solid foundation for the review of the neurobiological basis of addiction.	Introduces the topic and scope with adequate context; thesis is present but could be refined for clarity. Some elements of the neurobiological basis may not be fully addressed.	Provides basic context but lacks clarity or focus in articulating the research question. Scope of review may be partially unclear or too broad.	Lacks sufficient introduction, context, or clarity in scope; research question and thesis are missing or unclear.
<b>2.Research Quality and Source Relevance (20%)</b>	Uses at least 10 recent and high-quality journal articles that are directly relevant to neurobiological processes in addiction. All major brain structures and neurotransmitters are addressed comprehensively, with an emphasis on current research and theories.	Uses 10 journal articles that are mostly relevant, but some sources may lack currency or depth. Major brain structures and neurotransmitters are addressed but could use more depth.	Includes sources but lacks full relevance or does not meet the requirement of 10 articles; discussion of brain structures and neurotransmitters may be minimal or generalized.	Lacks sufficient relevant sources; does not meet source requirements or fails to cover required brain structures and neurotransmitters.
<b>3.Understanding of Brain Structures and Neurotransmitters (20%)</b>	Demonstrates a deep understanding of the roles of brain structures and neurotransmitters in addiction; accurately describes each structure's	Shows good understanding of brain structures and neurotransmitters; minor inaccuracies or lack of depth in some areas but	Shows a basic understanding but with some inaccuracies or missing details; may lack integration of sources.	Shows limited or incorrect understanding of brain structures and neurotransmitters; lacks critical details or integration of perspectives.

	function in addiction, integrating multiple perspectives from the literature.	generally covers the main points.		
<b>4. Analysis and Synthesis of Research (20%)</b>	Offers in-depth analysis and synthesis, drawing insightful connections between sources; compares, contrasts, and evaluates research on neurobiological changes in addiction thoughtfully.	Provides adequate analysis and synthesis, with some attempt at connecting and evaluating research; could benefit from more depth or clarity in comparisons.	Limited analysis or synthesis; may rely on summary without clear connections between sources or lacks critical comparison.	Lacks analysis and synthesis; mostly summaries without showing understanding or evaluation of research.
<b>5. Structure, Organization, and Flow (10%)</b>	Well-organized with logical flow, clear section headings, and smooth transitions; ideas build coherently, guiding the reader through the review.	Organized with minor flow issues; transitions are mostly effective, though some sections may lack cohesion.	Some structure but may be disorganized; transitions are inconsistent, affecting readability.	Lacks clear organization and flow; sections feel disjointed, and transitions are weak or missing.
<b>6. APA Formatting and Citation Mechanics (10%)</b>	All sources are cited correctly in APA 7th edition format, both in-text and in the reference list. No errors are present in APA formatting, showing strong attention to detail.	Mostly follows APA 7th edition; minor errors in citation or reference list, but they do not significantly detract from professionalism.	Contains noticeable APA errors in in-text citations or references; APA formatting inconsistencies are present.	Frequent APA errors in in-text citations and references; does not meet basic APA 7th edition requirements.
<b>7. Conclusion and Implications (5%)</b>	Concludes with a comprehensive summary of findings; clearly articulates implications for addiction psychology, including possible future research or clinical applications.	Concludes with a summary but may lack depth; touches on implications but could benefit from further development.	Basic conclusion with limited insight; implications are minimal or not well-articulated.	Conclusion is weak, missing, or does not summarize findings; lacks any discussion of implications.
<b>8. Length and Depth of Content (5%)</b>	Meets or exceeds the 10-page requirement, excluding references, and maintains depth and focus throughout.	Meets the 10-page requirement but may lack depth in some sections or contain minor filler content.	Close to 10 pages but may contain filler content or lack necessary depth in sections.	Does not meet the 10-page requirement; content may lack focus or detail.