

HSCI 336-- HEALTH ASPECTS OF DRUG USE (Summer 2007)

Please print this and read thoroughly

COURSE DESCRIPTION: An in-depth analysis of the history, factors and problems related to the **use and abuse** of drugs. The impact on the health and welfare of the individual, family, and society is explored. This course is designed to increase the student's knowledge and awareness regarding the physical, psychological, and sociological implications of legal and illegal drugs to stimulate thought and behavior change regarding drug use.

This is a totally online course! However there are TWO MANDATORY TEST times. You must be online (anywhere in the world) for both the midterm and final exam. Check the course schedule for the dates this semester, and if you cannot make these times, you need to drop the course.

If you are a CSUN athlete, your exams must be proctored. Please contact your athletic advisor for more information.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of the course, the student will:

1. Discuss various effects of drug use on the individual, family and society.
2. Identify the hidden costs of drug use/abuse on society.
3. Critically assess media presentations of tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use.
4. Discuss the legal consequences for illegal drug activity.
5. Identify the characteristics of a "gateway drug."
6. Describe relationship between various drugs and specific health responses.
7. Identify treatment sources for drug abuse.
8. Discuss strategies for prevention and education of drug use.
9. Discuss the health aspects of drug use.

COURSE OUTLINE:

1. **Drug Use: Overview**
 - **Historical Perspective**
 - **Drug Use: An Overview**
 - **Addictions**
 - **Prevention**
 - **Drug Regulation**
2. **Drug Use as a Social Problem**
3. **Drug Products and their Regulation**
4. **The Nervous System**
 - **Nervous System**

- **Chemical Messengers**
 - **The Brain**
- 5. Actions of Drugs**
 - **Effects**
 - **Physiology: Getting to the Brain**
 - **Tolerance and Physical Dependence**
 - 6. Stimulants**
 - 7. Depressants and Inhalants**
 - 8. Medications for Mental Disorders**
 - 9. Alcohol**
 - 10 Tobacco**
 - 11. Caffeine**
 - 12. Over-the-counter Drugs**
 - 13. Opioids**
 - 14. Hallucinogens**
 - 15. Marijuana**
 - 16. Performance-Enhancing Drugs**
 - 17. Preventing Substance Abuse**
 - 18. Treating Substance abuse and Dependence**

METHODOLOGY:

This is a totally online course. Assignments, discussions, chats and exams will be in our WebCT HSCI 336 course page. **You must master the WebCT program for discussions, chats and assignment submissions in order to continue in this course.** Go to: <http://www.csun.edu/~webteach/studentcomputing.html> for WebCT instructions and login information, or go to my website for HSCI 336 and click on “getting started”. **Only students enrolled in the course can login to WebCT.** The WebCT course will open two weeks before the beginning of the semester so you may become familiar with the program. **Look for more on this in the course overview.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Ray, O. & Ksir, C., (2005). *Drugs, Society and Human Behavior*. Boston: McGraw Hill. (12th Edition)

EVALUATION:

Mid-term exam.....	25%
Final exam.....	25%
Discussions and On-line assignments.....	25%
Meeting attendance & Formal paper.....	25%

LATE SUBMISSIONS:

Chapter tests may NOT be submitted AFTER the due date. Discussions, papers and verifications that are submitted after the due date, will be **docked 50% of the available points** for that grade. AN ONLINE CLASS REQUIRES STRICT ADHERANCE TO THIS POLICY, SO THAT THE REST OF THE STUDENTS CAN CONTINUE THROUGH THE CONTENT IN A TIMELY MANNER.

THERE WILL BE NO MAKE UP EXAMS. .

GRADING:

A = 93-100%	C+ = 76-79%	D- = 60-62%
A- = 90-92%	C = 73-75%	F = 59% & below
B+ = 86-89%	C- = 70-72%	
B = 83-85%	D+ = 67-69%	
B- = 80-82%	D = 63-66%	

CLASS POLICIES:

Please review the CSUN catalog section on academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and cheating. **Anything that is not your own idea that is not properly credited, falls within the definition of plagiarism. Sharing test questions and answers with a fellow or future course student is cheating. It is expected that all work is the student's own work. I do use Internet software to check for plagiarism.**

CONFIDENTIALITY:

INFORMATION OBTAINED BOTH IN CLASS DISCUSSION AND AT THE ASSIGNED MEETINGS IS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL. BECAUSE OF THE SENSITIVE NATURE OF THE CONTENT, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT ANY SELF-DISCLOSURES MADE BY FELLOW STUDENTS IN CLASS DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION OBTAINED AT MEETINGS BE HELD CONFIDENTIAL. USE PSEUDONYMS FOR ACTUAL PEOPLE. DO NOT REVEAL LOCATION OR OTHER INFORMATION THAT CAN IDENTIFY PEOPLE OR SITES.

HSci. 336 is an upper division general education university course. Critical thinking and oral/written communication skills are basic expectation of a university graduate. Written assignments will be evaluated according to evidence of critical thinking, communication skills, and will also include writing style, grammar, use of current references (no more than 5 years old) and the appropriate documentation of references.

THIS COURSE IS COMPLETELY ON-LINE. Check the WebCT course calendar for the assignments and the due dates. Print up the calendar for a complete course schedule! You will be working through the book, and doing chapter tests for each chapter, which will be graded. The graded Chapter

tests can be found at the “Chapter Test, Midterm and Final” icon link on the homepage of the WebCT course.

Because you only have one chance at these Chapter Tests, you must study the chapter, the key terms and the chapter review questions **and take the practice Multiple Choice Quiz** before entering the WebCT Chapter Tests. *(These multiple-choice chapter quizzes can be found under the “Course Content” icon on the WebCT homepage for each chapter.)*

THE MIDTERM AND FINAL WILL BE LIVE ON-LINE as I will be online at the same time to answer any questions or problem solve if you have trouble with the test program.

You should be online everyday submitting homework and discussions. This is an extremely intense course of study with a topic that normally is taught in 15 weeks. You will be covering one or more chapters every other day.

There will be at least two discussions with a minimum of three postings by each student. Please go to the practice discussion page so you become familiar with the program. The Discussion icon can be found on the course’s WebCT homepage for this class.

Discussion Rules.

DO:

RESPECT each other’s point of view.

Maintain CONFIDENTIALITY.

Consider how those who disagree may interpret your comments.

SPEAK PROFESSIONALLY.

Respond thoughtfully and professionally.

FOLLOW ETHICAL STANDARDS as explained in the CSUN catalog.

DO NOT:

SHOUT (ALL CAPS).

Take offense if someone critiques your ideas.

Use profanity.

Put down someone else or someone else’s ideas.

GUIDELINES FOR OBSERVATION OF A PROGRAM/TREATMENT MEETING AND SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION AND FORMAL PAPER ON ALCOHOLISM

Meeting Attendance:

All students will attend and submit [verification of attendance](#) for at least one Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meeting ([See: Course Overview for description of required verification](#)).

The purpose of the observation of a program/treatment meeting assignment is to **apply concepts** from class and reading assignments to real situations. The meeting must be attended during the semester you are enrolled and must be independent of your work situation. The meeting is to be an **OFF-CAMPUS** AA meeting.

Selection of a meeting to attend requires careful planning. It is expected that you will complete reading assignments prior to selecting & attending the meeting and research procedures and protocols for attendance. Some meetings are closed, so you will need to research location of meetings and the plausibility of your attendance. Professional conduct and confidentiality are essential. It is expected that you will be respectful, sensitive, objective and discreet in accomplishing this assignment.

(The Original verification must be received by the end of the semester (last day of class) for the student to receive a grade in the course.) See course overview for description of verification procedures.

1. Verification of Attendance snail mail this to the instructor at:
Prof A.Slechta
CSUN - Health Science
Northridge CA 91330-8285

Discussion Posting and Formal Alcoholism paper:

You will report on your observations through: (1) an informal discussion of your reactions with classmates through the discussion assignment on-line, and (2) the written, formal paper described below, which will demonstrate critical thinking and written communication skills. .

The Discussion assignment is more of a “gut level” reaction to your meeting experience whereas the formal paper is an in-depth analysis.

The AA meeting discussion will be done on-line and will focus more on your reflection on the meeting. This portion of the assignment counts toward online discussion homework in the chapter test section of the grades. . A lack of participation in the discussion assignment will be reflected in deduction of points from your homework grade..

MEETING VERIFICATION AND PAPER ASSIGNMENT: Aug 10th 5 pm for potentially full credit. If the student turns the paper in by July 31st (10days early) they will earn an additional 5% points to the grade on their paper (out of 100 points). ALL times are CSUN (PST)

Formal Alcoholism paper: Each student will write a formal paper on Alcoholism and their related experiences at the Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meeting. The assignment will result in a written essay of factors, problems, physical, psychological, and sociological implications related to the abuse. The paper will be a 3 to 5 page in length (not including the cover page and reference list), typed and double-spaced. Font should

be no larger than 12, and should be using guidelines listed below. **The essay will be sent via email to the instructor as an attachment in a WORD or WORDPERFECT format.** The email must be sent before 5 pm Aug. 10th for potentially full credit. ALL times are CSUN (PST).

Evaluation of your formal paper will be according to the depth of analysis and conclusions derived as it integrates theories and concepts to your explanation and conclusions from the observation experience.

Formal Alcoholism Paper GUIDELINES:

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| 1. Organization: Clarity, logical flow and sequence of ideas | 15% |
| 2. Content: Relevance, completeness, comprehensiveness,
At least two current references from and <u>appropriate Scholarly journal</u> , in the last 5 years. (No newsletters, Popular magazines, pamphlets, Wikipedia, etc.) | 70% |
| 3. Format: Sentence structure, grammar, references
(Use APA, Turabian or MLA style format.) | 15% |