

THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
SPRING SEMESTER 2008
ECHD 3170 – Drug and Alcohol Issues

Course:	ECHD 3170: Drug and Alcohol Issues	Location:	Aderhold Hall - 418
Time:	Tuesdays/Thursdays, 12:30-1:45 p.m.		

Instructor:	Geoff Bathje	E-Mail:	bathje@uga.edu
Telephone:	706-542-4126 (no voicemail)	Office:	414-A Aderhold Hall
Office Hours:	By appointment - Monday through Friday		

Required Reading

Hanson, G. R., Venturelli, P. J. & Fleckenstein, A. E. (2006). *Drugs and Society* (9th Edition). Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett Publishers. The text is available at the University Bookstore.

Additional articles and readings will be handed out in class throughout the semester. The syllabus and handouts will be available on the University of Georgia's WebCT (<http://webct.uga.edu>).

Course Description

This course is designed to provide an introduction to a wide array of information about mood altering, abused, and addictive substances. We will discuss the impact of the use and abuse of these substances on the physical, intellectual, emotional, social, and psychological realms. Other topics covered will include assessment, diagnosis, treatment, intervention, effects on family and other social systems, the war on drugs, and additional information related to drug and alcohol abuse. The class format will consist of lectures, class discussions, films, and guest speakers depending on availability.

Course Objectives

At the end of this course you will be able to:

1. Define and classify major categories of psychoactive drugs.
2. List the characteristics of many types of drugs.
3. Describe the behavioral, psychological, and biological/physiological effects of drugs.
4. Describe models of substance abuse assessment, diagnosis, and treatment.
5. Describe models of prevention and education.
6. Identify sociological and cultural factors that may impact drug use and abuse.
7. Describe the effects of chemical dependency on an array of systems.
8. Discuss controversial issues surrounding drug use, abuse, prevention, and treatment.
9. Form your own opinion about issues surrounding drugs and alcohol.

Participation and Attendance

Participation: You are expected to participate in class activities and discussions. You will not be graded directly for participation, but you will receive credit for certain group assignments and activities. Participation not only adds to the quality of discussions, but also demonstrates that the class is completing assigned readings and understanding the material. If participation is lacking, I may begin giving quizzes or additional assignments to assure that the students are reading and comprehending the material. The grading system will be revised as needed if this adjustment becomes necessary.

Attendance: You are expected to attend every class. Attendance will not be taken, but much of the course material found on the exams will be presented only in class. There will be six **random quizzes**, which will be based on the assigned readings. Lastly, there will be five **extra credit "attendance days"**, which I will select at random. On attendance day, I will pass around an attendance signup sheet. Your presence on each attendance day will be worth 2 points, meaning you can earn a maximum of a 2% increase in your overall course grade (10 points). If you do not miss any quizzes or attendance days you will receive an **additional 5 points extra credit** for good attendance. **NOTE: It is a violation of the university's Academic Honest policy to sign another student's name on an attendance sheet.**

Absences and Tardiness: Failure to attend class on the date of an exam/quiz/activity without prior arrangement will result in a zero for the exam/quiz/activity. Prior arrangements for exams/quizzes are only made for unusual circumstances and are at the discretion of the instructor. Verification (e.g., from the Health Center) must be provided to support requests for absences for illnesses. Excused absences, in which prior arrangements are not possible, (i.e. accident requiring hospitalization, death of an immediate family member, sudden illness, etc.) will be handled on a case-by-case basis and make-up exams/quizzes will be administered as soon as possible after the missed exam/quiz. Students are not to ask classmates about the content of the exam or to discuss the exam/quiz with other students.

Course Assignments

Term Paper: You will write a paper (4-6 pages of text, double spaced) in which you will investigate an issue related to drug/alcohol policies, treatment, or prevention. A list of available topics will be provided within the first few weeks of class. You are also welcome to propose your own topic, although you must have the topic approved by the instructor. Details of this assignment will be provided.

Research Groups: New research is constantly being published about drugs and alcohol. Students will be assigned to research groups after the first week of class to facilitate the exploration of the most current research findings. There will be four students per group. You may form your own group or I can assign members. Once groups have been established, you will be assigned a topic. As can be seen on the course calendar, each group will explore recent research about the drug or class of drugs that is the current topic (preferably published in the last 6 months, and not more than two years old). You need to identify **research studies that are not covered in the text book**. Your group will have 15-20 minutes at the beginning of class to discuss the research you found. You may choose focus on one particular study or you may wish to summarize several studies. This is not a formal presentation. You do not need to create a PowerPoint (although handouts are welcome) and you can present from your seats. You will be evaluated by the instructor and by the other members of your group. **Your group will need to turn in copies of the articles you will discuss seven days prior to presenting.** All group members are expected to participate in exploring the research and in presenting your findings.

Quizzes and Exams

Quizzes will be given regularly at the start of the class period. There will be six quizzes given randomly throughout the semester, which will cover the reading associated with the current topic. **Your lowest quiz score will be dropped.** The purpose of these quizzes is to ensure that students are keeping current with the assigned readings. There will be a midterm exam and a final exam. The final exam is not cumulative, but questions on the final may require knowledge and understanding of material from the first half of the course. Please see the attendance policy for information regarding missed quizzes/exams.

Instructor's Expectations

1. Any form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated.
2. Academic dishonesty will be handled according to UGA policy.*
3. Derogatory comments referring to race, religion, sexuality, etc. will not be tolerated.
4. Respect others' opinions. This is a discussion-based course and without respect, quality discussions cannot occur.
5. Students are expected to come to class prepared, having read all required material.
6. Refrain from using cell phones, laptops, and other electronic devices in class. This includes text messaging.

*All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty" (<http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/acadhon.htm>). All students are responsible for understanding the academic honesty policy. Not knowing the rules is not an excuse for violating the policy.

Diversity

This course will be taught with consideration given to diversity and multiculturalism. Drug and alcohol use, like most things, can be best understood within the larger societal and cultural context. Major aspects of diversity that will be addressed include race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, religion, geographic location, disability status, and subcultures. Students will be expected to demonstrate their understanding of diversity issues, while refraining from offensive or derogatory comments that are unproductive to the discussions.

Special learning needs

If you have a documented disability or any other special needs and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible. Necessary academic accommodations will be made for you based on the recommendations received from Disability Services. You must be registered with Disability Services in order to receive academic accommodations.

Grading Procedures and Policies

A	= 100-93%
A-	= 92.99-90%
B+	= 89.99-86%
B	= 85.99-83%
B-	= 82.99-80%
C+	= 79.99-76%
C	= 75.99-73%
C-	= 72.99-70%
D	= 69.99-60%
F	= 59.99% and below

- Please be sure to hand in all written assignments at class time, on the dates they are due. **There will be a deduction of 10% for each class period an assignment is late.** Late assignments due to illness or emergency will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Hard copies are required for all assignments. E-mailed assignments cannot be accepted due to the risk that they will be deleted by the university's filtering software.
- Hard cutoffs are used to determine final grades. There will be opportunities for extra credit during the semester, thus no additional extra credit will be given at the end of the semester.
- Final Exam Policy – No time and date departures from the examination schedule will occur without prior approval of the dean of the school or college and the Vice President for Instruction. Although there are special courses where a final examination of the regular type may not be appropriate, each student must be provided the opportunity to stand for a final examination as part of the completion of a full instructional term. Each instructor has the authority to design and administer the final examination in whatever manner is appropriate. "Two University policies focus on final examinations. University policy requires that final examinations be held for courses as scheduled and listed in the University final examination schedule for each semester."

Grading Criteria:

Term Paper	125 points
Research Update	100 points
Quizzes (15 points each)	75 points
Mid-Term Exam	100 points
Final Exam	100 points
Total Possible Points	500 points
Total Possible Extra Credit	15 points

Course Schedule

Date		Topic	Reading
Week 1	Jan 8 Jan 10	Introductions and Syllabus Intro to Drugs and Society	- Ch. 1
Week 2	Jan 15 Jan 17	Drug Use, Abuse, and Dependence Drugs and the Body	Ch. 2 Ch. 4
Week 3	Jan 22 Jan 24	How Drugs Work Regulation and the War on Drugs	Ch. 5 Ch. 3
Week 4	Jan 29 Jan 31	Harm Reduction: An Alternative Policy Alcohol	WebCt Article #1-2 Ch. 7-8
Week 5	Feb 5 Feb 7	Alcohol cont. (Research group #1) CNS Depressants (Research group #2)	Ch. 7-8 Ch. 6
Week 6	Feb 12 Feb 14	Opiates (Research group #3) Opiates cont.	Ch. 9 Ch. 9
Week 7	Feb 19 Feb 21	Stimulants: Cocaine (Research group #4) Stimulants: Amphetamines (Research group #5)	Ch. 10 Ch. 10
Week 8	Feb 26 Feb 28	Midterm Exam Minor Stimulants: Tobacco and Caffeine (Research group #6)	- Ch. 11
Week 9	Mar 4 Mar 6	Hallucinogens (Research group #7) OTC and Prescription Drugs	Ch. 12 Ch. 15
Week 10	Mar 11 Mar 13	No Class: Spring Break No Class: Spring Break	
Week 11	Mar 18 Mar 20	Diversity and Multicultural Competence Diversity and Multicultural Competence, Cont.	TBA TBA
Week 12	Mar 25 Mar 27	Special Populations; Term Paper due Marijuana (Research group #8)	Ch. 16 Ch. 13
Week 13	Apr 1 Apr 3	Inhalants (Research group #9) Designer Drugs/Club Drugs: Ecstasy	Ch. 14 P291-294
Week 14	Apr 8 Apr 10	Designer Drugs/Club Drugs: GHB; Ketamine; Rohypnol; Phenethylamine; Dextromethorpan (Research group #10) Prevention	P171; 506; 175-77; 375; 272-73 Ch. 17
Week 15	Apr 15 Apr 17	Drug and Alcohol Treatment Drug and Alcohol Treatment, cont.	Ch. 18 Ch. 18
Week 16	Apr 22 Apr 24	Relapse and Process Addictions (Behavioral Addictions) Course wrap-up and exam review	TBA -
Week 17	Apr 29 May 6	No Class – Reading Day Final Exam (12:00-3:00p)	

This course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.