

**THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**  
**FALL SEMESTER 2007**  
**ECHD 3170 – Drug and Alcohol Issues**

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<b>Course:</b>	ECHD 3170: Drug and Alcohol Issues	<b>Location:</b>	Aderhold Hall - 409
<b>Time:</b>	Tuesdays/Thursdays, 2-3:15 p.m.		

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<b>Instructor:</b>	Geoff Bathje	<b>E-Mail:</b>	bathje@uga.edu
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	By appointment - Thursday morning and Friday		

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### **Required Reading**

Hanson, G. R., Venturelli, P. J. & Fleckenstein, A. E. (2006). *Drugs and Society* (9<sup>th</sup> 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 drug related issues.

### **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 it demonstrates that the class is completing assigned readings and understanding the material. If participation is lacking, there may be additional quizzes or assignments to assure that the students are reading and comprehending the material.

*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 or seven 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). **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:* Exams and quizzes will be given at the beginning of each scheduled class. Students arriving late to class will not be given additional time to complete the exam. 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. Lastly, I do not provide copies of lecture notes. If you miss a lecture, please get a copy of the notes from one of your classmates.

## **Course Assignments**

*Term Paper:* The first assignment is a paper (5-7 pages, double spaced, plus cover page) in which you will investigate an issue related to addiction, treatment, alcohol, or a drug of abuse. A list of available topics will be provided within the first few weeks of class, and signup will be on a first-come, first-served basis. 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.

*Online discussion (part 1):* Several topics will be made available for an online discussion of controversies related to drugs and alcohol. Again, topics will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis and only six members will be allowed per group. **You may not select the topic on which you wrote your paper.** You will use the WebCT course discussion board to state your position on your topic. Your statement must be between 500 and 1000 words. You will need to cite at least two reliable sources to back up your position (use APA citation format). You are encouraged to state both *beliefs* and *evidence* in your statement, but be sure to distinguish between the two.

*Online discussion (part 2):* You will respond to the posts of at least two members of your group. Your response must add to the discussion by either supporting or contesting the information in the post to which you are replying. Simple statements, such as “good job” or “I agree” are not adequate replies.

*Additional assignments:* You will participate in class activities throughout the semester. Some of these activities will require you to turn in short assignments, written journal reactions, or turn in a group summary at the end of class. It is not possible to make up missed activities unless you have a valid excuse for missing class.

## **Quizzes and Exams**

Quizzes will be given regularly at the start of the class period. There will be six or seven quizzes given randomly throughout the semester. **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 will not be 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.

## **Student Selected Topics**

I believe in being responsive to the interests of my students. I have reserved two class periods for student selected topics related to drugs and alcohol. The class will be allowed to select any issue that has been covered in class to discuss in greater detail (majority rules). Alternatively, the class may select a relevant issue that is not listed on the course syllabus. Each student must bring two discussion questions to class related to the topic. You must bring two

copies of your discussion questions, one to turn in at the beginning of class and one for your own reference during class. Depending on the topic, I may also present additional content.

### **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 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 = 100-94%
- A- = 93-90%
- B+ = 89-87%
- B = 86-84%
- B- = 83-80%
- C+ = 79-77%
- C = 76-74%
- C- = 73-70%
- D = 69-60%
- F = 59% 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.** I allow extra credit for attendance and I drop the lowest quiz score, which provides the opportunity for an increase in borderline situations. No additional extra credit will be given.
- 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:**

Quizzes (5 or 6)	60 points
Assignments and Other Related Activities	65 points
Term Paper	100 points
Online Discussion	75 points
Mid-Term Exam	100 points
Final Exam	100 points
<b>Total Possible Points</b>	<b>500 points</b>
<b>Total Possible Extra Credit</b>	<b>10 points</b>

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

## Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading
Week 1    Aug 16	Introductions and Syllabus	-
Week 2    Aug 21 Aug 23	Intro to Drugs and Society Drug Use, Abuse, and Dependence	Ch. 1 Ch. 2
Week 3    Aug 28 Aug 30	Drugs and the Body How Drugs Work	Ch. 4 Ch. 5
Week 4    Sept 4 Sept 6	Regulation/Prevention (The War on Drugs) Harm Reduction: An Alternative Policy	Ch. 3&17 TBA
Week 5    Sept 11 Sept 13	Alcohol Alcohol cont.	Ch. 7-8
Week 6    Sept 18 Sept 20	Narcotics Narcotics cont.	Ch. 9
Week 7    Sept 25 Sept 27	Stimulants Stimulants cont.	Ch. 10
Week 8    Oct 2 Oct 4	*Student selected topic; <b>Discussion questions due</b> <b>Midterm Exam (Oct 4)</b>	TBA
Week 9    Oct 9 Oct 11	Tobacco Hallucinogens	Ch. 11 Ch. 12
Week 10   Oct 16 Oct 18	Marijuana Marijuana cont.	Ch. 13
Week 11   Oct 23 Oct 25	CNS Depressants; <b>Term Paper due</b> <b>No Class - Fall Break (Oct 25-26)</b>	Ch. 6
Week 12   Oct 30 Nov 1	Special Populations Diversity and Multicultural Competence	Ch. 16 TBA
Week 13   Nov 6 Nov 8	Inhalants OTC and Prescription Drugs; <b>Online Discussion Part 1 due</b>	Ch. 14 Ch. 15
Week 14   Nov 13 Nov 15	Designer Drugs/Club Drugs Designer Drugs/Club Drugs cont.; <b>Online Discussion Part 2 due</b>	TBA
Week 15   Nov 20 Nov 22	Drug and Alcohol Treatment <b>No Class - Thanksgiving Break (Nov 21-23)</b>	Ch. 18
Week 16   Nov 27 Nov 29	Drug and Alcohol Treatment, cont. Related Issues: Sex Addiction, Gambling Addiction, and Eating Disorders	TBA
Week 17   Dec 4 Dec 6	<b>No Class - Friday schedule</b> *Student selected topic; <b>Discussion questions due</b>	TBA
<b>Tue, Dec 11</b>	<b>Final Exam (3:30-6:30pm)</b>	