

University of Hawaii at Manoa
SOC 335- Survey in Drugs and Society
Summer 2012 Session II
Online

Instructor- Nick Chagnon- MA University of North Carolina Wilmington

Email- chagnon@hawaii.edu

Office/Hours- Saunders 218 F 12-2:30 p.m., by appointment

Phone- (808) 956-3726

Course Description- In this online course we will learn about various illegal and legal drugs and their effects on society. The majority of instruction and learning will be done online, through the Lulima portal. We will focus on illuminating the social construction of drug use and the empirical reality of such use. Further, we will investigate current US drug policy, its consequences, and proposed alternatives. Other topics will include media coverage of drugs and the history of drug use in the US, among others.

Learning Objectives- At the end of the class each student should...

- Understand the ways through which drug use and drug policies are scientifically studied.
- Be familiar with various illegal drugs, their legal status, physiological effects, and social consequences.
- Be aware of the disconnects between the socially constructed reality of drug use and the underlying empirical reality.
- Be aware of current US drug policy and scientific assessments of such policy.
- Further develop his/her sociological imagination and a critical perspective in relation to drug use and drug policy.

Textbook-

- Goode, Erich. *Drugs in American Society* 8th ed. McGraw Hill.
- Also, supplemental readings will be provided on Lulima.

Attendance policy- As this is an online course, there will be no attendance taken. However, there will be a participation component to the course grade. Participation points will be earned through online chat and discussion sessions on Lulima.

Classroom Etiquette-

- Classroom discussions may touch on a number of sensitive topics. While students are encouraged to share their views, all views must be respected. Interruptions of or insults directed at other students will not be tolerated.

Assignments-

1. Quizzes- Each week, a short online quiz will be released through Lualima. The quiz will be available on Friday afternoon, and will be due by Sunday night, at 11:55 pm. Quizzes will be a mixture of 10 multiple choice and two short-answer questions.
2. Discussion Board Posts- Each student will do two discussion board (DB) posts each week. However, there will be no DB posts due for weeks on which topical papers are due. First, each student will construct an original post commenting on course material from that week. This post should be approximately 250-500 words. This will be due by Wednesday night at 11:55 pm. Later in the week, each student will construct a response post, commenting on another student's original post. This post should be approximately 200-400 words and will be due Sunday night at 11:55 pm. These posts are a formal assignment, and will be rigorously evaluated. Thus, formal paper writing conventions should be followed. This means using formal language, clear writing, proper grammar, and proper citations. Furthermore, DB posts should not merely be opinion, but use course material to substantiate comments and claims. Please see writing guidelines below for more explicit instruction.
3. Topical Papers- Each student will write two short topical papers on a subject of his/her choice. Topical papers should briefly summarize a contemporary issue or theme in the study of drugs and drug use. Furthermore, students should give their own ideas on how to improve this issue, using course material and outside sources to substantiate their claims. As with DB posts, formal writing conventions should be applied. See writing guidelines below for more explicit instruction. Paper length should be 500-750 words.
4. Participation- Each week for approximately 2.5 hours, the instructor will be available online, via a chat room in Lualima to answer questions and participate in discussion about course material. Students need not participate for the whole session each week. However, they should participate regularly to earn participation points. If students are not able to attend the chat sessions at the appointed time in the syllabus, alternative accommodations can be made with the instructor.
5. Extra Credit- Students who wish to do so will be given an opportunity to earn extra credit. Extra credit may be earned in two ways. First, students may write a persuasive letter to a public official, company executive, political candidate, etc. on a matter relevant to sociology. For example, a student might choose to write a persuasive letter to his/her Senator making an argument about increased use of drug treatment. Students who do not wish to earn extra credit this way will be given the opportunity to complete a similar alternative writing assignment that will be determined by the instructor at a later point. Extra credit may add up to 5% to a student's final grade.

Kokua/Students with Disabilities- Any student who requires accommodations because of a disability should contact the Kokua program (956-7511 or 956-7612) and discuss this with me. Any required arrangements will be made.

Grading Summary-

- Quizzes- 30%
- Discussion Board Posts- 20%
- Topical Papers- 30%
- Participation- 20%

Grading Scale-

94 – 100%= A	80-83%= B-	67 – 69%= D+
90-93%= A-	76 – 79%= C+	64-66%= D
86 – 89%= B+	73-75%= C	60-63%= D-
83-85%= B	70-72%= C-	59% or lower= F

Academic Dishonesty-Any form of cheating will not be tolerated. Any student caught cheating during exams will be removed from class and will receive an automatic F for the class. Plagiarism, in any form, will not be tolerated either. Not understanding plagiarism will not be an acceptable excuse. A presentation on plagiarism will be given during the first week of class. Furthermore, online references relating to plagiarism will be provided on Laulima. Students caught plagiarizing will be given one warning. Repeated plagiarism will result in the student being referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs. Please refer to the student code of conduct for further information.

Course Schedule

Week/Meeting Dates	Reading	Topics/Assignments
Week 1 7/2	Chapters 1, 2 Additional Readings on Laulima	<p>Class Intro; Sociological Perspectives on Drug Use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are drugs? • Types of drug use • Drugs in the 21st century • Prescription drugs • Drug Schedules <p>Pharmacological Perspectives on Drugs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug addiction • Basic pharmacological concepts • Drug dependence models • Drug classifications

		<p>DB Posts due Wed and Sun nights by 11:55 pm</p> <p>Quiz #1 available Friday @ 3pm.</p> <p>Online course introduction and discussion session Monday 12-2 pm.</p> <p>Online chat and discussion session Friday 12-2:30 pm</p>
<p>Week 3 7/9</p>	<p>Chapters 3-5 Additional Readings on Laulima</p>	<p>Drugs and News Coverage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moral panic and news influence • News bias • Theories of media bias • Social construction of social problems • Various drugs in the media (e.g. methamphetamine) <p>Scientific Research and Drugs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sampling and Statistics • Rates of use • ADAM, DAWN, MTF <p>History of Drug Use in the US</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various rates of drug use • Changes in drug use over time • History of alcohol consumption • History of illegal drug use <p>DB Posts due Wednesday and Sunday nights by 11:55 pm</p> <p>Quiz #2 available Friday @ 3pm.</p> <p>Online chat and discussion session Friday 12-2:30 pm</p>
<p>Week 3 7/16</p>	<p>Chapters 6-8 Additional Readings on Laulima</p>	<p>Theories of Drug Use- Biology, Psychology, and Sociology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sociological Theories • Biological Theories • Psychological Theories • Assessments of theories <p>Alcohol and Tobacco</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute and chronic effects

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consumption today • Alcohol and victimization • Underage drinking • Tobacco- history, harm, and decline <p>Marijuana, LSD, and ‘club drugs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects of marijuana • Marijuana uses and users • LSD and its effects • Ecstasy • GHB <p>Quiz #3 available Friday @ 3pm.</p> <p>Online chat and discussion session Friday 12-2:30 pm</p> <p>First topical paper due Friday by 11:55 pm</p>
<p>Week 4 7/23</p>	<p>Chapters 9-11 Additional Readings on Laulima</p>	<p>Stimulants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amphetamines • Methamphetamine • Meth use and Hawaii • Cocaine and crack cocaine • The 80s crack ‘epidemic’ <p>Heroin and Narcotics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narcotic addiction • Addiction treatment • Other opiate use <p>Pharmaceutical Drugs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The prescription drug industry • Sedative-Hypnotics • Anti-depressants and anti-psychotics <p>DB Posts due Wednesday and Sunday nights by 11:55 pm</p> <p>Quiz #4 available Friday @ 3pm.</p> <p>Online chat and discussion session Friday 12-2:30 pm</p>

<p>Week 5 7/30</p>	<p>Chapters 12-14 Additional Readings on Laulima</p>	<p>A history of drug control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drugs in the 19th century • Alcohol prohibition • Pure Food and Drug Act • The Harrison Act • Nixon and controlled substances • Reagan and the ‘war on drugs’ <p>Drugs and Crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empirical evidence for a drug/crime link • Models of drugs and crime • Drugs and violence <p>Drug Enterprise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability, price and purity • Origins of drugs • Street-level drug sales • Class and drug dealing <p>DB Posts due Wednesday and Sunday nights by 11:55 pm</p> <p>Quiz #5 available Friday @ 3pm.</p> <p>Online chat and discussion session Friday 12-2:30 pm</p>
<p>Week 6 8/6</p>	<p>Chapters 15 & 16</p>	<p>Law enforcement, courts, and treatment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The punitive model • The current system of drug control • Drug courts • Drug treatment <p>Alternatives to current efforts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legalization arguments • Reform models • Consequences of legalization/reform <p>Quiz #6 available Friday @ 3pm.</p> <p>Online chat and discussion session Friday 12-2:30 pm</p>

		2nd Topical Paper due Friday by 11:55 pm
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General Writing Guidelines-

-All writing will be graded on content, overall writing quality, grammar, and proper format.

-Content-

-Content should be relevant to the paper topic.

-The paper must demonstrate adequate comprehension of subject matter.

-Any arguments should be supported with evidence, not opinion.

-The paper should not merely regurgitate class materials but expand upon them.

-Writing Quality-

-Writing should be simple, clear, and concise.

-Use vocabulary properly.

-Paper must be clearly organized.

-Ideas in the paper should follow a logical progression.

-Grammar and Spelling-

-All words, especially proper nouns, should be spelled correctly.

-All sentences should make sense.

-Proper punctuation must be used throughout the paper.

-Papers must demonstrate proper verb usage, especially in terms of subject/verb agreement.

-Format-

-Papers should be double-spaced, using 12-point, Times New Roman font.

-Papers should be in ASA format. I have provided a link to an accessible online ASA format guide on Lualima.

-Sources should be properly cited.

-Papers must have a references page.

-All quotes should be attributed properly.

-Be extremely careful not to plagiarize. Self-monitoring for plagiarism is not a passive activity; you must be vigilant, actively examining your writing to make sure you haven't plagiarized.

* I strongly encourage any students who have trouble with or are unsure of their writing to utilize the **writing center**. More information is available on their website at

<http://www.english.hawaii.edu/writingcenter/>