

**University of Hawaii at Manoa**  
**Soc 335- Survey in Drugs and Societ**  
**Fall 2011**  
**MWF 1030-1120**

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**Office/Hours-** Saunders 218 MWF 12-2 p.m.

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**Course Description-** In this course we will learn about various illegal and legal drugs and their effects on society, drawing from sociological, psychological and medical perspectives. 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 difference 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* 8<sup>th</sup> ed. McGraw Hill.
- Also, supplemental readings will be provided on Laulima.

**Attendance policy-** Attendance for this class is mandatory. However, role will not be taken each day. Instead role will be taken periodically throughout the semester. Medical, legal or personal reasons for absences with documentation will not count against the attendance portion of the grade. Students with excused absences will be given the opportunity to make up a quiz after providing documentation.

**Classroom Etiquette-**

- Cell phones should be turned to silent or off before class begins.
- Please do not text in class.
- Laptop computers may be used for note taking. However, the instructor reserves the right to revoke this privilege if computers become a significant distraction.

- 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. Exams- Three (3) multiple-choice exams will be given during this semester. Exams will be approximately 75 questions, dealing with material from the text, supplemental readings, information from lectures, and films we view in class.
2. Discussion Board Posts- Each student will post five (5) times on the discussion board in Laulima. Posts should be 250-500 words, responding to a discussion prompt that will be provided by the instructor on Laulima. Discussion board posts are an exercise in formal writing. Grammar, spelling, writing quality, etc. will be part of the grading for DB posts.
3. 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 drug use. For example, a student might choose to write a persuasive letter to his/her Senator making an argument about marijuana law reform. 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-**

- Exams- 60%
- Discussion Board Posts- 25%
- Attendance- 15%

**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
<b>Week 1</b> <b>8/22</b>	<b>Chapter 1</b> <b>Additional Readings on Laulima</b>	<b>Class Intro; Sociological Perspectives on Drug Use</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are drugs?</li> <li>• Types of drug use</li> <li>• Drugs in the 21<sup>st</sup> century</li> <li>• Prescription drugs</li> <li>• Drug Schedules</li> </ul>
<b>Week 2</b> <b>8/29</b>	<b>Chapter 2</b> <b>Additional Readings on Laulima</b>	<b>Pharmacological Perspectives on Drugs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drug addiction</li> <li>• Basic pharmacological concepts</li> <li>• Drug dependence models</li> <li>• Drug classifications</li> </ul>
<b>Week 3</b> <b>9/5</b> <b>(No class Monday-Labor Day)</b>	<b>Chapter 3</b> <b>Additional Readings on Laulima</b>	<b>Drugs and News Coverage</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moral panic and news influence</li> <li>• News bias</li> <li>• Theories of media bias</li> <li>• Social construction of social problems</li> <li>• Various drugs in the media (e.g. methamphetamine)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 4</b> <b>9/12</b>	<b>Chapter 4</b> <b>Additional Readings on Laulima</b>	<b>Scientific Research and Drugs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sampling and Statistics</li> <li>• Rates of use</li> <li>• ADAM, DAWN, MTF</li> <li>• <b>Discussion Board Post #1 Due Friday by 11:55 pm</b></li> </ul>
<b>Week 5</b> <b>9/19</b>	<b>Chapter 5</b> <b>Additional Readings on Laulima</b>	<b>History of Drug Use in the US</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various measures of drug use</li> <li>• Changes in drug use over time</li> <li>• History of alcohol consumption</li> <li>• History of illegal drug use</li> <li>• <b>Exam #1 Friday</b></li> </ul>

<b>Week 6</b> <b>9/26</b>	<b>Chapter 6</b> <b>Additional Readings on</b> <b>Laulima</b>	<b>Theories of Drug Use- Biology, Psychology, and Sociology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sociological Theories</li> <li>• Biological Theories</li> <li>• Psychological Theories</li> <li>• Assessments of theories</li> </ul>
<b>Week 7</b> <b>10/3</b>	<b>Chapter 7</b> <b>Additional Readings on</b> <b>Laulima</b>	<b>Alcohol and Tobacco</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acute and chronic effects</li> <li>• Consumption today</li> <li>• Alcohol and victimization</li> <li>• Underage drinking</li> <li>• Tobacco- history, harm, and decline</li> <li>• <b>DB Post #2 due Friday</b></li> </ul>
<b>Week 8</b> <b>10/10</b>	<b>Chapter 8</b> <b>Additional Readings on</b> <b>Laulima</b>	<b>Marijuana, LSD, and ‘club drugs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effects of marijuana</li> <li>• Marijuana uses and users</li> <li>• LSD and its effects</li> <li>• Ecstasy</li> <li>• GHB</li> </ul>
<b>Week 9</b> <b>10/17</b>	<b>Chapter 9</b> <b>Film- American Meth</b>	<b>Stimulants</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amphetamines</li> <li>• Methamphetamine</li> <li>• Meth use and Hawaii</li> <li>• Cocaine and crack cocaine</li> <li>• The 80s crack ‘epidemic’</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>Week 10</b> <b>10/24</b>	<b>Chapter 10</b> <b>Film- TBD</b>	<b>Heroin and Narcotics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narcotic addiction</li> <li>• Addiction treatment</li> <li>• Other opiate use</li> <li>• <b>Exam #2 Friday</b></li> </ul>
<b>Week 11</b> <b>10/31</b>	<b>Chapter 11</b> <b>Additional Readings on</b> <b>Laulima</b>	<b>Pharmaceutical Drugs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The prescription drug industry</li> <li>• Sedative-Hypnotics</li> <li>• Anti-depressants and anti-psychotics</li> <li>• <b>DB Post #3 due Friday</b></li> </ul>
<b>Week 12</b> <b>11/7</b>	<b>Chapter 12</b> <b>Additional Readings on</b> <b>Laulima</b>	<b>A history of drug control</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drugs in the 19<sup>th</sup> century</li> <li>• Alcohol prohibition</li> <li>• Pure Food and Drug Act</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Harrison Act</li> <li>• Nixon and controlled substances</li> <li>• Reagan and the ‘war on drugs’</li> </ul>
<b>Week 13</b> <b>11/14</b>	<b>Chapter 13</b> <b>Film- TBD</b>	<b>Drugs and Crime</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empirical evidence for a drug/crime link</li> <li>• Models of drugs and crime</li> <li>• Drugs and violence</li> </ul>
<b>Week 14</b> <b>11/21</b>	<b>Chapter 14</b> <b>Additional Readings on</b> <b>Laulima</b>	<b>Drug Enterprise</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability, price and purity</li> <li>• Origins of drugs</li> <li>• Street-level drug sales</li> <li>• Class and drug dealing</li> <li>• <b>DB Post #4 due Friday</b></li> </ul>
<b>Week 15</b> <b>11/28</b>	<b>Chapter 15</b> <b>Additional Readings on</b> <b>Laulima</b>	<b>Law enforcement, courts, and treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The punitive model</li> <li>• The current system of drug control</li> <li>• Drug courts</li> <li>• Drug treatment</li> </ul>
<b>Week 16</b> <b>12/5</b>	<b>Chapter 16</b>	<b>Alternatives to current efforts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legalization arguments</li> <li>• Reform models</li> <li>• Consequences of legalization/reform</li> <li>• <b>DB Post #5 due Friday</b></li> </ul>
<b>Week 17</b> <b>12/12</b>	<b>Finals</b>	<b>Final Exam/Exam #3- TBD</b>

### **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/>