



COURSE OUTLINE

Course Number
SOC 214

Course Title
Sociology of Drug Use and Behavior

Credits
3.0

Lecture/Lab/Other:
3/0/0

Co- or Pre-requisite:
SOC 101 or SOC 107

Implementation
Fall 2022

Catalog description:

Analyzes the political, economic, and cultural ramifications of drugs in society. Specific topics include: constructing drug use and the user as a social problem and the implications for social policy and control (legislation, prevention and treatment). Primary source texts, films, and other resources are used to understand these issues.

General Education Category:
Not GenEd

Course coordinator:
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Required texts & Other materials:

Faupel, Charles E., Greg S. Weaver, Jay Corzine. *The Sociology of American Drug Use*. Oxford University Press, N.Y., NY.

Other materials may be added at the professors or coordinators discretion. This textbook may be replaced with OER resources with the coordinators approval.

Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of theoretical, sociological, psychological, and legal perspectives on drug use and addiction including the psychopharmacological drug classification schema. (Supports ILG #1, 5, 6)
2. Show understanding and critically engage with the intersectional dynamics of drug use and drug policy including issues such as race, class, gender, sexuality, and subculture. (Supports ILG #1, 5, 6, 8, 9)
3. Critically analyze the economic, social, criminal, and political implications of drug use and drug policy, including alternative policy options, in America and globally. (Supports ILG # 1, 5, 7, 8, 9)
4. Describe, contextualize, and critically analyze the history and contemporary reality of American drug laws and social movements associated with them. (Supports ILG #1, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11)

Course-specific Institutional Learning Goals (ILG):

Institutional Learning Goal 1. Written and Oral Communication in English. Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Institutional Learning Goal 5. Social Science. Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.

Institutional Learning Goal. 6. Humanities. Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

Institutional Learning Goal 7. History. Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.

Institutional Learning Goal 8. Diversity and Global Perspective: Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples

Institutional Learning Goal 9. Ethical Reasoning and Action. Students will understand ethical frameworks, issues, and situations.

Institutional Learning Goal 11. Critical Thinking: Students will use critical thinking skills understand, analyze, or apply information or solve problems.

Units of study in detail – Unit Student Learning Outcomes

Note: Additional units may be added to the syllabus at the professor's discretion.

Unit I: Background Information (Supports SLO #1, 2)

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to:

- Understand and explain the purposes of and differences between social scientific approaches such as sociology, psychology, and political science.
- Explain different theories in the social sciences and apply these theories to drug related issues.

Unit II: Demographics and Correlates (Supports SLO #1, 2, 3)

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to:

- Explain the relationship between demographic categories, drug use, and the enforcement of drug laws.
- Understand and critically analyze the impact of institutions, structures, and systems on the individual.
- Explain and critically analyze the inequities associated with drug policy and its consequences, such as policing, imprisonment, violence, racism, and poverty.

Unit III: Prevention and Control (Supports SLO #1, 3, 4)

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to:

- Discuss and critically analyze contemporary approaches to legal, political, and therapeutic reforms to drug use, abuse, and addiction.
- Understand and explain the preventative approach as well as the criminalistic approach to drug use.

- Understand and explain harm reduction models of drug use and criminality.

Evaluation of student learning: No single assignment should be worth more than 20% of a student's final grade.

Reading Assignments: Textbooks and/or other provided materials should be assigned to students on a regular basis.

Engagement: Students engagement should be evaluated based on a combination of attendance, participation, and other forms of communication as the professor sees fit.

Quizzes and/or Exams: Students should show proficiency in the above SLOs using written/essay exams and/or quizzes to be designed by the professor. Multiple choice assignments may be implemented at the professor's discretion but should not make up a majority of the assignments.

Writing Assignments: All students should be required to complete a research or term paper will make use of appropriate peer-reviewed/academic sources. At least some of the students' quizzes or exams should also be in an essay format. Length and details of writing assignments will be determined by individual professors.