

SOC 381 – DRUG ABUSE AND SOCIETY

SYLLABUS

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COURSE DELIVERY:

Print-Based Correspondence

CREDIT HOURS:

Three Semester Hours

PREREQUISITES:

SOC 201 The Sociological Imagination, or by Permission of Instructor

COURSE MATERIALS:

To order textbooks or obtain information about book titles you may go to www.exstudies.adams.edu and click on the “ASC Bookstore” icon.

Use **Section Number: 832** to order books from Bookstore site.

Required Text:

Walker, S. (2006). *Sense and nonsense about crime and drugs*, (6th ed.).
Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing.
ISBN: 0-534-61654-2

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

This course focuses on the context and correlation of drug use, relationship with crime and delinquency, and societal reaction to drug abuse. Also discussed is the study of sociological and social psychological explanations of drug-using behaviors and of legal and medical control of drugs. Finally, topics include changes in the legal status of drugs, cross-cultural and historical variations in the control of drugs, and social epidemiology of drug use in contemporary society will be examined.

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STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The student will:

- Define major types of crime and look at the connection between crime and drugs today and historically.
- Consider the major theories surrounding crime and drugs.
- Review the role of police, courts, and corrections in dealing with crime and drugs.
- Review and study some of the contemporary issues and programs dealing with drugs.
- Consider the system's response to juvenile delinquency and drug use.
- Consider the legalization of drugs and its implications on society.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

All assignments should be completed after reading the text.

Article Reviews (25 points each–totals 33% of final grade):

While you are reading the text, you should collect four articles from newspapers and news magazines discussing issues dealing with drugs, society and crime. Not all articles should be criminally related. You may use articles discussing drug rehabilitation programs, legalization issues, etc. After you have read the entire text, using the articles, discuss the content of the articles and apply them to your reading. The purpose of this assignment is to provide you with current issues dealing with drugs, society, and crime and to allow you practical application of the course materials to current issues. Be sure to use theory whenever possible. If there is a question about the applicability of an article, don't hesitate to contact me. Please make sure to use newsworthy sources only. This instructor is very wary of Internet sources. More and more, bogus information is springing up on the Internet and being considered as reliable. You may use the Internet, but use reputable sources. Many news organizations publish their materials both in paper form and electronically. Include a bibliography with each article so that this instructor can access the information. Failure to do this will result in no credit being given. Reviews should be approximately 3-4 pages in length. Please use APA format. Each article review is worth 25 points, with a maximum score on this assignment of 100 points. Grammar and punctuation will be part of your grade. This assignment is worth 33% of the final grade. This assignment may be sent to me anytime after completion of the reading.

Midterm Exam (100 points–33% of final grade):

Once you have completed your reading through Chapter 8, you are ready to take the midterm exam. Please refer to Guidelines for Proctored Exams and submit the Exam Request Form. This test will be essay in nature. You will not be allowed to use your text or notes. In review for the test, study the propositions that are part of each of the seven

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chapters making sure you can develop a logical response to each proposition. Your test is taken from these propositions. You will be given 2 hours to complete this test.

Final Exam (100 points–33% of final grade):

Once you have completed the remaining readings and article assignment, you are ready to take the final exam. Please refer to Guidelines for Proctored Exams and submit the Exam Request Form. You will not be allowed to use your text or notes. The test is much like the midterm exam, it is essay and will consist of questions constructed from the propositions section of each chapter. In review for the test, study these propositions making sure you can develop a logical response to each proposition. You will be given 2 hours to complete this test.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION AND SCALE:

In alignment with ASC academic policies, no D may apply to a major or minor field.

Grade Distribution:

Each assignment is graded on a 100-point scale.

Articles	100 points
Midterm Exam	100 points
Final Exam	<u>100 points</u>
Total Points	300

Scale:

270-300	A
240-269	B
210-239	C
118-209	D
117 and below	F

Articles will be graded as follows:

90-100	all information included and grammar intact.
80-89	part of information not included and grammar deficiencies.
70-79	both grammar and information not complete.
60-69	much of information not included, grammar is deficient.
59 and below	student did not complete work.

ADA STATEMENT:

Students who need special accommodation to complete this class should contact the instructor and the Office of Student Affairs, 719.587.7221 as soon as possible.