

Drugs and Human Behavior 01:830:272

Course Sakai site: Drugs and Human Behavior Summer 2013

Summer 2013

Monday-Wednesday 6:00-10:00 SEC 118

Dr. Bonnie Nolan

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Office Hours: By appointment: Location: TBD

Learning Goals

Students will learn leading terms, concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in the subject of drugs and human behavior. Students will be asked to use critical thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to ask, answer and understand questions related to behavior and mental processes in the context of human drug use. Students will learn to apply psychological concepts and content to become engaged citizens.

In addition, student will learn to tease out media hype in order to form and articulate educated opinions about the effects of various drugs, including legal, medicinal, and legally restricted substances.

Class participation is encouraged! This can be an enjoyable topic, and everyone is encouraged to contribute to class discussions. Like attendance, class participation will be considered in cases of borderline grades.

Current Academic Integrity Policy: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/integrity.shtml>

Violations include: cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, denying others access to information or material, and facilitating violations of academic integrity.

List of Required Books &/or Materials :

"Drugs, Behavior, and Modern Society" by Charles F. Levanthal, 6th edition or later.

ISBN 13: 978-0-205-66570-9, ISBN 10: 0-205-66570-5

Course Structure and Requirements.

- **There will be 4 quizzes and 1 final exam. Each quiz will be worth 20 points; your lowest quiz grade will be dropped. The final exam will be worth 40 points. All will be short answer/essay format.**
- Because the lowest quiz grade will be dropped, there is no need for make-up quizzes. The final exam will take place on July 3, which is the last day of class. A note from the dean or a doctor will be required to make up the final exam.
- Attendance may be taken occasionally. While this will not impact your point total, it will certainly be considered in the event of a borderline grade.
- Students with disabilities requesting accommodations: Follow the procedures outlined at <http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/request.html>

Scheduled reading from Levanthal, lectures: (Films are labeled by topic, NOT title.)

May 29: Introduction to course, review of syllabus, and Chapters 1 & 2: Overview of drugs and drug taking behavior.

June 3: Chapter 3: How drugs exert effects. Point/Counterpoint: Should we legalize drugs? Chapter 4: Cocaine and amphetamines

June 5: Film-methamphetamine/ Quiz on previous chapters, including film. Chapter 5: Opium, heroin, morphine

June 10 Chapter 6: LSD & other hallucinogens/ **Film – Ecstasy**

July 12: Ch 8: Anabolic steroids and drug abuse in sports/ Chapter 13: Glues, solvents and other inhalants. **Quiz on previous chapters, including film.**

June 17: Ch 9 & 10: Alcohol and Point/Counterpoint (p. 272)

June 19: Film-addiction/ Ch 15: Anxiolytics Quiz on previous chapters, including film

June 24: Anxiolytics (cont), Ch 11 & 12 Nicotine and tobacco / Caffeine

June 26: Film- marijuana/ Chapter 7: Marijuana Quiz on previous chapters.

July 1: Ch 14: Prescriptions, OTC, Drugs for schizophrenia and mood disorders:

July 3: Final