

SOCI 4200: Alcohol, Drugs and Society

SOC 4200

Alcohol, Drugs and Society

Course Location & Time

Semester

University

Department

Instructor:

Office:

Phone:

Office Hours:

or email for appointment

E-mail:

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines drug use and abuse, including alcohol. Specifically, it examines how different drugs affect the body, theories of drug use, the sociological context of drug use, the impact of drug use and abuse on society, drug treatment, drug use policies, drugs and the law, and the extent of drug use in our society and globally.

- *Credits:* 3-0-3

OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

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Readings for the Course:

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OFFICE HOURS:

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Course Delivery

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- Cough
- Fever of 100.4 or higher
- Runny nose or new sinus congestion
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Sore Throat
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For more information regarding COVID-19 (including testing, vaccines, extended illness procedures and accommodations), see KSU’s official [Covid-19 website](#).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT:

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inform me before class begins and take the seat nearest an exit and enter or leave as quietly as possible. Repeated disruption of class may lead to penalties that reduce your final grade (see below). Class discussions of the issues we study can stimulate strong feelings and heated debate. Because this is a college classroom, all discussions must be scholarly. **Failure to abide by these principles can result in academic penalties ranging from a lowered grade, to dismissal, to failing the course.**

Scholarly comments are:

Respectful of diverse opinions and open to follow up questions and/or disagreement; related to the class and course material; advance the discussion about issues related to the course and/or course material rather than personal beliefs; are delivered in normal tones and a non-aggressive manner.

Unacceptable behaviors are:

(a) Personal attacks. This includes attacks on a person's appearance, demeanor, or religious and political beliefs. (b) Interrupting your instructor or other students. Raise your hand and wait to be called on by the discussion leader or myself to prevent this problem. (c) Using the discussion to argue for political positions and/or beliefs. If political discussions arise, they must be discussed as scholarly endeavors (see above). (d) Using raised tones, yelling, engaging in arguments with other students, and being physically aggressive. (e) Ignoring your instructor's authority to protect the integrity of the classroom. Anyone who violates these guidelines will be asked to cease and desist and may be asked to leave the classroom and/or drop the course.

ENROLLMENT STATUS:

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COURSE EXPECTATIONS:

Because each person in a class contributes to its ultimate success or failure, I expect everyone to attend our class meetings, read and think about the day's readings beforehand, work on in-class projects, and participate in the give and take of class discussion. Not meeting this expectation is grounds for a lowered grade. Deadline extensions are considered at the sole discretion of the instructor, when discussed in advance of the due date. Late work on assignments is accepted at the discretion of the instructor and, if accepted, will face a deduction of 10% for each day late. If you are unable to take an exam, you must call me with a valid excuse prior to the time of the exam. Otherwise, it will result in a grade of zero for that exam and this grade will be included in determining final grades. If students are participating in official KSU functions and provide official documentation, their absence will be excused, but they must still make up all applicable work. I attempt to post all grades for quizzes and exams within a week, though this sometimes extends into the second week. Finally, grading of papers may take as long as a month after submission (or the deadline for final grade submission, whichever is sooner). If you would like earlier feedback, please set an appointment to see me during my office hours and be clear that the meeting is to discuss feedback on your paper.

CLASS AND ONLINE PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE:

“In-person Class – Sample Syllabi”

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GRADES:

Grades will be based upon your percentage of the total number of points on exams, written and online work, and attendance. A= 90-100%; B= 89.99-80%; C= 79.99-70%; D= 69.99-60%; F= Below 60%.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1) Attendance, Class Participation, Quizzes, Etc- 20%

Do not fall behind, but keep up with the assigned readings and attend class in person and virtually!

2) Analytical Analysis of Peer Reviewed Journal Article-5%

A three-page analysis of a peer reviewed, sociology journal article (from the **Journal of Drug Issues**) that supports or refutes what you have learned in the text. These articles should be current (since 2001). ***The instructor must approve the peer reviewed journal article.*** You must submit a pdf of the article through D2L for either approval or feedback as to why it is not accepted.

3) Behavior Change Paper and Power Point Presentation-15%

Select a **measurable** activity that you find very difficult to control or that you would like to change that can be related to the course. (This activity must be pre-approved by the instructor and a **mandatory** contract must be signed and submitted via D2L.) You must agree to stop or start this activity for at least three weeks, but preferably for a month. Some examples of activities you might select to stop are excessive use of sugar in your diet; eating fast food; drinking alcohol; smoking or using tobacco; drinking caffeinated beverages/foods such as coke, coffee, or chocolate; or any other behavior that you know is harmful to your health. Some examples of activities you might start are exercising, cooking healthy meals, drinking water regularly, increasing the number of fresh vegetables/fruit you eat each day, eating a low-fat diet, etc. Keep a daily log of your behavior and write a five-page analytical paper about your success or failure to change your behavior and how it relates to our course. In addition to the paper, create a **professional** 5-7 slide PowerPoint presentation highlighting the key points of your paper. Additional details will be covered in class and the contract.

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4) Three Exams - 60%

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University Policies

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Course Syllabus

SOCI 4200, Drugs, Alcohol & Society: *Online Course*

Online Course Number: XXXX

XXXX

COURSE DESCRIPTION

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What You Need to Succeed in this Class:

- Microsoft Word (For all papers and contracts.)
- Log into class on a daily basis to check email updates and respond accordingly, if required.
- Strong time-management skills to submit assignments and contracts in on time.

-Experience writing college-level papers and online discussion that use your own analysis and employs proper citations.

-Understanding that online courses require self-motivation and time to complete course challenges.

Learning Objectives:

At the completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Describe drug use, especially based on history and media representations.
2. Examine the ways the ways in which society has tried to stop drug use.
3. Identify the risk factors that often lead to drug use as well as the impact of SES, race/ethnicity, gender and age.
4. Compare various categories of drugs in terms of origin, production, side effects, risk factors, distribution, and outcomes.
5. Examine the consequences of drug use in the American economy, criminal justice system, family, and community life.
6. Appraise strategies for positive social change with regard to drug use.
7. Apply the ability to think critically about complex social problems like drug use.

Minimum Technology Requirements, Course Strategies and Methods

This is an entirely online course and will be conducted entirely through Desire 2 Learn. (D2L) Students are expected to have the necessary computer background to work in this format, and are advised to seek additional technical assistance from computer services if needed [See online resource links in Welcome Module]. Students will also need the MS PowerPoint viewer and Microsoft Word to submit all contracts and papers.

Because this is solely an online course, students will be expected to log in daily to check for updates. Students are expected to read assigned material closely, and then to use the linked Lecture Outlines and PowerPoint presentations as review material. For each module, students will be expected to make *at least 2 substantive and analytical dialogue contributions to ongoing discussions* that will occur online. (I discuss this more below and will post a rubric with the grading elements for discussion posts). Discussion will be graded within 2 weeks of the due date and your quantitative grade will be posted to the online grade book.

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On-line Discussion/Participation Requirement- (50 points)

1. The first participation will be Student Introductions, the discussion thread which is found in the “Start Here/Welcome” Module. Instructions will be found at the top of the Discussion Thread, and this will take the place of the typical in-class go-around introductions.

2. Students are required to participate in the discussion threads for each chapter as we proceed through the syllabus, with a ***minimum of TWO substantive posts for each chapter, and more are encouraged.*** Posts need to be on different days of the week (While you can post multiple times in one day, you must post on at least 2 DIFFERENT each week--meaning that you will post 3 or more times in this case). This allows you more time to read other students' posts (and replies) and provides additional time to absorb, consider and respond. Students do not need to read all posts each week, but should try to read 1/3 of the posts each week. Your posts and replies are the best way for you to **elaborate** and **analyze sociologically** on your understanding of the reading for the week when answering the discussion question. In addition, ask questions, make comments, clarify things, and especially **demonstrate that you have read and understood the material and how it relates to your social world.** It is important to note that you must create an original post before you can reply to any other threads. If posts are "thin" or lacking in analysis, you will not receive credit for your **two substantial posts** requirement. The instructor will post a discussion question(s) each chapter/week. The discussions will be multi-directional: student-student, student-content, student-instructor, and instructor-student from past experience, more than 1000 postings will likely be made by students during our term. **Discussion board posts are due by Friday (PRIOR to 12 Midnight- EST), but will be accepted (with a grade reduction) until the scheduled "locked after ..." time listed on the discussion board** (if you cannot see a time listed for a discussion board, please email me but it should be set for every Sunday PRIOR to 12 Midnight- EST.)

3. Students are asked to read credible web sites as well as newspapers, etc. to connect with sociological themes being covered at that time in our textbook. ***A minimum of one time per discussion board, students need to cite a news story or credible website in their discussion posts, explaining the story they saw, how it relates, and also providing web site link (easiest and preferred for online sources) or the citation for the news story (name of publication, date, page number).*** Please read discussion rubric for specific details.

4. A total of 60 points of your grade will be determined by this online course participation as a partial measure of individual work on the readings. Note: At the end of the semester, I will replace a student's lowest discussion board grade with a 4. This means that you may choose to skip one discussion board without penalty. Finally, as instructor, I receive statistics on how many postings each student reads, how many posts are made, and how many hours are spent on the site. Also, while I am most interested in the content and substance of comments, **basic grammar should be taken into account; use of white space, spell-checking and proof reading are always expected in university courses. Additionally, be prepared to spend time on discussion, this is where we make up for the time we are not in a classroom.**

Because participation is crucial in an online environment, if 4 or more Discussions are not completed by the end of the semester, this will result in an additional deduction of one letter grade (of your final grade). *Please remember that late assignments are not necessarily accepted, however, if, at the discretion of the instructor, discussion is open and unlocked after the due date, posts will be accepted.

Consult the Writing Center [see: Links Page in Welcome Module] for assistance with writing. But content will remain foremost for assessment purposes. Opinions expressed are open to you and your personal creativity and perspective. These discussions are, by definition, subjective, so rather than grading based on right-or-wrong, the instructor will evaluate your discussion postings

for consistency of engagement, depth of analysis, engagement with chapter concepts, and engagement with other students in the discussions. (Please see grading rubric for specific details.)

So what exactly is a substantive posting?

Please see the Discussion Rubric that I will be posting for specifics points (In the "Start Here" module.) However, just a few quick reminders for discussion: questions are encouraged, and polite disagreements are fine. However, respect is a basic necessity in all online interactions. According to KSU Computer Usage Policy and Guidelines [www.kennesaw.edu/infosec]: You may not employ lewd or threatening language in any electronic communication. This would violate the bounds of good taste as well as laws and regulations. Please see the Etiquette Statement in the Welcome Module for a more detailed discussion.

Papers

Analytical Peer Reviewed Journal Article (10 points)

A three-page analysis of a peer reviewed, sociology journal article (Specifically, from the **Journal of Drug Issues**) that supports or refutes what you have learned in the text. These articles should be current (since 2001). *The instructor must approve the peer reviewed journal article.* The email you send for approval should include the name of the journal, title of the article, author, and very brief summary. It must also include the **entire** article as an attachment for the instructor to review. After your article is approved, there is then a **mandatory contract** to be electronically signed. The instructor will keep everyone informed, and we will go over more specifics during the course. Please see rubric for details to review how papers are graded. (In the Grading Rubrics Section)

Behavior Change Paper & Power Point Presentation (25 points)

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***All papers and contracts must be submitted in Microsoft Word formatting and it is important to check your submission folder to ensure your work was submitted.**

Disabled Student Services Statement

Kennesaw State University welcomes all students, recognizing that variations of abilities contribute to a richly diverse campus life. A number of services are available to help students with disabilities with their academic work. In order to make arrangements for special services, students should visit the Disabled Student Support Services office and/or make an appointment to arrange an individual assistance plan. For more information, visit the office website at: http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/dsss/dsss.html, or navigate to the Links Page in my Welcome Documents on the course homepage. Please also feel free to contact the instructor directly with any questions or concerns you may have, using either the D2L email platform within the course, or the instructors direct email address listed at the top of this syllabus.

Website Links

Item 6 in the Welcome Documents Folder on the courses Homepage is a list of useful links you may refer to throughout the semester. These include links to: disAbled Student Services, the Department of Sociology, KSU Financial Aid, the Counseling Center [CAPS], computer Tech Support, the Writing Center, KSUs Student Code of Conduct, and the Student Development Center.

Grading Formula:

3 Tests (25 Each)	75
14 Module Quizzes (2.5 pts each)	30
Online Discussion	60
Mini Paper	10
Final Paper & PowerPoint Presentation	25
Total	200 points

Final Grading Scale:

A=180-200; **B**=160-179; **C**=140-159; **D**= 120-139; **F**=119 and below.

Student Responsibility

I am here to teach, to motivate, and to assist you in learning the basics of sociology and this course; Drugs, Alcohol & Society. As students, you also have a crucial role in your learning and success. An online course covers a fair amount of material. If you have questions or difficulty regarding the material, you should see me as soon as possible- early in the semester. Please do not wait until a few days before the final quiz to discuss your progress- it will then be too late!

I suggest you use resources on campus for improving your reading and note-taking skills. The KSU Writing Center in Humanities/Room 242 will assist you with written assignments.

ACADEMIC HONESTY (CHEATING)/PLAGIARISM

POLICY- Cheating/Plagiarism Policy: Cheating and plagiarism are both against Kennesaw State University policy. Cheating includes any attempt to defraud, deceive, or mislead a professor in arriving at an honest grade assessment. Plagiarism is a form of cheating that occurs when you present the work of others as your own ideas. When materials from sources outside your own brain are used to create documents, you must cite your sources of information using appropriate in-text and end-of-the-text references in a consistent citation format.

Incidents of cheating and/or plagiarism will result in a grade of "F" for the assignment, and may result in your being assigned a grade of "F" for the entire course. A failing grade assigned to you because of an alleged cheating policy violation may be appealed through the appeals process of the college. See the Student Conduct Code for details. I recommend that you become familiar with this code.

***Students are not allowed to contact one another to discuss the course without the instructor copied on the email. I have created a moderated discussion board that is always open if you would like to engage in open discussions or ask open questions of other students about the class, work, etc.

Flexibility Statement:

All assignments and calendars may change in response to institutional, instructional, or weather needs. Changes in assignments may affect the number of total points available in the course.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT STATEMENT

If you are a student who is disabled as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act and requires assistance or support services, please seek assistance through the Center for Disability Services. A CDS Counselor will coordinate those services.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, religion, creed, national origin, age, or disability, be excluded from employment or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity conducted by KSU.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Kennesaw State University supports the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order #11246, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. No person shall, on the basis of age, race, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, national origin or disability, be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity of the college. Any individual with a grievance related to the enforcement of any of the above provisions should contact the Assistant Director of Human Resources, Ombuds person.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT

Kennesaw State University adheres to affirmative action policies to promote diversity and equal opportunity for all faculty and students.

READING SCHEDULE

Module 1 (ideally completed by August 19, but will be kept open until after drop/add completes in the next week): Read all materials in the "Start Here" module and complete your student introduction (discussion board- 4 pts). Be sure to reply to a classmate and also complete the Getting Acquainted Quiz (quiz; must receive 100% but not worth any points) by Friday. Remember, Module 2 readings must be completed by August 23rd. So, get started at the end of this week, as EVERYONE needs to be ready to post strong analytical posts in the Module 2 discussion board by Aug 23rd.

Module 2 (completed by August 26): Initial posts due Tuesday. All posts completed by Friday (4 pts), along with the Module 2 Quiz (worth 2.5 pts)

Module 3 (completed by Sept 2): Initial post due Tuesday. All posts completed by Friday (4 pts), along with the Module 3 Quiz (worth 2.5 pts)

Module 4 (completed by Sept 9): Initial post due Tuesday. All posts completed by Friday (4 pts), along with the Module 4 Quiz (worth 2.5 pts)

Module 5 (completed by Sept 16): Initial post due Tuesday. All posts completed by Friday (4 pts), along with the Module 5 Quiz (worth 2.5 pts)

Exam 1 (Sept 19)

Module 6 (completed by Sept 23): Initial post due Wednesday (because of exam), all posts completed by Friday, along with the Module 6 Quiz (worth 2.5 pts)

Module 7 (completed by Sept 30): Initial post due Tuesday. All posts completed by Friday (4 pts), along with the Module 7 Quiz (worth 2.5 pts)

Module 8 (completed by Oct 7): Initial post due Tuesday. All posts completed by Friday (4 pts), along with the Module 8 Quiz (worth 2.5 pts)

Analytical Paper (Mini-Paper) Due (Oct 11)

Module 9 (completed by Oct 14): Initial post due Wednesday (because of paper). All posts completed by Friday (4 pts), along with the Module 9 Quiz (worth 2.5 pts)

Module 10 (completed by Oct 21): Initial post due Tuesday. All posts completed by Friday (4 pts), along with the Module 10 Quiz (worth 2.5 pts)

Exam 2 (Oct 24)

Module 11 (completed by Oct 28): Initial post due Wednesday (because of exam), all posts completed by Friday, along with the Module 11 Quiz (worth 2.5 pts)

Module 12 (completed by Nov 4): Initial post due Tuesday. All posts completed by Friday (4 pts), along with the Module 12 Quiz (worth 2.5 pts)

Module 13 (completed by Nov 11): Initial post due Tuesday. All posts completed by Friday (4 pts), along with the Module 13 Quiz (worth 2.5 pts)

Module 14 (completed by Nov 18): Initial post due Tuesday. All posts completed by Friday (4 pts), along with the Module 14 Quiz (worth 2.5 pts)

Thanksgiving Break Nov 20-26

Module 15 (completed by Dec 2): Initial post due Tuesday. All posts completed by Friday (4 pts), along with the Module 15 Quiz (worth 2.5 pts)

Exam 3 (Dec 5)

Behavior Change Project Due (Dec 8)