

SOCIOLOGY 2340
Drugs and Alcohol in Society

Western Texas College

- I. Basic Course Information
 - A. This course examines the sociology of drug use and abuse in modern society. This course examines individual and societal level consequences for medical, nonmedical, licit and illicit use of alcohol and other drugs. Controversial subjects such as the “War on Drugs,” legalization, and decriminalization are explored. Students taking this course are challenged to employ critical thinking defined as “a willingness to ask any question, no matter how difficult; to be open to any answer that is supported by reason and evidence; and to openly confront one’s own biases and prejudices when they get in the way.” (Appelbaum and Chambliss 1997).
 - B. Prerequisites: Student should be proficient in reading and writing
- II. Student Learning Outcomes: Each outcome will be measured twice.
 - A. Students will demonstrate ability to identify the effects associated with several licit and illicit drugs. This outcome will be measured via objective examination.
 - B. Students will be able to apply addiction scales to 5 popular drugs. This outcome will be measured via objective examination.
 - C. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the treatment versus incarceration debate with respect to illegal drug use in an essay of not less than 125 words with a minimum score of 70% to be graded by rubric.
- III. Major Requirements
 - A. There will several chapter quizzes.
 - B. There will be several online discussions.
 - C. There will be a midterm and a final exam
- IV. Information on Books and Other Course Material:
 - A. Levinthal, C. Drugs, Behavior, and Modern Society, REVEL 8/E ISBN-13: 9780134536798
- V. Other Policies: Please refer to the WTC Course [Catalog](#) for the following:
 - A. Campus Calendar
 - B. Final Exam schedule
 - C. How to drop a class
 - D. Withdrawal information
 - E. Student Conduct/Academic Integrity
 - F. Students with disabilities
 - G. Policy on late work: Late work accepted at the discretion of the instructor and only under rare circumstances.
- VI. Course Organization & Tentative Schedule*

Week	Topic	Reading Assignments
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Week 1	Drugs and Behavior	Chapter 1
Week 2	Drug-Taking Behavior	Chapter 2
Week 3	Drugs, body, and Mind	Chapter 3
Week 4	Stimulants	Chapter 4
Week 5	Narcotics	Chapter 5
Week 6	Hallucinogens	Chapter 6
Week 7	Marijuana	Chapter 7
Week 8	Alcohol	Chapter 8 & 9
Week 9	Nicotine	Chapter 10
Week 10	Caffeine	Chapter 11
Week 11	Performance Drugs	Chapter 12
Week 12	Depressants and Inhalants	Chapter 13
Week 13	Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drugs	Chapter 14
Week 14	Drugs as Treatment for Mental Illness	Chapter 15
Week 15	Substance Abuse Prevention	Chapter 16
Week 16	Treatment and change	Chapter 17

*The above schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change.

Last Modified: August 7, 2017