

**Administration of Justice 122
Spring Semester 2002**

**Drugs and Society
Course Syllabus**

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Office Hours: Tues-Thurs. 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. and
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
Or by appointment

Class Meeting Times: Tuesday, Thursday 10:30 - 11:45 a.m.
MacQuarrie Hall 523

This course examines a variety of issues related to legal and illegal drug use in the United States. Specific topics include the physiological effects of drugs, the process of addiction, drug-crime and drug-violence links, the use and abuse of legal drugs, the international drug trade, drug use prevention and treatment, and the drug court movement. Throughout the semester, one recurrent question will be the effectiveness of existing criminal laws prohibiting the sale, possession, and use of certain drugs, as well as the unintended consequences of such laws. Alternatives to criminalization will also be considered.

Required Texts:

1. Erich Goode, *Drugs in American Society*, 5th edition (Boston: McGraw-Hill College 1999). Be sure you buy the 5th edition.
2. Course reader - will be available at Maple Press, near campus. You are advised to check with the professor or call Maple Press to find out if the reader is available before you go there.

Class Participation, Requirements, and Grading:

You are responsible for keeping up with the assigned reading and being prepared to discuss it in class. (Class participation helps your learning and your grade.)

During class, please make sure your cell phones and pagers are silent.

Exams will cover both lectures and reading assignments. Some material discussed in class will not be in the readings; similarly, not everything discussed in the readings will be covered in class. Thus it is very important that you both keep up with the reading and attend class regularly. Students will be excused from class for legitimate medical reasons and for university-related engagements (e.g., athletics). Whenever possible, if you must miss class please inform the instructor ahead of time.

Your grade will be based on 3 exams, 3 short (2 page) writing assignments, and class

participation. Your grade will be calculated as follows:

Exams:	600 points
Midterm 1:	200 points
Midterm 2:	200 points
Final:	200 points
Writing Assignments:	50 points each, total of 150 points
Class Participation:	<u>50 points</u>
	800 points

Your scores for each test and assignment will be added together, and your total points at the end of the semester will determine your grade. Final grades will be curved (you are measured against the performance of the rest of the class).

All exams are closed-book, closed-note. Exams will include short-answer questions and one essay question. The exam format will be reviewed before each test. The essay questions on the final exam will be cumulative.

The writing assignments will be “reflection pieces” based on the readings and discussions, and designed to help you analyze the course material and/or apply it to “real life.” You may be asked to find and analyze a newspaper or magazine article or review a relevant website. No other research will be required. However, you will need to integrate readings and discussions into your assignments. Thus, you cannot wait until the night before the exam to do the reading.

You must take the final exam to pass the course. Students who do not take the final will receive an “F” or an “T” for the course, at the instructor’s discretion, regardless of their class average prior to the final. In accordance with University policy, students caught cheating or plagiarizing will also receive an “F” grade for the course.

Note on extra credit assignments: An extra credit assignment may be handed out during the semester. All extra credit is (obviously) optional. However, points earned on extra credit will be added to total points before the curve is established, i.e., students doing extra credit may raise the class curve.

Late papers and missed exams:

Papers: papers will be marked down **5 points** for each **day** they are late (including weekends). Papers more than ten days late will not be accepted. When submitting late papers, be sure to have the AJ Department receptionist mark the date it was received; you may also fax or email your paper if it is late.

Exams: **only one** exam can be made up, and only if you have a good reason for missing the exam (e.g., serious illness with physician’s note). Make-up exams are longer and involve more

writing than the regular exams. The make-up exam day is the last day of class, and it is your responsibility to notify the professor that you intend to take a make-up exam.

There will be **no exceptions** made to the late paper and missed exam policies.

Course Outline, Reading Assignments, and Exams

I. An Overview of Drug Use

Week 1. Thursday January 24: Introduction to course
No reading assignment

Week 2. Tuesday January 29, Thursday January 31: Perspectives on Drugs and Society;
Drug Effects and Variables
Read for class: Goode, pp. 1-24 and Chapter 1

Week 3. Tuesday February 5, Thursday February 7: Theories, Types and Rates of Drug Use
Read for class: Goode, Chapters 3, 4

Week 4. Tuesday February 12, Thursday February 14: "Subcultural" Drug Use; Drug Use in
Sociological Perspective
Read for class: Course Reader, "Drugs and Subcultures"; Goode, Chapter 2; Course
Reader, "Drug-related Harms"
Writing Assignment 1 handed out

II. Specific Drugs and their Use

Week 5. Tuesday February 19, Thursday February 21: Legal Drugs: Alcohol and Tobacco,
Psychotherapeutic Drugs
Read for class: Goode, Chapters 6, 10

Week 6. Tuesday February 26: Review for Midterm
Thursday February 28: Midterm Examination I - bring bluebook and pen to class -
exam covers readings & lectures for weeks 1-5

Week 7. Tuesday March 5, Thursday March 7: Marijuana; Hallucinogens
Read for class: Goode, Chapters 7, 8

Week 8. Tuesday March 12, Thursday March 14: Stimulants; Heroin/Narcotics
Read for class: Goode, Chapters 9, 11
Writing Assignment 2 handed out

III. Drugs and Crime

Week 9. Tuesday March 19, Thursday March 21: Overview: Drugs, Crime and Violence
Read for class: Goode, Chapter 5; Course Reader, "Drugs and Crime"

March 25- March 29: Spring Break
No reading assignment

Week 10. Tuesday April 2, Thursday April 4: The Drug Trade
Read for class: Course Reader, "The Illicit Drug Trade"

Week 11. Tuesday April 9: Review for Midterm
Thursday April 11: Midterm Examination II - bring a bluebook and pen to class -
Exam covers readings and lectures for weeks 7-10

Week 12. Tuesday April 16, Thursday April 18: Domestic Drug Production and Trafficking
Read for class: Course Reader, "Drug Production and Trafficking in the U.S."

Week 13. Tuesday April 23, Thursday April 25: Domestic and Foreign Trafficking
Read for class: Course Reader, "Foreign Drug Trafficking"
Writing Assignment 3 handed out

IV. Responses to Drug-related Social Problems

Week 14. Tuesday April 30, Thursday May 2: Drug Prevention and Treatment; Drug Courts
Read for class: Goode, Chapter 12; Course Reader, "Drug Treatment Courts"

Week 15. Tuesday May 7, Thursday May 9: Legal Approaches to Drugs: Criminalization,
Legalization, Decriminalization, and Harm Reduction
Read for class: Goode, Chapter 13; Course Reader, "Prohibition" and "European
Alternatives"

Week 16. Tuesday May 14: Last Day of Class - **Makeup Exams Given. No lecture.**

FINAL EXAMINATION: Tuesday, May 21, 9:45 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Bring pen, bluebooks.

Note: If you want to know your final grade before grades are sent out, please bring a self-addressed, stamped postcard or envelope to the final and I will mail your course grade when I finish grading the finals. To protect student privacy, grades cannot be given out by telephone or email.