

ITT Technical Institute

CJ436

Substance Abuse and Crime in America

Onsite Course

SYLLABUS

Credit hours: 4

Contact/Instructional hours: 40 (40 Theory Hours)

Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s):

Prerequisite: CJ131 Introduction to Criminal Justice

Course Description:

This course investigates the relationship between substance abuse and crime in America. Emphasis is placed on methods for detecting and preventing substance abuse.

SYLLABUS

Instructor: _____

Office hours: _____

Class hours: _____

MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL AREAS

1. The relationship between substance abuse and crime
 2. Characteristics of drug users, both in general and with regard to specific drugs
 3. Major categories of drugs, including types within each category
 4. Treatment options available to drug users
 5. The impact of drugs on the criminal justice system
 6. Prevention of drug abuse
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COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Describe drug-use behavior and drug abuse.
2. Describe the physical and psychological effects of the major stimulants.
3. Describe the physical and psychological effects of the major narcotics.
4. Describe the physical and psychological effects of the hallucinogenic drugs.
5. Describe the physical and psychological effects of marijuana, depressants, inhalants, and steroids.
6. Describe the physical and psychological effects of alcohol.
7. Discuss drug abuse issues and intervention techniques unique to specific populations.
8. Discuss the issues of juvenile drug crimes and how they affect the criminal justice system.
9. Examine the criminal justice system issues associated with probation, incarceration, and parole of drug offenders.
10. Discuss the production and trafficking of illegal drugs.
11. Demonstrate how drug crimes affect law enforcement and the criminal justice system.
12. Discuss the criminal justice system's policies regarding the prevention and treatment of drug use.
13. Describe the circumstances under which a drug offender may become involved with the criminal justice system.
14. Identify additional sources that examine the impact of American drug policies and procedures via the ITT Tech Virtual Library.

Related SCANS Objectives

1. Organize ideas and communicate effectively.

2. Use ideas or information to gain new perspectives.
3. Apply new knowledge and skills.
4. Develop problem-solving skills by recognizing problems and devising and implementing a plan of action.
5. Suggest modifications in the existing systems to improve the quality of life.
6. Use computers, the Internet and the ITT Tech Virtual Library to process, organize, and analyze information.

TEACHING STRATEGIES

The course is designed to promote a variety of teaching strategies that support the outcomes described in the course objectives and foster higher cognitive skills among students.

To help the students in learning, several real-life scenarios, activities, assignments, and discussions have been used. This will also help to make this course more interesting and relevant for the students. This course requires the students to use the ITT Tech Virtual Library to research scenarios that will help them apply the concepts of the relationship of drugs to criminal justice system in real-world situations.

Learning is enhanced by giving the students the opportunity to participate in discussions, encouraging them to express their views, and appreciating differing opinions. This course encourages active student participation.

COURSE RESOURCES

Student Textbook Package

Levinthal, C. F. (2012). *Drugs, society and criminal justice* (3rd ed.). MA: Allyn and Bacon, Pearson Education Inc.

References and Resources

ITT Tech Virtual Library

Log on to the ITT Tech Virtual Library (via Student Portal: <https://studentportal.itt-tech.edu>) to access online books, journals, and other reference resources selected to support ITT Tech curriculums.

Books

- **ITT Tech Virtual Library> Basic Search>**
 - Karch, S. B. (2009). *Karch's pathology of drug abuse*. 3rd ed. Boca Ranton: CRC Press.

- Karch, S. B. (2007). *Drug abuse handbook*. Boca Raton CRC Press.
- **School of Study> School of Criminal Justice> Research Guides> Criminal Justice> Gale Virtual Reference Library> Criminal Justice Sources>**
 - Spunt, B. (2005). Harrison Act. In L. E. Sullivan, M. R. Haberfeld, M. S. Rosen, & D. M. Schulz (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Law Enforcement* (Vol. 2, pp. 697-698). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Reference.
 - Attitudes Towards the Legalization of the Use of Marijuana. (2006). In K. L. Lerner & B. W. Lerner (Eds.), *Crime and Punishment: Essential Primary Sources* (pp. 73-75). Detroit: Gale.
 - Barbiturates. (2005). In K. L. Lerner & B. W. Lerner (Eds.), *World of Forensic Science* (Vol. 1, p. 72). Detroit: Gale.
 - Drugs and Narcotics. (2005). In S. Phelps & J. Lehman (Eds.), *West's Encyclopedia of American Law* (2nd ed., Vol. 4, pp. 27-34). Detroit: Gale.

Periodicals

▪ Recommended Periodicals

- Eckley, Timothy S. "Drug Courts: The Second Decade." *Judicature* (Chicago), 90, no. 1 (Jul/Aug 2006): 43.
- Heiserman, Alice. "Women's Illegal Drug Use Exceeds Men's." *Corrections Compendium* (Lanham), 31, no. 2, (Mar/Apr 2006): 26.
- Horowitz, Heather, Hung-En Sung, and Susan Foster. "The Role of Substance Abuse in U.S. Juvenile Justice Systems and Populations." *Corrections Compendium* (Lanham), 31, no. 1, (Jan/Feb 2006): 1.
- Ross, Luana. "Native American Women, Mean-Spirited Drugs and Punishing Policies." *Social Justice* (San Francisco), 31, no. 4, (2004): 54.
- Schanlaub, Russell. "A Prescription For Abuse." *Law And Order* (Wilmett), 51, no. 11, (Nov 2003): 93.
- Shepherd, Joanna. "The Imprisonment Puzzle: Understanding How Prison Growth Affects Crime." *Criminology & Public Policy* (Columbus), 5, no. 2, (May 2006): 285.
- Wilkinson, Reginald, and Anthony Delgado. "Prison Gang and Drug Investigations: An Ohio Approach." *Corrections Today* (Lanham), 68, no. 2, (Apr 2006): 36.
- "Reducing Re-arrest Rates." *Corrections Forum* (Hicksville), 14, no.2, (Mar/Apr 2005): 72.
- "New Mexico Targets Gangs, Meth, Predators." *Juvenile Justice Digest* (Washington), 34, no. 2, (Jan 2006): 3.

All links to Web references outside of the virtual library are always subject to change without prior notice.

EVALUATION & GRADING

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance and Participation

Regular attendance and participation are essential for satisfactory progress in this course.

2. Completed Assignments

Each student is responsible for completing all assignments on time.

3. Team Participation (if applicable)

Each student is responsible for participating in team assignments and for completing the delegated task. Team members must honestly evaluate the contributions by all members of their respective teams.

Evaluation Criteria Table

The final grade will be based on the following weighted categories:

CATEGORY	WEIGHT
Participation	10%
Writing Assignments	20%
Research Assignments	20%
Quizzes	10%
Project 1	10%
Project 2	10%
Analysis	5%
Final Exam	15%
Total	100%

Grade Conversion Table

Final grades will be calculated from the percentages earned in class as follows:

Grade	Percentage	Credit
A	90–100%	4.0
B+	85–89%	3.5
B	80–84%	3.0
C+	75–79%	2.5
C	70–74%	2.0
D+	65–69%	1.5
D	60–64%	1.0
F	<60%	0.0

COURSE OUTLINE

Notes:

- **Unit 1:** All the concepts will be covered in the class; therefore, the specified readings are merely for your reference.
- **For all units, except unit 1:** It is recommended that you complete the readings before attending the class.
- General class participation and in-class activities will be graded under the Participation evaluation category.

Unit #	Activities for the Unit
1—Introduction to Drug Use and Abuse and The Major Stimulants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content Covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 1, "Understanding Drug-Taking Behavior," pp. 5–13 (start at topic "A Matter of Definition: What is a Drug?," read till the end of topic "How Drugs Exit the Body") and p. 23 (read definitions on "Substance dependence" and "Substance abuse") ○ Chapter 3, "The History of Drug Use and Drug-Control Policy," pp. 53–58 (start at topic "Drug Regulation in the Early Twentieth Century," read till the end of topic "Marijuana and the Marijuana Tax Act of 1937") ○ Chapter 4, "Theoretical Perspectives on Drug Use and Abuse," pp. 68–75 (start at topic "Biological Perspectives on Drug Abuse," read till the end of topic "Anomie/Strain Theory") • Writing Assignment: 1 • Research Assignment: 1
2—Major	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content Covered:

Unit #	Activities for the Unit
Narcotics and Hallucinogens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 7, “Narcotics: Opium, Heroin, and Synthetic Opiates,” pp. 140–145 (start at the beginning of the chapter, read till the end of topic “Opium in History.”) Also read pp. 149–152 (start at topic “Effects on the Mind and the Body,” read till the end of topic “How Opiates Work in the Brain”), pp. 154–155 (read topic “The Lethality of Heroine Abuse”), and pp. 156–159 (start at topic “Opiate Detoxification,” read till the end of topic “Alternative Maintenance Programs”) ○ Chapter 9, “LSD and Other Hallucinogens,” pp. 193–195 (start at the beginning of the chapter, read till the end of topic “A Matter of Definition”), pp. 199–201 (start at topic “Acute Effects of LSD,” read till the end of topic “Patterns of LSD Use”), and pp. 204–213 (start at topic “Psilocybin and Other Hallucinogens Related to Serotonin,” read till the end of topic “Ketamine”) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Writing Assignment: 1 ● Research Assignment: 1 ● Participation: 1 ● Project 1: Introduction
3—Marijuana, Depressants, Steroids, and Inhalants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Content Covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 10, “Marijuana,” pp. 218–223 (start at the beginning of the chapter, read till the end of topic “The History of Marijuana and Hashish”), pp. 223–230 (start at topic “Acute Effects of Marijuana,” read till the end of topic “Long-Term Cognitive Effects and the Amotivational Syndrome”), and pp. 234–327 (start at topic “Medical Marijuana,” read till the end of topic “The Issue of Decriminalization”) ○ Chapter 11, “Depressants and Inhalants,” pp. 244–258 (start at topic “Acute Effects of Barbiturates,” read till the end of topic “The Dangers of Inhalant Abuse”) ○ Chapter 12, “Performance-Enhancing Drugs and Drug Testing in Sports,” pp. 276–278 (start at topic “The Hazards of Anabolic Steroids,” read till the end of topic “Psychological Problems”) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Writing Assignments: 1 and 2 ● Participation: 1 ● Quiz: 1
4—Alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Content Covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 13, “Alcohol: Social Beverage/Social Drug,” pp. 306–314 (start at topic “Measuring Alcohol in the Blood,”

Unit #	Activities for the Unit
	<p>read till the end of topic “Alcohol, Violence, and Aggression”)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 14, "Chronic Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism," pp. 328–333 (start at topic “Physiological Effects of Chronic Alcohol Use,” read till the end of topic “Fetal Alcohol Syndrome”) and pp. 336–341 (start at topic “The Concept of Alcoholism as a Disease,” read till the end of topic “SMART Recovery.”) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Writing Assignments: 1 ● Participation: 1
5—Special Populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Content Covered: <p>Required Research on topical information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Research and find a scholarly article which describes how Women’s Illegal Drug Use has surpassed that of Men’s. Provide the source of your research and summarize. The article should not be older than 2006. ○ Research and find a scholarly article which describes Native American Women, Mean-Spirited Drugs and Punishing Policies. Provide the source of your research and summarize. The article should not be older than 2004. ○ Research and find a scholarly article which describes the abuse of prescriptions drugs. Provide the source of your research and summarize. The article should not be older than 2003. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research Assignments: 1 ● Participation: 1 ● Project 1: Submission
6—Juveniles and Drug Crimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Content Covered: <p>Required Research on topical information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Research and find a scholarly article which discusses the present day structure of Drug Courts and their impact. Provide the source of your research and summarize. The

Unit #	Activities for the Unit
	<p>article should not be older than 2006.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Research and find a scholarly article which discusses The Role of Substance Abuse in U.S. Juvenile Justice Systems and Populations. Provide the source of your research and summarize. The article should not be older than 2006. ○ Research and find a scholarly article which discusses how New Mexico Targets Gangs, Meth, Predators. Provide the source of your research and summarize. The article should not be older than 2006. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research Assignment: 1 ● Participation: 1
<p>7—Drug Offenders in the System</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Content Covered: ● Required Research on topical information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Research and find a scholarly article which discusses how Prison Growth Affects Crime. Provide the source of your research and summarize. The article should not be older than 2006. ○ Research and find a scholarly article which discusses Prison Gang and Drug Investigations as they relate to Ohio’s Approach. Provide the source of your research and summarize. The article should not be older than 2006. ○ Research and find a scholarly article which discusses Reducing Re-arrest Rates. Provide the source of your research and summarize. The article should not be older than 2005. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research Assignment: 1 ● Participation: 1 ● Quiz: 1
<p>8—Drugs and Crime</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Content Covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 5, “Drugs and Crime,” pp. 96–107 (start at topic “The Trafficking of Heroin” and read till the end of topic “The Trafficking of Hallucinogens”) ○ Chapter 6, “Drugs and the Criminal Justice System,” pp. 115–125 (start at the beginning of the chapter, read till the end of topic “Interdiction”) and pp. 125–136 (start at topic

Unit #	Activities for the Unit
	<p style="text-align: center;">“Street-Level Drug-Law Enforcement,” read till the end of topic “Drug Courts”)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing Assignment: 1 • Project 2: Initiation
9—Drug Policies: Prevention and Treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content Covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 16, “Prevention and Treatment: Drug Policy and Intervention,” pp. 377–399 (start at the beginning of the chapter, read till the end of topic “The Impact of Drug-Free Workplace Policies”) and pp. 399–403 (start at topic “Substance Abuse Treatment: The Journey to Recovery,” read till the end of topic “A Final Note: For Those Who Need Help...”) • Writing Assignments: 1 and 2 • Participation: 1
10—History of a Chronic Drug Offender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content Covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 1, “Understanding Drug-Taking Behavior,” pp. 3–5 (read topic “Looking at Drugs and Society”) ○ Chapter 2, “Understanding the Drug Problem in America,” pp. 32–36 (start at the topic “The DAWN Reports,” and read till the end of the topic “Demographics and Trends”) • Analysis: 1
11—Review and Final Exam	<p>Review and Final Exam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project 2: Submission