

SOCI 4200: Alcohol, Drugs and Society

SOC 4200 Section 1
Alcohol, Drugs and Society
Social Sciences Bldg 2025 (5:00-6:15PM; MW)
Spring (Second Semester) 2015

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course presents a review and analysis of sociological approaches to the study of alcohol and drug problems. The course objectives are (1) to provide you with a solid foundation in major theoretical perspectives on social factors in deviant drinking and drug use, (2) to introduce you to important empirical methods in the study of alcohol and drug problems, (3) to familiarize you with significant lines of research on alcohol- and drug-related issues, and (4) to strengthen your critical awareness and sociological understanding of contemporary debates over alcohol and drug policy in the U.S. and other societies.

Readings for the Course:

The following required books have been ordered through the University and area bookstores:

Erich Goode, *Drugs in American Society* (9th edition), McGraw-Hill.

James D. Orcutt and David R. Rudy, *Drugs, Alcohol, and Social Problems*, Rowman and Littlefield.

Additional Supplemental Readings will be available online

OFFICE HOURS:

My office is in the Pilcher Public Services Building in room 136 (the College of Human and Social Sciences Wing). My office hours are on Monday and Wednesday from 3:30 to 4:30 PM. If the listed hours are inconvenient, we can set up another time to meet. I am most easily reached by e-mail at bstarks3@kennesaw.edu.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT:

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs, Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the university's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an "informal" resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum one semester suspension requirement. **The full policy is published at the following link:** (<https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct>)

CLASS PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE:

Attendance will be taken for class. Every student is expected to participate in class. This means contributing to class discussions as well as active participation in class exercises, which will be held at announced and unannounced times throughout the course. Examples of in-class exercises include short writing assignments, small group discussions, and in-class projects. **You cannot get credit for class participation unless you are in class and are contributing.**

ENROLLMENT STATUS:

Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal. Please refer to the official KSU policy for potential reimbursement if you withdraw from classes.

CLASS CONDUCT:

As a sign of respect to me and to your fellow classmates, please get to class on time. Do your best to avoid walking in late, stepping out, or leaving early. Put away laptops and cell-phones when class begins – neither is allowed during class time. If you must have a cell phone to receive emergency calls about kids or other family members, keep it on vibrate. Please don't read newspapers, talk to your friends, sleep, or pass notes during class. Not only are those things disrespectful and disruptive to me and your classmates, but they also limit your ability to participate in class and understand the material. If you must enter late or leave early, please 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.

GRADES:

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

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.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1) Attendance and Participation in Class-10%

2) Reading Quizzes-8%

There will be short quizzes covering particular readings often given at the beginning of class, to provide an incentive to complete readings fully and on time and to prepare you for the exams. Altogether, the quizzes are worth 8% of the final grade. Do not fall behind, but keep up with the assigned readings!

3) “Debated Topic” Paper -10%

Students must select a debated topic in the area of drug and alcohol research and write a 2-4 page paper in which they highlight information that supports each side of the debate, choose a side in the debate, and argue persuasively for their position. More information will be provided later in the semester.

4) Four Exams - 72%

Each exam is worth 18% of your final grade. There are four examinations: one during class on Wednesday **Feb 4th**, another during class on Monday **Mar 2nd**, a third during class on Wednesday **April 1st**, and a final exam on Wednesday **May 6th** from 6 pm–8 pm. Please schedule any travel plans accordingly. Failure to be present for an exam will result in a grade of zero for that exam and this grade will be included in determining final grades. If you are unable to take an exam, you must call me with a valid excuse prior to the time of the exam.

COURSE OUTLINE:

This outline will give you an idea of how the course will unfold. Please complete the readings by class time on the day that they are listed in the syllabus. This will make information presented in class clearer and will give us as a class the chance to talk about and react to the readings in a more thoughtful way. (This is only a tentative outline and is subject to revision at any time during the semester)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic and Readings</u> (Readings are to be completed by the class date)
Wednesday Jan 7	<i>Introduction to the Course</i> Who am I? Who are you? What is this course? What is sociology? Should YOU be taking this sociology course?
Monday Jan 12	<i>Perspectives on Alcohol and Drug Problems</i> Sociologists study drugs? Why and How? Readings: Goode , Ch. 4

- Wednesday Jan 14 *Psychopharmacology and Drug Effects*
Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 3
- Monday Jan 19 Holiday—No Classes
- Wednesday Jan 21 *Psychopharmacology and Drug Effects (cont'd)*
Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 3
- Monday Jan 26 *Theories of Drug-Related Deviance*
Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 7
- Wednesday Jan 28 *Theories of Drug-Related Deviance (cont'd)*
Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 7
- Monday Feb 2 *Theories of Drug-Related Deviance (cont'd)*
Readings: **Orcutt**, “Deviance as a Situated Phenomenon: Variations in the Social Interpretation of Marijuana and Alcohol Use”
- Wednesday Feb 4 **Exam 1**
- Monday Feb 9 *Epidemiology of Alcohol and Drug Use- Data and Methods*
Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 6
- Wednesday, Feb 11 *Epidemiology of Alcohol and Drug Use- Historical Analysis*
Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 1
- Monday Feb 16 *Epidemiology of Alcohol and Drug Use- Race, Gender, Class, and Religion*
Readings: **Orcutt and Rudy** (O&R): Ch. 7 (Wallace and Bachman) and Ch. 9 (Barr et al.); **Rote and Starks**, “Racial/Ethnic Differences in Religiosity and Drug Use”
- Wednesday Feb 18 *Social Construction of Alcohol and Drug Problems- A History*
Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 2; **O&R**: Ch. 1 (Gusfield)
- Monday Feb 23 *Social Construction of Alcohol and Drug Problems- The Media*
Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 5
- Wednesday Feb 25 *Social Construction of Alcohol and Drug Problems- Critical Perspectives*

Readings: **O&R**: Ch. 3 (Orcutt and Turner) and Ch. 5 (Beckett)

Monday Mar 2

Exam 2

March 3

Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty

Wednesday Mar 4

Legal Drugs: Alcohol and Tobacco Use

Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 8

Monday Mar 9

Deviant Drinking and Smoking

Readings: **O&R**, Ch. 2 (Schneider) and Ch. 12 (Kantor and Straus)

Wednesday Mar 11

Psychotherapeutic Drugs

Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 9

Monday Mar 16

Psychotherapeutic Drugs

Readings: **Conrad and Potter**, “From Hyperactive Children to ADHD Adults”

Wednesday Mar 18

Marijuana, LSD, and Club Drugs

Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 10; **O&R**, Ch. 10 (Zimmerman and Weider)

Monday Mar 23

Heroin and other Narcotics

Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 12

Wednesday Mar 25

Exam 3

Monday Mar 30

Drugs, Alcohol, and Crime

Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 13

Wednesday Apr 1

Drugs, Alcohol, and Crime (cont'd)

Readings: **O&R**, Ch. 13 (FaupeL and Klockars)

April 4-10

Spring Break—no classes

Monday Apr 13

Drug Industries, Legal and Illegal

Readings: None

Assignment: Debated Topics Paper Due

Wednesday Apr 15

Drug Industries, Legal and Illegal (cont'd)

Readings: **O&R**, Ch. 11 (Adler and Adler); **Murphy, Waldorf, and Reinerman**, “Drifting into Dealing

Monday Apr 20 Treatment and Prevention

Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 15

Wednesday Apr 22 Treatment and Prevention

Readings: **O&R**, Ch. 6 (Wysong et al.) and Ch. 14 (Bourgois et al.)

Monday Apr 27 Social Control of Deviant Drinking and Drug Use

Readings: **Goode**, Ch. 16

Wednesday Apr 29 *LAST CLASS! Video and Course Wrap-up*

Wednesday, May 6 *FINAL EXAM, 6:00 –8:00 pm*

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments is requested to notify the instructor as early in the semester as possible. Verification from KSU Student Disability Services is required. All discussions will remain confidential. (http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/dsss/welcome.html)

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

Students will be allowed to miss class due to observance of religious holidays but they are still responsible for all materials assigned outside and covered in class on the day(s) missed. Note: You must talk with your instructor in advance of missing a class for religious holiday observance reasons.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

Missing work is insufficient reason for a grade of Incomplete (I). An **I** will not be given except under extenuating circumstances at the instructor’s discretion. Note that College of Humanities and Social Sciences guidelines require that students seeking an “I” must be passing the course.

SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY: This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice. This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.