



HHPH, 1364, 02W, Substance Use & Abuse
WEB
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Rebecca Bridgefarmer, M.S, RDN, L.D.
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Office Hours: Virtual by appointment only
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Preferred Form of Communication: E-mail
Communication Response Time: 24-48 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

This online course includes Inclusive Access. Your course fees cover the ebook, which you can access directly through the online module.

Course Textbook

Title: Drugs and Society, Fifteenth Edition
Authors: Glen R. Hanson, PhD, DDS; Peter J. Venturelli, PhD; Peter Platteborze, PhD
ISBN: 9781284288568

Learning Objectives

Understanding Drug Dynamics

- Gain foundational knowledge of the pharmacological mechanisms and homeostatic interactions of drugs, including how and why drugs work in the human body.

Societal and Regulatory Contexts

- Explore the complex relationship between drug use, societal impacts, and the regulatory environment, including legal frameworks and policy responses.

Substance Effects and Public Health

- Examine the behavioral and pharmacological effects of major substances such as alcohol, nicotine, marijuana, stimulants, and depressants, along with their public health implications.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Special Populations and Substance Use

- Analyze patterns and impacts of drug use among athletes and other specific subcultures, including considerations for over-the-counter, prescription, and herbal drugs.

Prevention and Treatment Strategies

- Identify effective prevention strategies and evaluate treatment modalities for substance use disorders, aiming to understand best practices in intervention.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students should have a basic knowledge of computer and Internet skills in order to be successful in an online course. Here are some highlights:

1. Knowledge of terminology, such as browser, application, URL, etc.
2. Understanding of basic computer hardware and software; ability to perform computer operations, such as: managing files and folders: save, name, copy, move, backup, rename, delete, check properties, etc.
3. Ability to use the learning management system, using Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, using presentation and graphics programs, accessing, and navigating sites like YouTube.
4. Knowledge of copying and pasting, spell-checking, saving files in different formats and sending and downloading attachments
5. Internet skills (connecting, accessing, using browsers) and ability to perform online research using various search engines and library databases.
6. Ability to use online communication tools, such as email (create, send, receive, reply, print, send/receive attachments), discussion boards (read, search, post, reply, follow threads), chats, etc.

Instructional Methods

The primary mode of instruction will involve interactive lectures, where key concepts and theories will be presented, fostering a participatory learning environment. Additionally, collaborative discussions, group activities, and case studies will be integrated to encourage critical thinking, problem-solving, and peer-to-peer learning. To enhance comprehension and retention, multimedia resources, such as audio-visual materials and online simulations, will be incorporated. Regular assessments, including quizzes, examinations, and projects, will provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their understanding and apply acquired knowledge.

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Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

This is a college level course requiring students to be self-disciplined, self-motivated, and good managers of their time. This 3-hour credit course requires up to 9 hours of commitment each week. Time will be spent in class, reading course materials, responding to discussions, and completing assignments.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

Letter Grade / Point Value

A	900-1000
B	800-899
C	700-799
D	600-699
F	0-599
TOTAL	100%

Assignment	Quantity	Points	Total
Quizzes	1 15	5 - bonus 30	450
Discussion Board	1 5	5 – bonus 40	225
Projects	2	75	150
Midterm	1	100	100
Exam	1	100	100
Total Points			1000

Assessments

Quizzes

Each week you will be given a quiz that covers information in the chapters assigned for that week. The quizzes will consist of 10-20 questions. Please review all chapter and module materials and resources before attempting each quiz.

Discussion Board

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Discussion boards serve as virtual forums for students to engage in thoughtful discourse on course topics. Active participation in discussion boards cultivates a collaborative learning environment, promotes deeper understanding of course concepts, and enhances critical thinking skills. Please see the following discussion board requirements:

- Student response to the prompt given (200 word minimum): 20 points
- First substantive student response to peer (100 word minimum): 10 points
- Second substantive student response to peer (100 word minimum): 10 points

A substantive peer response on a discussion board demonstrates critical engagement with a peer's post by offering meaningful insights, thoughtful reflections, or constructive feedback. It goes beyond mere agreement or acknowledgment and contributes to the ongoing conversation by adding new perspectives, asking probing questions, or presenting additional evidence or examples. See below for an example of a substantive peer response.

Example of an **INAPPROPRIATE peer response:**

"Great post. I really liked it and agree with everything you said. I think it's cool that you said the heart beats 60 times per minute. Very thoughtful and insightful post!"

Example of an **APPROPRIATE peer response:**

"John,

Thanks for a thorough description of the anatomy of the heart! I did not realize that 60 beats per hour was normal. I have a smartwatch and I'm usually over 70 while at rest, and I thought that was too high. I also learned in A&P that if the beats per minute were too low, that is referred to as bradycardia, and if too high, tachycardia. I appreciate your recommendation on how to determine your ideal heart rate for exercise, as I exercise a lot and would like to learn more about heart rates and metabolism. I'm now curious if there are maximum heart rates that are recommended before posing any health concerns."

Midterm

The Midterm will be given halfway through the course and will cover the chapters covered up to that date. The Midterm will be taken in person. Please see the course calendar for additional details.

Exam

The final exam will consist of 50 questions. Questions may consist of multiple choice, short answer, matching, or fill-in-the-blank. Electronics and notes are not allowed to be used while completing the exam.

LATE WORK POLICY

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Late work will not be accepted unless accompanied by a documented medical reason. Please note that vacations are not excepted as a reason. The policy is implemented to maintain fairness, consistency, and academic integrity within the course. All projects, quizzes, and other course-related tasks are expected to be submitted by the due date outlined in the course calendar. Any submissions received after the specified due date will not be considered.

Students seeking to submit late work due to a medical reason must provide appropriate documentation, such as a medical certificate or note from a healthcare professional clearly outlining the nature and duration of the medical condition that prevented timely completion of the assignment. The document must be submitted within 1 week of the original due date, unless extenuating circumstances warrant an extension, as determined by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

AI USE POLICY

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, Chatbots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

For this course, the use of any form of AI for generating text, discussion boards, project information, and communication is prohibited and will be reported if used.

Students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty
13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

BRIDGEFARMER AI USE POLICY

If the instructor has reason to believe that an assignment was completed using AI in violation of the above ETAMU policy, the student will be required to attend a meeting, either in person or via Zoom, to verbally defend their work without the aid of the submitted assignment. The meeting will allow the students to demonstrate their understanding of the material and their ability to discuss the assignment topic independently. Failure to adequately explain or justify the work may result in a grade penalty or further academic action, in accordance with the university's academic integrity policy.

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TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements:

LMS Requirements: <https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:
https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool
https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedures 13.99.99.R0.01

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form

[13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf \(tamuc.edu\)](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf)

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

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The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

East Texas A&M University

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148 Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus

document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all ET A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

*Subject to Change

Spring 2025

Week	Chapters/Topics	Assignments Due (All assignments are due on Sunday at 11:59pm with exception of the midterm and final exam)
1 1/13-1/19	Orientation Chapter 1: Introduction to Drugs and Society	Chapter Quiz Syllabus Quiz Discussion Board
2 1/20-1/26	Chapter 2: Explaining Drug Use and Abuse	Chapter Quiz
3 1/27-2/2	Chapter 3: Drug Use, Regulation, and the Law	Chapter Quiz Discussion Board
4 2/3-2/9	Chapter 4: Homeostatic Systems and Drugs	Chapter Quiz
5 2/10-2/16	Chapter 5: How and Why Drugs Work	Chapter Quiz Discussion Board
6 2/17-2/23	Chapter 6: Alcohol: Pharmacological and Behavioral Effects	Chapter Quiz Project 1
7 2/24-3/2	Chapter 7: Nicotine	Chapter Quiz Discussion Board
8 3/3-3/9	Chapter 8: Marijuana	Chapter Quiz MIDTERM
Spring Break Week 3/10-3/16		
9 3/17-3/23	Chapter 9: Hallucinogens (Psychedelics)	Chapter Quiz Discussion Board
10 3/24-3/30	Chapter 10: Inhalants	Chapter Quiz
11 3/31-4/6	Chapter 11: Stimulants	Chapter Quiz Discussion Board
12 4/7-4/13	Chapter 12: CNS Depressants: Sedative Hypnotics	Chapter Quiz Project 2
13 4/14-4/20	Chapter 13: Opioids	Chapter Quiz

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14 4/21-4/27	Chapter 14: Over the Counter, Prescription, and Herbal Drugs	Chapter Quiz
15 4/28-5/4	Chapter 15: Drug Use by Athletes and Other Special Population Subcultures	Chapter Quiz
16 5/5-5/9	Final Exam	FINAL EXAM

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