

CRIJ 3344 – Drugs, Behavior and Criminal Justice

Fall 2023 Section .060

University of Texas at Tyler

Online Course

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Course Description

This course will introduce you to the scholarly study of alcohol and drugs. Students will have an opportunity to become familiar with drug discourse and effects, as well as drug history and drug policy in American society. This course will take a multidisciplinary approach that will help students understand the substances' physiological and sociological effects and critically evaluate the policies, as well as their evolution, put into place to regulate/prohibit their use. A goal of this course is to help students develop into more informed consumers of drug-related information. Students should not only understand *what* policies are in place, but also *why* they exist and how they came to exist. This should help them to think critically about drug issues, drug prohibitions, allowed usage, and regimens for drug control.

Course Objectives: At the end of the semester, you will be able to:

- 1) Describe the history and field of drug and alcohol use in American culture
- 2) Identify the major controversies surrounding drug and alcohol use in the US.
- 3) Describe the history of drugs and alcohol use from their first known use.
- 4) Honestly and intelligently assess the usefulness and progress of the “War on Drugs.”
- 5) Explain why it may be difficult for political leaders to initiate changes in drug policy.
- 6) Intelligently argue in favor of policy shifts to better address the “drug problem.”

Course Materials:

- 1) There are no required textbooks for you to purchase this semester. This course has been designed as an OER (Open Educational Resources) course in which all materials have been provided to you by the instructor at no expense.
 - a. However, I know that some students still want a textbook or some sort of reading companion. If you fall into that boat, I encourage you to consider the following textbook:
 - i. Hanson, Glen R., Venturelli, Peter J., and Fleckenstein, Annette E. (2022). *Drugs and Society, 14th Edition*. Jones & Bartlett Learning. ISBN: 9781284197853 (**Optional, but NOT Required**)

Course Policies

Maternity Leave and Course Instructor: This semester, I find myself in a unique situation as an instructor. I am currently expecting my first daughter and am due in early September. This means that while I will start the semester with you, I will be going on maternity leave when my daughter is born.

Therefore, during my absence you will have a substitute instructor – Ms. Katarina Stadelmann – will be covering my courses. She will serve as your grader and point of contact when I am out on leave. I will inform you (as best as I can) when I go out on leave and certainly when I return. I anticipate being able to return to my duties when my doctor clears me to turn to work. However, babies have a mind of their own and my plan might not match her plan... so just something to keep in mind.

While I will have an away message attached to my email when on leave, I do plan to check in periodically with this course and my email. However, please do not expect an immediate response from me. If you have any questions/issues please email both myself and Ms. Stadelmann as she will be able to get back to you earlier than I can.

Here is how to get in touch with Ms. Stadelmann:

- Katarina Stadelmann - kstadelmann@uttyler.edu

Class Conduct: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous manner, both in their interactions with other students and with the professor. As this is an online class, you are permitted to work at your own pace but must complete all work as required by the instructor by the due date assigned to a particular assignment.

Furthermore, this class is an exercise in professionalism in the workplace. As you are preparing to enter into the workforce (you may even be there already), it is important that you treat this class as though it were your job. Late work and poor attitudes are not acceptable in this class or any other. Please be respectful of others' opinions and experiences, and do not be aggressive or combative over the topics being discussed in the course. You are all adults and are expected to use Netiquette appropriately while working in an online class.

Course Grade: Your course grade for the semester is dependent on the work that you put into the class. I do not give grades, you earn grades. Also, I do not provide a curve grades or offer extra credit at the end of the semester. **Please do not ask for extra points at the end of the semester that would boost you to the next letter grade – they will not be given.**

Course Assignments and Grades

Online Lecture Quizzes: Each week you will have a series of short, micro-lectures that last somewhere between 10-20 minutes each. Depending on the length of the lecture, you will be required to answer several questions that are embedded in the lecture itself. The lecture will stop, ask you a question, then proceed once the question is answered. These will be between 2-4 points each depending on the length of the lecture. You may take these quizzes as many times as you

wish to earn the full point value of the assignment. Lecture quizzes are auto-graded by Canvas, so if you think there is an issue with your grade please reach out to me.

Online Activities: Each week you will be required to complete an online activity that corresponds with the materials presented in lecture for the week. Online activities will be completed individually. You will be provided with instructions for each activity, and they will differ based on what is required for the week. Each activity will vary between 10-20 points toward your final grade. Please refer to the course schedule to see the format in which these activities will take place.

“Grow with Google” Micro-Credential Career Certificate: This semester, criminal justice students in select classes will have the opportunity to obtain an industry-certified micro-credential developed by Google and delivered through the platform Coursera. In our class, students will have the opportunity to complete a micro-credential certificate in the areas of *Project Management*.

This opportunity is available at no cost to you as a student, but holds an extremely valuable amount of information that will help you develop skills as a project leader – which would be beneficial to those of you who are seeking a career in a criminal justice related field. Research shows that those individuals holding a micro-credential or other career certificate end up being more valuable to employers and help to increase employee salaries within their designated career fields.

Not only will this certificate make you more appealing to employers, while increasing your salary opportunities, but this certificate will help you develop the skills needed to be a better team leader within your agency or workplace. Problem solving skills are beneficial to all types of industries, including criminal justice. Earning additional certifications beyond your academic degree shows employers that you are ambitious, ready to build relationships with staff, and are capable of delivering results in a fast-paced environment. All of this makes you more marketable as a job applicant!

Additionally, fine tuning your project management skills aligns wonderfully with the content we will be exploring this semester in our *Drugs, Behavior and Criminal Justice* course. We know that when drug reform legislation is passed, it needs to be implemented at the ground level by those in the criminal justice field. Why not learn how to be better equipped to carry out those tasks? Furthermore, why not be better equipped to create and implement programs that help with the pervasive drug problems that we see in our state and country?

The *Grow with Google Project Management Micro-Credential* is comprised of six different modules each focused on a different aspect of project planning and implementation. This semester you will be required to complete four of the six courses, however if you complete all six of them, you can be exempted from the final exam. Plus, once you finish the micro-credential, you will be able to add the micro-credential to your resume and impress potential employers!

You will be required to submit proof of completion for each of the first four courses within the micro-credential roughly every three weeks. Your course schedule contains the due dates for each specific course. The completion of each course will count for 25 points toward your final grade. If you do not complete the course by the due date, I will allow for an extension to complete it. This is the only area of the course in which an extension will be allowed as I believe this is such a valuable addition to your educational portfolio and will help you earn a better income down the line.

As I am only requiring the first four courses to be complete, it is up to you if you desire to finish the entire certificate. If you complete the entire certificate and show proof of that by finals week, I will exempt you from the final exam – that’s incentive enough to want to finish!

Already Completed a Micro-Credential? Some of you may have already completed the Project Management Micro-Credential in Dr. Helfers CRIJ 4333 course in Fall 2022. If you are in this boat, congratulations on a job well done! Please let me know if you are one of these students and send me confirmation of your completion. I will provide you an alternative micro-credential in the area of *Data Analytics* which matches up very well with our Research Methods and Senior Seminar courses. Having two of these on your resume will only make you that much more marketable!

Final Exam Exemption: This semester, you will not have traditional exams but will be required to complete a comprehensive, cumulative final exam if you do not finish the *Grow with Google Project Management Career Certificate*. This will be worth 100 points toward your final grade and must be completed in a video presentation format. The final exam will take place during finals week and you may choose when you want to complete it, provided that you finish it by the required due date.

As it is cumulative in nature, I expect students to tap into concepts discussed throughout the entire semester to show a breath of knowledge on the subjects we explored all term. No late final exams will be accepted without documentation.

Grading Scale:

Your grade will consist of points awarded to the successful completion of the following components:

- Syllabus quiz 20 points
- Plagiarism tutorial 20 points
- Online lecture quizzes (30 total micro-lectures x 5 points each) 150 points
- Online or F2F module activities (10 points each) 100 points
- “Public Enemy Number One” Reflection Paper 20 points
- Grow with Google Project Management Courses 1-4 100 points
- Grow with Google Project Management Courses 5-6 or Final Exam 100 points

510 total points

Letter Grades will be assigned as follows:

Total Points	Grade Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Points
510 – 459	100 – 90%	A	4.0

458.5 – 408	89.9 – 80%	B	3.0
407.5 – 357	79.9 – 70%	C	2.0
356.5 – 306	69.9 – 60%	D	1.0
305.5 – below	59.9% and below	F	0.0

Additional Policies

Late Assignment Policy

As a general rule, I do not accept late assignments. I never spring any last-minute assignments on you – from the first day of class, you will know what is due and when it is due to me. It is up to you to plan accordingly as you have ample time to complete these assignments. If you do not turn in your assignments on time, it is a zero in the gradebook and I will not grade the assignment. If you have a documented excuse (death in the family, illness, car accident, etc...), you must inform me of your situation within 2 days of the missed assignment and it is mandatory for you to provide documentation to me in order to be eligible for a make-up. Please note that having to work is not an excused absence. While I am sympathetic and understanding to your work schedule, you have made a choice to enroll in this class and it must be considered a priority. First responders and military personnel will receive exemptions from the work policy in this class on an individual basis.

The only exception to this rule rests with the *Grow with Google Micro-Credential Courses*. As I believe that this program will only benefit you in the long run career-wise, I will continue to accept these certificates through the end of finals week. At that point, whatever is not completed will result in a zero for the individual courses. Please let me know if you have any questions about this program.

Email Policy

I like to keep open lanes of communication between students and myself. If you need to ask any questions or discuss anything class related, please do not hesitate to email me or call me during office hours. As I said before, please include CRIJ 3344 in the subject line so I know that it is class related. You may also email me through Canvas, but please do not leave comments in the assignments themselves. I do not go back and check for those. My preferred method of contact is through email, please try that first. Also, it is polite to address your instructors by their chosen title. Do not email and simply say “Hey,” as it does not make me the happiest of professors. Proper introductions to emails and a little professionalism go along way with me and with all of your other instructors and professors as well.

You are responsible for checking your email daily. I frequently email students individually or as a group – if I send you an email I assume that you have read it and are informed with the message. It is a pet peeve of mine when students do not check their email – I will not hound you trying to get you to reply to my emails. At most, I will send you two emails and if I do not have a response in a reasonable amount of time then I will assume you have chosen not to reply to me and I will act accordingly. For instance, if you submit a paper and I cannot open the attachment I will email to send me another copy of the paper. I will always include a reasonable deadline – if you do not respond by that deadline that I will not grade the paper and you will not receive credit for it. So please check your email.

Instructor Expectations

Just as I have certain expectations of you, you should have certain expectations of me. Every semester I have an open-door policy with students. I will be available during the office hours listed and if I am unavailable, you will be notified. If you email or call me, you will receive a response within 48 hours during the business week and business hours. Email responses during late hours and the weekend are not a guarantee, so late minute questions for assignments may not receive answers if they are sent during those times. As for grading, you will receive feedback on all assignments within 2 weeks. Please do not email within a day or two of the assignment submission looking for a graded assignment. I do my best to get things turned around to you all very quickly but I am only one person with several classes of grading to do weekly. If there is a technological issue, please get in touch with the university IT department. I am unable to fix Canvas issues that are system based.

First Responder and Military Exemptions

First responders and military personnel are often called out to work at the last minute and I thank them for their service. However, that sometimes means that they cannot get their work submitted by the due date. In addition to allowing late work with emergency documentation, I will accept late work from first responders and military personnel for emergency or work purposes. If you are one of the individuals who falls into this group, please alert me to the emergency as soon as possible. If you miss an assignment and inform me a week later, that assignment will still be graded as a zero. In addition, if you have something planned and it does not constitute an emergency, you will be expected to work around the trained planning or other event. If you are unsure about what constitutes an emergency, I encourage you to get in touch with me sooner rather than later and we can review the situation together.

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products.

There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. (For Fall, the Census Date is Sept. 3rd.) Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>.

Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar. Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Plagiarism and Cheating Policies

Plagiarism is simply using someone else's work and presenting it as your own. You must avoid this at all costs! Your credibility is on the line. Your work product must be your own. If you are borrowing someone else's facts, ideas, or opinions without providing the individual proper credit you are stealing. In the academic world this is referred to as plagiarism and the penalty is severe. If the thought is not your own, you must cite your source to give proper credit. If you are borrowing someone else's words, you must enclose them in quotations as well as citing the source. Plagiarism also includes you borrowing, buying, or stealing someone else's work product and presenting it as your own. DO NOT commit intellectual theft because you will compromise your academic future.

Penalties for Plagiarism

Should a faculty member discover that a student has committed plagiarism, the student will receive a grade of 'F' in that course and the matter will be referred to the Honor Council for possible disciplinary action. The faculty member, however, has the right to give freshmen and sophomore students a "zero" for the assignment and to allow them to revise the assignment up to a grade of "F" (50%) if they believe that the student plagiarized out of ignorance or carelessness and not out of an attempt to deceive in order to earn an unmerited grade. This option is not available to juniors, seniors, or graduate students, who cannot reasonably claim ignorance of documentation rules as an excuse.

Still Unsure about Plagiarism? Here is how the University articulates it.

Statement Regarding Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is a violation of University policy and professional standards. If compared to a violation of the criminal law, it would be classed as a felony. Academic dishonesty is defined as cheating, plagiarism, or otherwise obtaining grades under false pretenses. The penalty for academic dishonesty in this class will be no less than immediate failure of the course and a permanent student record of the reason therefore. In most cases, a written record of academic dishonesty or an instructor's report of same to an agency investigator during a background check will bar an individual from employment by a criminal justice agency as it is considered indicative of subsequent corrupt acts.

Many students have an inadequate understanding of plagiarism. Any idea or verbiage from another source must be documented. Anytime the exact words from another author are used they must be enclosed with quotation marks and followed by a citation. However quotations should only be used on rare occasions. Student papers should be written in the student's own words; therefore excessive quotations will result in a failing grade.

Make-up Tests: The *University Catalog* does not establish make-ups as a student right. Major tests are forecasted; therefore, no make-up opportunities are contemplated. Opportunities to make-up missed examinations will be provided only for exceptional reasons and must be documented (e.g., hospital records, obituaries). Make-up examinations may be in forms completely different from original examinations and will be scheduled at the convenience of the instructor.

Penalties for Cheating

Should a faculty member discover a student cheating on an exam or quiz or other class project, the student will receive a "zero" for the assignment and not be allowed to make the assignment up.

The incident must be reported to the chair of the department and to the Honor Council. If the cheating is extensive, however, or if the assignment constitutes a major grade for the course (e.g., a final exam), or if the student has cheated in the past, the student should receive an “F” in the course, and the matter should be referred to the Honor Council. Under no circumstances should a student who deserves an “F” in the course be allowed to withdraw from the course with a “W.”

Disability/Accessibility Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.