Instructor:
Kevin Bengtson, M.S., CRC
Doctoral Candidate
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Office hours: By appointment only (can meet via skype or phone). Since this is an online course, please feel free to email me at any time. I will respond as soon as possible.

Faculty Supervisor:
Timothy N. Tansey, Ph.D., CRC, CVE
1000 Bascom Mall
Email: tntansey@wisc.edu

Welcome everyone!

Course Description
This is an introductory course designed to provide an overview of potential physical, psychological, and socio-cultural effects of psychoactive substance use and abuse. Topics that will be covered throughout the semester include: physiology of addiction; use, regulation, and the law; societal reactions and responses to use; patterns of use, and diagnostic and treatment information, to name a few.

Course Format
You are enrolled in an online RPSE 660 Special Topics – Substance Abuse course. The session has been developed with a rigid structure that will require you to pace yourself accordingly throughout each week and each learning activity. Please note that the format of the session has been designed in order for certain tasks and assignments to be completed prior to accessing more advanced course components. All coursework must be submitted electronically.

We strongly advise you to evaluate and plan your schedule to allow yourself sufficient time to complete the weekly modules within the time limits. Additionally, missed and/or late work will not be considered unless you have received prior approval from the instructor (or discuss the issue with your instructor as soon as possible). All assignments are due by 11:59 pm on Saturday (For example, Unit 1 quiz is due by 11:59 pm on 9/23/2017). The benefits of online learning afford you the opportunity to not only learn outside of a traditional classroom setting but also provides you the flexibility to access the course when it is convenient for you. With that said, time limits for completion of assignments must be strictly adhered to and are clearly identified for you within the course schedule. It is important that you consider the intensity of this course in advance as you consider whether online learning is well-suited to your needs.
Course Objectives
The major course objectives focus on the development and refinement of skills in the following areas:

1. Identify and classify major categories of licit and illicit drugs
2. Gain an understanding of the multi-faceted nature and controversy related to substance use and abuse
3. Describe the physical effects of substance use on various body systems (including tolerance, addiction, and withdrawal symptoms)
4. Develop an understanding of the methods and models used to assess, diagnose, treat, and prevent substance use and abuse across an individual’s lifespan.
5. Increase understanding of social and cultural issues in regard to decisions about substance use, prevention, public policy, and law.
6. Expand knowledge and understanding of current research findings related to substance use, abuse, and current laws.
7. Analyze controversial issues surrounding drug use and abuse

Materials and Resources

Course Webpage: Learn@UW logon to course homepage: https://learnuw.wisc.edu


Other Materials: Additional readings will occasionally be assigned to supplement the textbook readings and to provide updates on current trends and issues. Quiz content may include the additional readings.

Your instructor will post additional readings and other content on our course page.

ACADEMIC/COURSE POLICIES

Academic Integrity
By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UW-Madison’s community of scholars in which everyone’s academic work and behavior are held to the highest academic integrity standards. Academic misconduct compromises the integrity of the university. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, and helping others commit these acts are examples of academic misconduct, which can result in disciplinary action. This includes but is not limited to failure on the assignment/course, disciplinary probation, or suspension. Substantial or repeated cases of misconduct will be forwarded to the Dean of Students Office for additional review. For more information, refer to http://www.students.wisc.edu/doso/academic-integrity/.
Accommodations
We wish to fully include persons with disabilities in this course. It is in your best interest if you inform us as soon as possible regarding any special accommodations in the curriculum, instruction, or assessments of this course that may be necessary to enable you to fully participate in this course. The best way to receive accommodations is to register at the McBurney Disability Resource Center: http://www.mcburney.wisc.edu/

CAMPUS SUPPORT SERVICES

The following additional support services are available:

- University Health Services: Medical & Counseling, (608) 265-6500
- Career Services, (608) 262-1755
- Tutoring, GUTS, (608) 263-5666

Writing Resources

Writing Center: (608) 263-1992

The UW-Madison Writing Center is a tremendous resource for writing tips, individual appointments, and classes to improve writing skills. Online access is available at http://writing.wisc.edu/. You are highly recommended to utilize this resource to help with your writing assignments.

APA Style: http://www.apastyle.org/

Purdue online writing lab (Also an APA Style resource): http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/

Self-Disclosure Policy
The content of this course is sensitive in nature and involves discussion of the use and abuse of psychoactive substances. This may include the possible use of illegal substances and/or the practice of under age drinking. For your protection, it is strongly recommended that you do not self-disclose personal information that could be harmful to your well-being. Please be advised that through online learning and the format of this course, any written content can be viewable by others. Although the intent of this course is to maintain confidentiality and to create an environment in which you are comfortable expressing your thoughts and opinions, we cannot guarantee that personal information will be handled with complete confidentiality by others. With that said, out of respect for fellow classmates, we do ask that all students refrain from disclosing personal information obtained within this course to others, recognizing the potential risks of doing so.

Additional Course Policies
It is important for these policies to be followed throughout the semester, including work related to quizzes, blogs, papers, projects, and exams:

1. Please refrain from the use of any profanity, offensive language, or derogatory statements about sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, race, gender, age, etc.
2. Please respect your peers and instructors. This includes not judging them based on their opinions or beliefs or being disrespectful and criticizing their opinions.

3. No information from this course will be copied, forwarded, or blind copied to be shared by anyone to someone outside of this course or within the course for other than academic purposes.

4. Confidentiality is expected to be maintained by both the instructor and the students. Please do not discuss personal information or stories shared by the instructor, classmates, or guest speakers outside of our online community.

5. Assignments are due on the dates listed in the course schedule.

6. All written assignments will be submitted electronically in the drop box in Learn@UW.

Assignments

Unit Quizzes
There are 7 quizzes worth 10 points each (70 points total), grouping similar or related topics together. The quizzes will consist of multiple choice, true/false and fill in the blank questions. You will have 120 minutes to complete each quiz.

Reflection Papers
You will complete three different activities throughout the semester, with each reflection paper for the activity being worth 20 points (60 points total). The assignment for each activity and expectation for reflection papers will be posted on Learn@UW with due dates listed in the schedule at the bottom of the syllabus.

Op-ed Project (Opinion Editorial)
One way of addressing substance use related social issues is by writing an opinion editorial (Op-ed). Op-eds not only call attention to a topic of current relevance locally or nationally, they frame it in the context of theory and research, and call for change. A good Op-ed is one that grabs the reader’s interest right away, strengthens or shifts attitudes, and makes a compelling case for a course of action. Students will be required to write a 750-1000 word Op-ed on an issue of interest to them and of relevance to substance abuse. Grade will not be dependent on having their op-ed submitted or accepted for publication, but the quality of the writing, including accurateness of research and theory, application to issue, and compelling nature will inform the grade. Although there is flexibility with the number of research articles they should use in their Op-ed, they should at least pull from two research articles. The entire project is worth a total of 40 points. Please check Topic Ideas for Op-ed on Learn@UW.

Final Exam
The final exam is work a total of 30 points. The final exam is due the last scheduled day of finals week and will have a similar format to the quizzes. The final exam is a cumulative exam.

Points Scale

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 Unit Quizzes</td>
<td>10 points each</td>
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<td></td>
<td>70 points total</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Reflection Papers</td>
<td>20 points each</td>
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<td></td>
<td>60 points total</td>
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<tr>
<td>Op-Ed Project</td>
<td>40 points</td>
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<td>40 points</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30 points</td>
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**Grading Scale**

Grades will be determined by the following:

- 92-100% = A (183-200 points)
- 87-91% = AB (173-182 points)
- 79-86% = B (157-172 points)
- 73-78% = BC (145-156 points)
- 66-72% = C (132-144 points)

**Given that there is no class time for this course, sometimes I will open discussion posts. Please respond to discussion posts. Two of the five discussion posts will be counted towards your grade (as extra credit), but I will not give you a notice in advance of which posts would be graded (I will notify you when I post a discussion question). You will have up to 3 days to respond to the question. Each discussion post is worth 2 points. You will receive 4 points for sure if you participate in all of the discussion posts.**

Please keep track of your own points as it is clearly outlined how the points will be derived.
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

Week 1
Module 1 - Introduction to the Course/ Overview of Drugs & Society
Read: Text - Chapter 1
9/6-9/09

Week 2
Module 2 - Physiology of Addiction – Homeostatic Response
Read: Text - Chapters 4 & 5
9/10-9/16

Week 3
Module 3 - Drug Use, Abuse, & the Law
Read: Text - Chapters 2 & 3
Assignment: Unit Quiz 1 – Modules 1&2 (due by 11:59 pm on 9/23)
9/17-9/23

Week 4
Module 4 - Alcohol: Pharmacological Effects
Read: Text - Chapter 7
Assignment: Attend a Meeting Reflection Paper Due (due by 11:59 pm on 9/30)
9/24-9/30

Week 5
Module 5 - Alcohol: Behavioral Effects
Read: Text - Chapter 8
Assignment: Unit Quiz 2 – Modules 3&4 (due by 11:59 pm on 10/7)
10/1-10/7

Week 6
Module 6 - Tobacco
Read: Text - Chapter 11
Assignment: Op-Ed Project Outline
10/8-10/14

Week 7
Module 7 - Marijuana
Read: Text - Chapter 13
Assignment: Unit Quiz 3 – Modules 5&6 (due by 11:59 pm on 10/21)
10/15-10/21

Week 8
Module 8 – OTC & Prescription Medication
Read: Text - Chapter 15
Assignment: E-CHUG Reflection Paper Due (due by 11:59 pm on 10/28)
10/22-10/28

Week 9
Module 9 - Narcotics
Read: Text - Chapter 9
Assignment: Unit Quiz 4 – Modules 7&8 (due by 11:59 pm on 11/4)
10/29-11/4
Week 10  Module 10 - Stimulants/Depressants  
11/5-11/11  
**Read:** Text - Chapters 6 & 10  
**Assignment:** Op-Ed Project First Draft

Week 11  Module 11 - Hallucinogens  
11/12-11/18  
**Read:** Text - Chapter 12  
**Assignment:** Unit Quiz 5 – Modules 9&10 (due by 11:59 pm on 11/18)

Week 12  Module 12 – Inhalants (week of Thanksgiving)  
11/19-11/25  
**Read:** Text - Chapter 14  
**Assignment:** Movie Analysis Due (due by 11:59 pm on 11/25)

Week 13  Module 13 - Societal Response to Use/Abuse  
11/26-12/2  
**Read:** TBD  
**Assignment:** Unit Quiz 6 – Modules 11&12 (due by 11:59 pm on 12/2)

Week 14  Module 14 - Drug Use Among Special Populations  
12/3-12/9  
**Read:** Text - Chapter 16

Week 15  Module 15 - Prevention & Treatment  
12/10-12/16  
**Read:** Text - Chapters 17 & 18  
**Assignment:** Unit Quiz 7 – Modules 13&14  
Op-Ed Project Due (due by 11:59 pm on 12/16)

**Finals Week**  Final Exam  
12/17-12/21

- Some other readings will be assigned and handed out in class and when possible added to Learn at UW site.
- Modules and other information will be on the Learn@UW site.

Please note that this syllabus is subject to change with notice.