CJ 445 – Drugs & Society

Fall 2017 MW 5:00 PM – 6:15 PM Section H001

Instructor: Ragan Downey, Ph.D. Office Hours: By appointment only
Phone: (601) 705-1901 ext. 1811 Email: ragan.downey@usm.edu

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:


COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course explores multiple issues surrounding drug use, abuse, and policy in American society. Students should expect an intensive (yet general) review of a variety of topics related to drugs. Therefore, upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Identify and discuss the emotional, cognitive, and physical effects of various legal and illegal substances;
2. Understand the various lenses through which drug use, abuse, and addiction are discussed among practitioners and researchers;
3. Discuss theories of drug use and connect them with historical stages of drug policy;
4. Conceptualize the incorporation of drug policies as political tools; and
5. Utilize critical thinking skills to defend multiple policy positions on drug use in America.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance is mandatory. Students missing six or more classes will not receive credit for this course.

If any student is an employee of a first responder agency (police, fire, EMS, etc.), please notify the instructor so arrangements can be made in the event that you are called away during class.

Punctuality is extremely important. Please arrive to class on time. Students arriving more than ten minutes late will be asked to leave the classroom.

The textbook is required. However, class discussions will not rely on the material contained in the textbook alone. Therefore, just “reading the book” will not prepare you for class discussions or exams.

USM email accounts are the only acceptable method of electronic communication with the instructor.
CLASSROOM DECORUM & BEHAVIOR

All personal electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, iPods, etc.) must be turned off and stowed away during class. Persons requiring an electronic device due to disability should contact the Office for Disability Accommodations.

Students will – at all times – treat each other (and the instructor) with dignity and respect.

Students will refrain from side-discussion while the instructor is lecturing.

GRADING RUBRIC:

Student performance will be assessed via three non-cumulative exams, one cumulative exam (final), quizzes, homework assignments, and various special projects.

Grades are calculated by the following method:

1. Your three highest exam scores are each worth 30% of your grade.
2. Homework and quizzes are worth 10% of your grade.
3. Your final exam score can replace the lowest exam score from the three previous non-cumulative exams.
4. Students with a non-cumulative exam average of 90 or above are exempt from the final exam. Non-exempt students must take the final exam.
5. Special projects scores are used to increase point pool totals (put simply, special project grades are used to calculate bonus points).

There are no make-up exams in this course. If you miss an exam, that will count as your “dropped” exam score.

Late work will not be accepted under any circumstances. If you anticipate missing class, you may email your assignment to me before or on the due date (no later than 4:00 PM).

DATES TO REMEMBER:

The last day to drop this class without financial penalty (100% refund) or academic penalty is Wednesday, August 23rd, 2017.

The last day to withdraw from the university and/or drop this class with permission and receive a “W” is Friday, October 27th, 2017.

The final exam for this course will be held on Tuesday, December 5th.
ACADEMIC HONESTY & PLAGIARISM:

Academic Honesty

All students at the University of Southern Mississippi are expected to demonstrate the highest levels of academic integrity in all that they do. Forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to):

1. Cheating (including copying from others’ work)
2. Plagiarism (representing another person’s words or ideas as your own; failure to properly cite the source of your information, argument, or concepts)
3. Falsification of documents
4. Disclosure of test or other assignment content to another student
5. Submission of the same paper or other assignment to more than one class without the explicit approval of all faculty members’ involved
6. Unauthorized academic collaboration with others
7. Conspiracy to engage in academic misconduct

Engaging in any of these behaviors or supporting others who do so will result in academic penalties and/or other sanctions. If a faculty member determines that a student has violated our Academic Integrity Policy, sanctions ranging from resubmission of work to course failure may occur, including the possibility of receiving a grade of “XF” for the course, which will be on the student’s transcript with the notation “Failure due to academic misconduct.” For more details, please see the University’s Academic Integrity Policy. Note that repeated acts of academic misconduct will lead to expulsion from the University.

DISABILITY POLICY:

If a student has a disability that qualifies under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Office for Disability Accommodations (ODA) for information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by ADA may include learning, psychiatric, physical disabilities, or chronic health disorders. Students can contact ODA if they are not certain whether a medical condition/disability qualifies.

Address:
The University of Southern Mississippi
Office for Disability Accommodations
118 College Drive # 8586
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001

Voice Telephone: 601.266.5024 or 228.214.3232
Fax: 601.266.6035

Individuals with hearing impairments can contact ODA using the Mississippi Relay Service at 1.800.582.2233 (TTY) or emailing ODA at oda@usm.edu.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

EXAMS

Q: I missed an exam, but I have a doctor’s note excusing my absence. Can I make it up?
A: NO, there are no make-up exams in this class. If you miss an exam, you must take the final exam and your final exam score will replace the zero on your missed exam.

Q: I have a USM-sponsored event on the night of our next exam. Can I take the exam early?
A: YES, under certain circumstances, you may take an exam early. If you anticipate missing an exam due to your direct involvement in a USM-sponsored event or military training, you may take an exam early with prior consent from the instructor. Prior consent must be obtained at least one week before the scheduled exam date.

Q: Can I still take an exam if I’m late to class?
A: IT DEPENDS. If you are ten (or more) minutes late, the answer is NO. If you are less than ten minutes late, the answer is YES, you may take the exam if no exams have been completed.

ASSIGNMENTS & QUIZZES

Q: I came to class late, but I have the homework assignment. Will you accept it?
A: NO, late work will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Q: I forgot my assignment…my dog ate my work… the CIA needed me to steal some secrets…my homework is in my car…I lost my laptop…I was eating supper…Comcast was late getting to my house…can I turn this assignment in after class?
A: NO, late work will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Q: Can I still take a quiz if I’m late to class?
A: NO, if you are not present when a quiz is distributed, then you may not take that quiz.

ATTENDANCE & MISCELLANEOUS

Q: I forgot to sign the roll, but I know I was in class…will you count me absent?
A: YES, forgetting (or failing) to sign the class roster will result in an absence.

Q: Do I need to email you if I am going to miss class?
A: NO, there is no need to email me if you are going to miss class (unless you are submitting an assignment).

Q: Do you need medical documentation if I’m absent due to illness?
A: IT DEPENDS. Medical documentation for an absence will not excuse you from any assignment due, but medically-related absences do not count against the attendance policy benchmark (six or more absences).
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<th>DAY/DATE</th>
<th>AGENDA</th>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>AUG 16 Introduction &amp; Syllabus</td>
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<td>M</td>
<td>21 Alcohol &amp; Tobacco</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<td>W</td>
<td>23 Alcohol &amp; Tobacco</td>
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<td>M</td>
<td>28 Prescription Drugs</td>
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<td>30 Marijuana, LSD, &amp; Club Drugs</td>
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<td>SEP 04 LABOR DAY (NO CLASS)</td>
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<td>06 Marijuana, LSD, &amp; Club Drugs</td>
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<td>11 Stimulants</td>
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<td>18 REVIEW FOR EXAM #1</td>
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<td>11 Studying Drug Use</td>
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<td>16 Explaining Drug Use (Theory)</td>
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<td>23 REVIEW FOR EXAM #2</td>
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<td>NOV 01 Trafficking in Illicit Drugs</td>
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<td>06 Law Enforcement, Drug Courts, &amp; Treatment</td>
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<td>08 Law Enforcement, Drug Courts, &amp; Treatment</td>
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*** This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. ***