Instructor: Scott Thompson BA, MAT, MPA  
E-mail: scott.thompson@gcmail.maricopa.edu  
Message: Social Science Secretary; Brigida Banfelder @ (623) 845-3685

Class Meeting Days and Time: MW 11:30 A.M. - 12:45 P.M.  
Room Number: GCCN A-108

Required Book(s):


Course Objectives: This course is designed to explore drugs as a social problem. The class examines social-cultural factors contributing to use and abuse and effects of commonly used drugs on the individual and society; reviews current theories and research relating to drug use; explores prevention, intervention, and treatment and examines public policies concerning drug related issues. The goal of this class is to help students learn about social issues beyond the scope of popular culture and mass media reporting with the aim of achieving deeper personal understanding regarding today’s world. My expectation is that you will be able to develop and utilize critical thinking skills which challenge common assumptions and be able to demonstrate sound reasoning for your conclusions. For more information regarding the objectives and competencies of this class go to http://www.dist.maricopa.edu/cgi-bin/cpr.pl?trm=20036&crs=soc101&inst=99

Course Requirements: Attendance is mandatory. I do not teach or test solely from the textbook. Therefore, attendance is vital to your ability to achieve success in this course. The instructor therefore reserves the right to withdraw a student from the course at my discretion after eight absences. It is vital that your attendance remains in good standing in order to pass the course. My policy regarding attendance requires that you miss no more than eight classes without an official excuse (such as school athletic events or a medical excuse; see the current GCC student handbook) Note that the instructor in most cases is the judge of what is a valid and legitimate excuse; personal, family and/or work problems are not a valid excuse. In a nutshell, if you miss eight classes you will need to see me. You will also need to see me if you miss two consecutive weeks of class. Failure to see me regarding excessive absences will result in the grade of an F for the course. It is also the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Please refer to your current GCC student handbook concerning withdraw dates. Your assignments for the semester are listed on the next page.
**Tentative Assignments:** (subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 tests</td>
<td>300 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>(100 pts each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Critical Thinking Papers</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>(25 pts each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Paper on Legalization of Drugs</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation (We will discuss this in detail later)</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points Possible:</strong></td>
<td><strong>500 pts</strong></td>
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**Grade scale:**

- A   89.5 - 100%
- B   79.5 - 89.4%
- C   69.5 - 79.4%
- D   59.5 - 69.4%
- F   59.4% or Below

**Class Format:** The class will be mostly a mix of lecture material and group discussions regarding social issues. My hope is that you all are eager to participate in class discussions. Many of the issues we will be discussing will challenge common perspectives and should arouse a great deal of interest.

**Course Expectations:** You are responsible for all course material. Anything being discussed in the course can be used for testing purposes. This includes lectures, class discussions, and student presentations. As previously mentioned, I do not teach just from the textbook. It is my expectation you will attend a vast majority, if not all classes during this course. **It is mandatory that you be present for the tests.** I will not give a make up test without an extremely valid explanation for not being able to take the test when scheduled. (A doctors written order is such an example). If you have a time conflict with the tests please let me know in advance so the matter can be dealt with.

**Late Assignment Policy:** My policy is to grade any late work down one letter grade per class period from the grade that would normally receive. I generally will not accept late work after one week when it was normally due without valid mitigating circumstances. **Note: the instructor reserves the right to refuse any late work.** Exceptions to this policy require a written statement from a doctor or a very valid exception. **Do not E-mail assignments late or not. Assignments are due in paper form at the beginning of class on the date due unless otherwise stated.** Students will also be penalized one letter grade if papers are not stapled or held together by a paper clip.
**Cheating and Plagiarism:** In a nutshell; **DON’T DO IT.** I will spend some time defining plagiarism and how to avoid it. Regarding my policy for cheating and plagiarism; any student caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive an “F” for the course, be expelled from the class, and will be referred to the Dean of Students.

**Cell Phones:** Please turn cell phones off to minimize disruptions. Repeated violations will result in removal from the class.

**Audio Taping:** Please ask permission to audio tape class lectures and discussions. No video taping is allowed. All students must agree in order to audio tape the lectures.

**Text Messaging:** **Do not text message during class.** Students who text messaging in class will be reminded not to text message. Failure to stop text messaging and more than two reminders of this rule will result in removal from the class.

**Ipods and Music Devices:** Do not listen to music or wear headphones during class. Violations will result in removal from the class. Students who are listening to these devices in class will be reminded that this is inappropriate for the class. Failure to stop listening to these devices and more than two reminders of this rule will result in removal from the class.

**Disruptive Students:** Students who are disruptive, rude, and/or display a bad attitude toward the instructor or other students will be removed from the class and may be subject to student misconduct disciplinary action.

**Failing Students:** Students who are failing the course may be withdrawn from the class at any time at the discretion of the instructor.

**Food and Beverages:** Water is acceptable as long as students do not make a mess. No food or other drinks other than water are allowed.

**Misconduct Procedures:** Misconduct is defined as “any conduct which is harmful, obstructive, disruptive to, or interferes with the educational process or institutional functions.” Misconduct will result in the instructor reminding the student of appropriate conduct and, depending on the issue in question, could result in the instructor filing a misconduct referral form to the Dean of Students. (See current GCC student handbook).

**Readings:** Please plan on having your readings completed before the class session in which it will be discussed.

**Special Needs:** It is a college policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. If you would like to request accommodations due to a physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact the Disability Resources & Services office at (623) 845-3080.
Course schedule and content may vary from this outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

**Week 1**

**Monday, January 21st**
- Introduction
- Course Syllabus/Expectations
- Myth verse Reality

**Week 2**

**Monday, January 26th**
- Classifications of Drugs
- Sociological Research Methods
- Chapter 1: The Sociological Perspective

**Wednesday, January 28th**
- Chapter 2: The Pharmacological Perspective
- Classifications of Drugs
- Chapter 3: Theories of Drug Use

**Week 3**

**Monday, February 2nd**
- Chapter 3 Continued
- Drug Prevention Programs

**Wednesday, February 4th**
- Chapter 5: Drugs in the News
- **Distribution of 1st Critical Thinking Paper**

**Week 4**

**Monday, February 9th**
- Alcoholism continued

**Wednesday, February 11th**
- Chapter 6: How do We Know it’s True? Methods of Research
- Chapter 7: Historical Trends in Drug Consumption
Week 5
Monday, February 16th
• President’s Day - No Class

Wednesday, February 18th
Chapter 7: Historical Trends in Drug Consumption

Week 6
Monday, February 23rd
• Test over Chapters 1-7

Wednesday, February 25th
• Chapter 8: Tobacco and Alcohol
• 1st Critical Thinking Assignment Due

Week 7
Monday, March 2nd
• DVD: Marijuana and Amphetamines
• Discussion about DVD

Wednesday, March 4th
• Historical Perspective
• Chapter 4: Controlling Drugs: The Historical Content
• Distribution of 2nd Critical Thinking Paper

Week 8
Monday, March 9th
• DVD: Opium, Morphine and Heroin
• Discussion about DVD

Wednesday, March 11th
• DVD: Cocaine and Crack
• Discussion about DVD

Week 9
Monday, March 17th and Wednesday, March 19th
• Spring Break - No Class
Week 10

Monday, March 23rd

- DVD: LSD, Ecstasy and the Raves
- Discussion about DVD
- Distribution of Legalization Paper and Presentation Instructions

Wednesday, March 25th

- Review of DVDs and Chapters 4 & 8 for Exam

Week 11

Monday, March 30th

- Test over Chapters 4 and 8 and DVDs

Week 12

Monday, April 6th

- Chapter 12 con’t
- Chapter 13: The Illicit Drug Industry
- 2nd Critical Thinking Paper Due

Wednesday, April 8th

- Chapter 15: Legalization, Decriminalization and Harm Reduction

Week 13

Monday, April 13th

- Presentations

Wednesday, April 15th

- Presentations

Week 14

Monday, April 20th

- Mock Legislative Session: Legalization and Decriminalization

Wednesday, April 22nd

- Mock Legislative Session: Legalization and Decriminalization continued
Week 15

Monday, April 27th

- Chapter 14: Drug Control: Law Enforcement, Drug Courts, Drug Treatment
- **Legalization Paper Due**

Wednesday, April 29th

- Chapter 14: continued

Week 16

Monday, May 4th

- Final Mock Legislative Session: Voting on Proposed Bills

Wednesday, May 6th

- Review and wrap up of course

Week 17

**Final Cumulative Final Exam Time and Day TBA**
MCCCD Official Course Competencies:

1. Describe drug use in the United States from a historical perspective. (I)
2. Identify and describe social and cultural factors influencing drug use in our society. (I)
3. Outline and describe the impact of societal response on drug use. (I)
4. Describe drug use as a current social problem. (I)
5. Identify and describe the major sociological and social- psychological factors related to drug use. (II)
6. Analyze and review contemporary theories used to explain drug use. (II)
7. Review current research relating to drug use issues. (II)
8. Identify and describe the biological and major social- psychological effects of psychoactive drugs on the individual. (III)
9. Describe the sociological factors that contribute to the effects of psychoactive drugs on the individual. (III)
10. Describe the differences between physical and psychological dependency. (IV)
11. Identify and describe the factors involved in the addiction to a psychoactive drug. (IV)
12. Identify major classifications of psychoactive drugs and describe their impact on individual behavior. (V)
13. Identify and describe major models and current theories used to explain chemical dependency. (VI)
14. Describe chemical dependency as a family problem. (VI)
15. Identify and outline the problems associated with chemical dependency as they relate to special populations. (VI)
16. Describe the role of drug and alcohol education in the prevention of use and abuse of drugs. (VII)
17. Identify and describe current public policies relating to drugs. (VII)
18. Identify and describe types of interventions and major treatment modalities currently being used to combat drug abuse. (VII)
I have read the Syllabus for Sociology 110, Course # 22756 for Spring 2009 at Glendale Community College. I affirm that I understand and accept the conditions of the course.

Name: (Please Print)______________________________

Signature:________________________   Date:________________________
I have read the Syllabus for Sociology 110, Course # 22756 for Spring 2009 at Glendale Community College. I affirm that I understand and accept the conditions of the course.

Name: (Please Print) ________________________________

Signature: __________________________  Date: __________________________