

**South Plains College**

**Common Course Syllabus: SOCI-2340 Drug Use & Abuse**

**Revised: December 2019**

**Department:** Behavioral Science

**Discipline:** Sociology

**Course Number:** SOCI-2340

**Course Title:** Drug Use & Abuse

**Available Format:** Face to face

**Campuses:** May include Levelland, Reese, Plainview, Lubbock Center, Dual-Credit

**Course Description:** Study of the use and abuse of drugs in today's society. Emphasizes the physiological, sociological, and psychological factors

**Prerequisite:** No prerequisite for conventional sections; must be TSI compliant in reading for Internet sections including dual credit.

**Credit:** 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 0

**Textbook:** OER resource on Blackboard

**Supplies:** Computer and Internet access for all course formats and campuses.

**This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement:** Social and Behavioral Science Foundational Component Area (080)

Approval number 45.1101.55 25

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- Define key concepts associated with drug use and abuse.
- Identify major drug use theories.
- Describe the major categories of drug use.
- Explain the various methodological approaches used to research drug use and behaviors.
- Describe the components and explain the dynamics of the drug use community

**Student Learning Outcomes Assessment:** See instructor's course information sheet for information on assessment that may include the following: pretests and posttests, quizzes, discussions, essays and/or other types of assessment tools.

**For information regarding official South Plains College statements about intellectual exchange, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, please**

**visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.**

**Course Evaluation:** Refer to instructor's course information sheet for specifics on coursework and grading.

**Attendance Policy:**

Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

See instructor's course information sheet for additions to the attendance policy.

**Plagiarism and Cheating:** Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them;  
or
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;

7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

**Student Code of Conduct Policy:** Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

**Diversity Statement:** In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

**Disability Statement:** Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

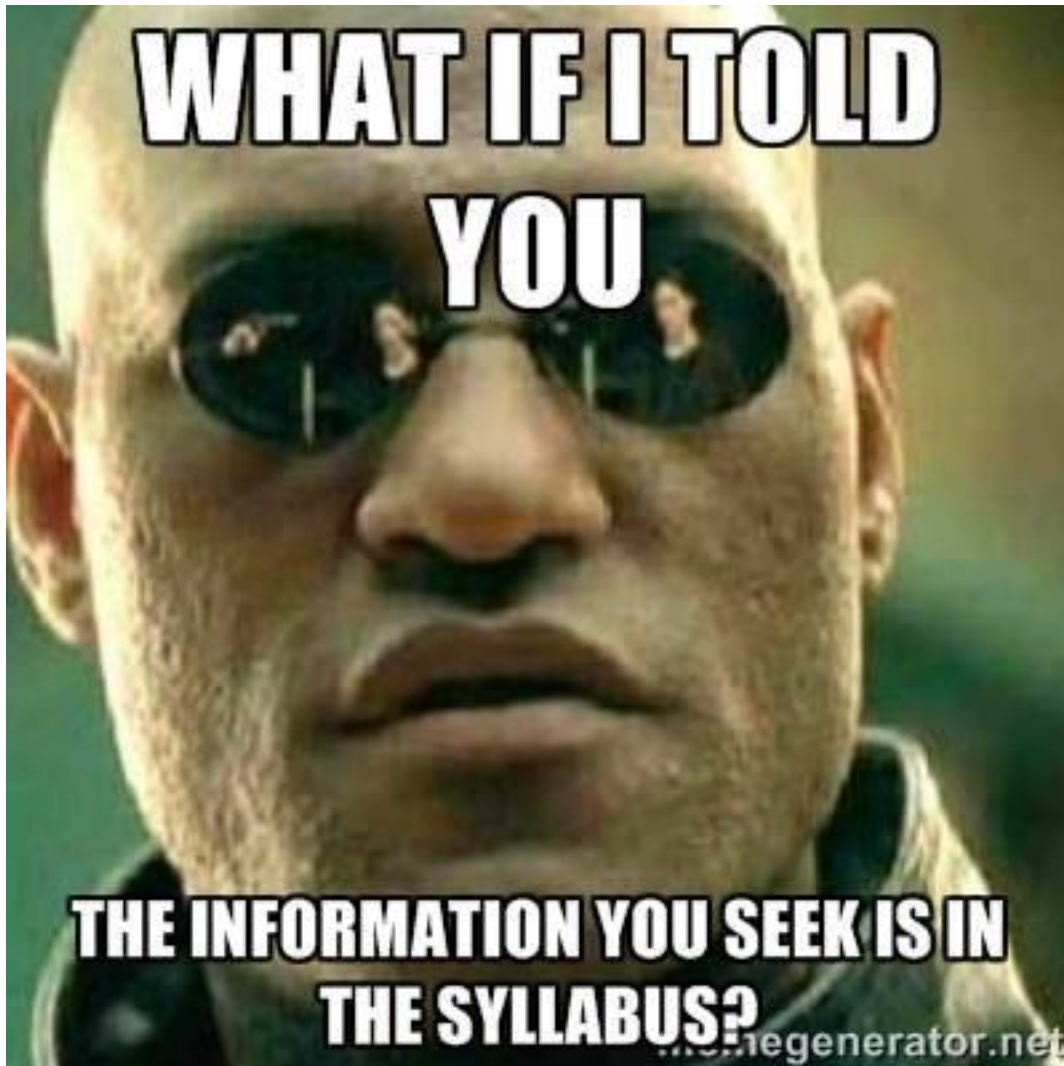
**Nondiscrimination Policy:** South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

**Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement:** If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To [activate](#) accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or [email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

**Campus Concealed Carry:** Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College 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 South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

**Note:** The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any time.



Every semester I receive numerous e-mails from students regarding information readily available in THIS SYLLABUS. E-mails containing such questions as “when is this assignment due?” or “when is the exam?”. These repetitive e-mails can become extremely frustrating to faculty. I have worked diligently to supply you with as much accurate information as I can in the syllabus, in the assignment handouts, and on the Blackboard page for this course. Please LOOK FOR YOURSELF prior to asking me. If you have looked and still need to e-mail me, by all means do so. Please make sure your e-mail contains your NAME, YOUR COURSE (e.g., psyc-2301, psyc-2314, huma-2319), and your class time/day of the week. This will help reduce the frustration level and benefit both of us. Thank you.

“I am Jane Doe. I am in your psyc-2314 on Thursday at 9:30 am. I am emailing concerning \_\_\_\_\_.”

FALL 2024  
Soci-2340  
Section 451 & 151  
On-Line

TEXT: OER resource on Blackboard

Instructor: Professor Rick Herbert

E-mail: [rherbert@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:rherbert@southplainscollege.edu) ← BEST METHOD OF CONTACT!

Office: Room 2002, SPC Downtown Center

Office Hours:

Monday & Wednesday: 9:00 am – 9:30 am & 12:15 pm – 1:00 pm & 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm Downtown Room 2002

Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00 am – 9:30 am & 12:15 pm – 1:00 pm Plainview PC124

Friday: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm Downtown Room 2002

**AND BY APPOINTMENT – CONTACT ME AND I WILL MAKE TIME!**

**Office Phone: (806)716-4039**

South Plains College (SPC) has switched telephone systems several times since our move into the Lubbock Downtown Center (LDC). The voicemail system has some “issues”. I also travel between campuses so I do not have access to our phone system on a regular basis. Voicemail generally not received for 24 hours due to travel between campuses. I cannot save voicemails in the same fashion as I can emails, so emails are preferred.

**Email:** please send all correspondence and course work, with the sole exception of your Discussion Boards posts and responses, to my official, SPC email: [rherbert@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:rherbert@southplainscollege.edu). I collect and save all electronic correspondence between students and myself in a single folder and keep these for the duration of the semester. I do so because it allows me access to all conversations I have had with students at the end of the semester when I am calculating grades. I am less likely to remember a verbal exchange, so I rely on these emails. I cannot save the messages sent through Blackboard, so please, **DO NOT MESSAGE ME THROUGH BLACKBOARD!**

**A. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION:**

Academic Course Guide Manual (ACGM) description:

Study of the use and abuse of drugs in today's society. Emphasizes the physiological, sociological, and psychological factors.

Approval Number.....	45.1101.55 25
maximum SCH per student.....	3
maximum SCH per course .....	3
maximum contact hours per course.....	48

The material presented in Drug Use & Abuse is based upon research conducted in the field of social inequalities. The studies that generate this research frequently present findings implicating the role of social institutions (e.g., the economy, education systems, media, religious institutions, etc.) in the perpetuation of minority group oppression. **Be Aware**, course material may challenge and conflict with existing beliefs and convictions of students. **Controversial Subjects** will be examined which will introduce some level of discomfort and which will generate a wide range of diverse opinions. I do not expect you to accept or even agree with the attitudes, beliefs, and/or viewpoints presented by the instructor or classmates, I do expect that you will: (a) consider the various perspectives presented in class, (b) interact with others in a respectful manner, and (c) be knowledgeable and prepared to discuss the material, information, and theories presented in the readings and class lectures.

## **B. Syllabus Statements:**

All South Plains College (SPC) policies and Syllabus Statements may be found at the following location,

[www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements](http://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements)

These Statements and Policies are updated regularly and this location always has the most accurate information regarding SPC Policies.

## **C. Artificial Intelligence Statement:**

### **• Purpose of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Applications:**

AI applications such as ChatGPT, OpenAI, Bard, Grammarly, WordTune and others are advanced language models designed to aid and engage in meaningful conversations, as well as, generate and revise content. AI is intended to supplement learning, stimulate critical thinking, and enhance academic discourse. However, its use comes with certain responsibilities.

### **• Academic Integrity:**

Using AI to generate academic work, including essays, reports, or assignments, without proper attribution is a violation of SPC academic integrity policies. Plagiarism undermines the learning process and is strictly prohibited. Students must ensure that their work reflects their own ideas, research, synthesis, and analysis and appropriately cites all sources, including AI.

### **• Collaboration and Consultation:**

While AI can be a valuable resource, it is essential to strike a balance between seeking assistance and maintaining personal responsibility. Collaboration with peers, consulting instructors, and utilizing other approved learning resources should be prioritized. Overreliance on AI for solutions without actively engaging in the learning process is discouraged and can be grounds for academic integrity violations. Utilizing AI as a tool for brainstorming or research is allowed but the writing should be the student's own work and thoughts.

### **• Critical Thinking and Originality:**

AI usage can provide suggestions and information, but it is essential to critically evaluate the responses and exercise independent thought. Relying solely on AI for answers deprives students of the opportunity to develop their analytical and problem-solving skills. In assignments where originality, creativity, and independent thinking are valued, AI would be detrimental to the student learning process. Critical thinking and originality emphasize the importance of independent thinking in all academic endeavors as part of the student's learning experience apart from outside influence and offers the student the opportunity to refine their unique, individual voice through academic discourse with other students and faculty.

### **• Ethical Use and Bias Awareness:**

AI is trained on large amounts of data from the internet, which may include biased or inaccurate information. Be mindful of the potential for bias and critically evaluate the responses provided by AI. Therefore, when using AI, just like with using any other database, students must verify that the information is from reliable sources, question any potential biases, and ensure that the information and sources used in the paper are neutral, peer-reviewed sources.

### **• Responsible Engagement:**

Students should engage with AI in a respectful and responsible manner and avoid using offensive language, discriminatory remarks, or engaging in any form of harassment or inappropriate behavior. Students should also uphold the standards of respectful communication in addressing both AI and fellow classmates.

### **• Compliance with South Plains College Policies:**

Policies regarding the appropriate use of AI in South Plains College courses are set by instructional departments and individual instructors. Appropriate use of AI may range from strict prohibition to assignments they may require the use of AI. Misusing or violating the guidelines outlined in this syllabus warning may result in disciplinary action, including academic penalties. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the specific course policies regarding the use of AI and adhere to them throughout the semester.

• Remember, AI can be a tool to support your learning in certain courses and assignments, but it cannot replace the critical thinking, creativity, and independent work that are integral to your overall academic growth.

#### **D. Student Conduct:**

Rules and regulations relating to the students at South Plains College are made with the view of protecting the best interests of the individual, the general welfare of the entire student body and the educational objectives of the college. As in any segment of society, a college community must be guided by standards that are stringent enough to prevent disorder, yet moderate enough to provide an atmosphere conducive to intellectual and personal development.

A high standard of conduct is expected of all students. When a student enrolls at South Plains College, it is assumed that the student accepts the obligations of performance and behavior imposed by the college relevant to its lawful missions, processes and functions. Obedience to the law, respect for properly constituted authority, personal honor, integrity and common sense guide the actions of each member of the college community both in and out of the classroom.

Students are subject to federal, state and local laws, as well as South Plains College rules and regulations. A student is not entitled to greater immunities or privileges before the law than those enjoyed by other citizens. Students are subject to such reasonable disciplinary action as the administration of the college may consider appropriate, including suspension and expulsion in appropriate cases for breach of federal, state or local laws, or college rules and regulations. This principle extends to conduct off-campus which is likely to have adverse effects on the college or on the educational process which identifies the offender as an unfit associate for fellow students. Any student who fails to perform according to expected standards may be asked to withdraw.

Rules and regulations regarding student conduct appear in the current Student Guide.

The student handbook clearly defines appropriate classroom conduct (see previous three paragraphs). A student can be asked to leave the class for inappropriate conduct. You should not disrupt the class since you interfere with the learning process for your peers. Talking, sleeping, cell phones ringing, or other disruptive behaviors will result in a warning and then can result in the student being dropped from the class. If you must leave the classroom for a bathroom break by all means do so. You do not need to raise your hand and ask permission, you are an adult and capable of deciding for yourself. However, excessive entrances and exits for the classroom are disruptive. If you have an issue that requires constantly leaving the classroom, it would be better to not attend that specific class period.

#### **E. Electronic Device Policy:** (Face-to-Face sections)

Our regularly scheduled class time is specifically structured for you to learn the course material required to successfully complete the class. It is **NOT** an opportunity for you to use your **cell phone, laptop, or other electronic device for socializing, gaming, or listening to music.** If you choose to use **our class time** for such activity, you are not utilizing class time for its intended purpose, so you are **NOT PRESENT.** That means you **ARE ABSENT.** **You may be physically in the classroom, but you are not mentally present.** I will count you as absent and deduct those points from your attendance grade. Five absences may get you dropped from my class. Wearing earbuds or headphones is not only a distraction for you, it is a distraction for other students in the classroom as well. On top of the distraction, it is **incredibly disrespectful to me,** as well as your fellow students. If you have no interest in learning the course material, do not enroll in the class. **You are wasting my time, your time, and taking up space that someone who wants to learn is being denied.**

#### **F. Specific Instructor Requirements:**

##### **1. Attendance:** (Face-to-Face sections)

Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

Role is taken by students signing a role sheet in EVERY class meeting. Failure to sign in will result in being counted absent. It is the **STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY** to insure they sign in for EVERY class. Having a classmate sign in for you when you are not present may result in you being **DROPPED** from the class **WITH A ZERO!**

I will award each student 100 points for attendance at the beginning of the academic term, after the first week (drop – add period). At the conclusion of the initial add/drop period, every absence a student has will result in a deduction of 10 points from this score. Since I am not nearly as wise as Solomon, there are no excused absences. If your name does not make it onto the roll sheet for the class meeting, you will be counted as absent and have the points deducted from your attendance grade.

## **2. Assignments:**

You will have a paper assignment as well as Discussion Boards activities. Both of these assignments are detailed in separate handouts available on the Blackboard page for our class. These handouts are currently available and will remain so for the entire semester.

Your Substance Impact Paper will be turned in via email, to my SPC email address, [rherbert@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:rherbert@southplainscollege.edu). **DO NOT SEND YOUR PAPER THROUGH BLACKBOARD!** I will send a confirmation email to the email address you send your paper from, within seventy-two hours, after I have printed your paper. I can only print from my office, so on Tuesdays and Thursdays, when I am at our Plainview Center, I cannot print papers. I wait until after I have printed the papers to ensure there is no difficulty with opening and printing your paper. Sending your work in the .RTF format is the best way to ensure I can print, read, and grade your work.

Your Discussion Board posts and responses **MUST BE** made on Blackboard. There will be fifteen Forums, one per week, beginning the first week of the semester. I will open the Forum at 12:00 am on the Sunday of the week and it will remain open until 11:59 pm on the Friday of the week. The “Prompt” I post will have several questions in it. You will need to make three original posts and respond to three classmates’ posts to earn half (five points) the available points (ten points). To earn more points, you must make more posts/responses, better posts/responses, or incorporate, and cite, credible outside resources. Examples can be found on the Discussion Board handout on Blackboard.

## **3. Grading Policy/Procedure:**

You will have three (3) exams, each worth 100 points (300 points total), the Substance Impact Paper, which will be submitted three times over the course of the semester, worth 100 points each submission (300 point total), and the Discussion Boards assignment worth 150 points. This gives you a complete total of 750 points over the course of the semester. Your grade will be based upon a percentage of the total points with 90% = A, 80% = B, 70% = C, 60% = D, and below 60% = F. No one exam or assignment is “grade adjusted” or “curved”. Every section of my courses is evaluated at the end of the semester once all grades are complete.

## **G. Special Considerations:**

1. If you have to miss an exam or an assignment deadline for emergency reasons, I will do my best to accommodate you **IF YOU CONTACT ME PRIOR TO DUE/TEST DATE**. Only extreme situations, military necessity, and/or family emergencies, will be considered.
2. **The last to drop a course is Thursday, December 4, 2024.** Any students who have missed lectures, had difficulty completing projects, or anticipates difficulty in completing the course to their satisfaction or expectation are encouraged to consider the withdrawal option. Students are asked to discuss his/her progress with the instructor prior to making such a decision.

## **H. Use of Language:**

This is a college course, you are expected to use proper college-level English in this course. To this end, South Plains College has developed the following policy:

All written assignments should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. South Plains College requires all students to become proficient in "academic English," a form of English that is typically used in academic, professional, and business contexts. While slang, regional idioms, and informal kinds of self-expression are appropriate in some contexts, they are out of place in academic writing. Writing instructors and professors in courses across the campus expect all students to demonstrate proficiency in using the conventions of academic English in their written work, whether it is in-class exams or take-home essays. Each instructor may also add additional requirements regarding written assignments that are contained in your syllabus.

All material turned in, with the exception of any in-class writing assignments, **MUST BE TYPED, PROOFREAD, AND ORIGINAL** (not plagiarized material originating from anyone other than the student without proper referencing).



When saving your paper on your hard drive, SPC's "One Drive" a disc, a "jump drive", or USB device, please look at the dialog box carefully. Click on "SAVE AS" from your operating system. When the dialog box opens it has two fill-in-the-blank spaces you can access. The first box is "File name:", please put your **seven digit South Plains College student ID number** in this box. The second box is located directly below the first and it is "Save as type:", please click on the drop-down menu button on the far right-hand side of this box. The drop-down menu will open and you will **select "Rich Text Format (\*.rtf)"**. You may have to scroll through the choices until you find "Rich Text Format (\*.rtf)" but you should find it. If you need assistance, the Student Help Desk is designed to provide such help.

Failure to submit your paper as an e-mail attachment to the instructor in this format will be considered as "not following the instructions" and the **PAPER MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED AND YOU MAY RECEIVE A GRADE OF ZERO!** If you send your submission in an iOS format, I will not be able to open it. SPC supplies us with Windows software so I can only print those submissions in a Windows format. If I cannot open and print your submission, I cannot read it, and grade it.

I will always send you a confirmation email stating I have received and printed your submission. Since I travel between campuses and my opportunities to print student submissions is limited to my office, I may not send you the confirmation email within twenty-four hours of your submission. However, I will always send confirmation within seventy-two hours. If you do not receive this confirmation email, I have not received and printed your submission.

#### **I. Expectations/Responsibilities:**

This syllabus provides you with my expectations of you and what is required for successful completion of this course. You are expected to read the syllabus and be familiar with its contents. You are responsible for all material covered in class. I am willing to make myself available to help any student that requests help. It is my goal for every student to take some useful knowledge away at the end of this course. Although not everyone will work with children, teens, and adults as professionals, we are all humans on the same small and irreplaceable planet and we are all responsible for learning more about each other. To that end, I will go to all reasonable means to help any student in any way I can. Please do not wait too long to ask for assistance. If you do, I will be unable to help.

#### **Tentative Course Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Readings</u>
Monday August 26 (1)	introduction	none
Wednesday August 28 (2)	<i>History Channel</i> videos	chapter 1
Monday September 2	<b>LABOR DAY HOLIDAY</b>	
Wednesday September 4 (3)	intro to field of addictions	chapter 1
Monday September 9 (4)	intro to field of addictions	chapter 1
Wednesday September 11 (5)	rates/patterns of use	chapter 2
Monday September 16 (6)	rates/patterns of use	chapter 2
Wednesday		

September 18 (7)	history of drug use	chapter 3
Monday September 23 (8)	history of drug use	chapter 3
Wednesday September 25 (9)	history of war on drugs	chapter 4
Monday September 30 (10)	<b>EXAM I/first draft due</b>	<b>all above</b>
Wednesday October 2 (11)	who uses/why uses	chapter 5
Monday October 7 (12)	who uses/why uses	chapter 5
Wednesday October 9 (13)	media coverage	chapter 6
Monday October 14 (14)	media coverage	chapter 6
Wednesday October 16 (15)	licit drugs	chapter 7
Monday October 21 (16)	licit drugs	chapter 7
Wednesday October 23 (17)	pot, LSD, club drugs	chapter 8
Monday October 28 (18)	pot, LSD, club drugs	chapter 8
Wednesday October 30 (19)	coke & speed	chapter 9
Monday November 4 (20)	<b>EXAM II/second draft due</b>	<b>all above</b>
Wednesday November 6 (21)	opiates	chapter 10
Monday November 11 (22)	opiates	chapter 10
Wednesday November 13 (23)	drug trafficking	chapter 11
Monday November 18 (24)	drug trafficking	chapter 11

Wednesday  
November 20

**THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

Monday  
November 25 (25)

**FINAL DRAFT DUE**  
drugs & crime

chapter 12

Wednesday  
November 27 (26)

drugs & crime

chapter 12

Monday  
December 2 (27)

drug law/drug treatment

chapter 13

Wednesday  
December 4 (28)

legalization/harm reduction

chapter 14

**FINAL EXAM**