

**Western University**

**School of Health Studies**

## **HS3052a – A Brief History of Drug Use in Western Cultures**

Fall 2013

Class Location: HSB 35

Class Time: Fridays, 8:30-10:30am

Instructor: Brian Lawson

Office: TBA

Email: [Blawson6@uwo.ca](mailto:Blawson6@uwo.ca)

### **1. Course Description**

There haven't been many topics more controversial than drugs in North America. Drug use is one of those features of humanity that goes back into prehistory, and in many ways our current drug use isn't significantly different from the way it was then. This course seeks to examine present-day debates about drugs through historical, sociological, and ethical perspectives.

### **2. Required Texts**

- David Courtright, *Forces of Habit*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press (2002).
- Articles available online and through the Web of Science Database.

Note: All readings listed in the syllabus are required, and students will be expected to have acquired and read them before the class for which they will be discussed.

### **3. Objectives**

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Identify key concepts and issues in contemporary debates on drugs.
- Situate those concept and issues in a historical context.

- Analyse the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches to drug policy.
- Identify morally relevant factors and assess their importance in a particular context.

#### **4. Evaluation**

**25%** - Academic Book Review

**25%** - Mid-term Exam (multiple choice)

**50%** - Final Exam (multiple choice)

##### ***a. Mid-Term***

An in-class mid-term exam is booked for October 18<sup>th</sup>. The mid-term will consist of roughly 40 multiple-choice questions.

##### ***b. Book Review***

Due November 15<sup>th</sup>, in class. Late penalty 2% / day including weekend days. Papers submitted on the due date but not in class will receive a penalty of 1%. Please consult instructions on how to write a review, assignment submission guidelines, and the grading matrix, all of which will be provided on the course website at least two weeks before the due date.

##### ***c. Final Exam:***

The final exam will consist of a two hour multiple choice exam. The exam will be held during the December examination period and will be set at a date and time chosen by the Registrar's Office.

#### **5. Course Schedule**

##### **Week 1 – Course Introduction**

No reading

##### **Week 2 – Moral Panics**

Film: "Reefer Madness"

## **Week 3 – Moral Panics & Tobacco**

Erich Goode and Nachman Ben-Yehuda, "Moral Panics: Culture, Politics, and Social Construction." *Annual Review of Sociology*. Vol. 20 (1994): 149-171.

**Available at Weldon Library through Web of Knowledge.**

## **Week 4 – Cannabis**

B Fischer et al, "Cannabis law reform in Canada: Is the sage of promise, hesitation and retreat coming to an end?" *Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice*. Volume: 45 Issue: 3 (2003) Pages: 265-297. **Available at Weldon Library through Web of Knowledge.**

## **Week 5 - Alcohol**

Peter DeLottinville, "Joe Beef of Montreal: Working-Class Culture and the Tavern, 1869-1889." *Labour*. Volumes 8 and 9 (1981). **Available online at <http://journals.hil.unb.ca/index.php/LLT/article/view/2632>.**

G. Marquis, G. "From beverage to drug: Alcohol and other drugs in 1960s and 1970s Canada." *Journal of Canadian Studies*, Vol. 39, Num. 2 (2005), 57 – 79. **Available at Weldon Library through Web of Knowledge.**

## **Week 6 – Mid Term**

### **Week 7 – Opium & Heroin**

Catherine Carstairs, "Deporting 'Ah Sin' to Save the White Race." CBMH/BCHM / Volume 16: 1999, 65-88. **Available at Weldon Library through Web of Knowledge.**

### **Week 8 – Theories of Addiction**

Film: "Fix"

SE Hyman. "Addiction: A Disease of Learning and Memory," *American Journal of Psychiatry*. Vol. 162, No. 8, 2005, pages: 1414-1422. **Available at Weldon Library through Web of Knowledge.**

H. Pearson, "A Hard Habit to Break," *Nature*. Vol. 430, Iss. 6998, 2004, pages 394-395. **Available at Weldon Library through Web of Knowledge.**

## **Week 9 – Harm Reduction**

Film: "Through a Blue Lens"

G.Alan Marlatt, Harm reduction: Come as you are, Addictive Behaviors, Volume 21, Issue 6, November–December 1996, Pages 779-788. **Available at Weldon Library through Web of Knowledge.**

### **Week 10 – Performance-Enhancing Drugs**

V. Chau, “Popping Pills to Study,” *Stanford Journal of Neuroethics*. Available online at <http://www.stanford.edu/group/co-sign/Chau.pdf>

Terry Todd, “Anabolic Steroids: The Gremlins of Sport.” *Journal of Sports History*, Vol. 14, Num. 1 (1987). Available online at <http://www.aafla.org/SportsLibrary/JSH/JSH1987/JSH1401/jsh1401q.pdf>

### **Week 11 – Cocaine**

SB Karch, “Cocaine: history, use, abuse,” *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*. Vol. 92, Iss. 8 (1999), pages 393-397. Available online at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1297313/pdf/jrsocmed00006-0013.pdf>

Dunlap and Johnson, “The Setting for the Crack Era,” *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*. Vol. 24, Iss. 4, 307-21. Available online at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2761228/>

### **Week 12 - LSD, Theophany & The Good Friday Experiment**

Huston Smith, “Do Drugs have Religious Import?” *The Journal of Philosophy*, Vol. 61, No. 18 (1964). Available online at <http://www.psychadelic-library.org/hsmith.htm>.

### **Week 13 - Disease Promotion? (Research & Advertising of Pharmaceuticals)**

Lemmens (2004) “Leopards in the Temple,” *Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics*. Vol. 32, Iss. 4. pp. 641-657. Available at Weldon Library through Web of Knowledge.

Healy, “Conflicting Interests in Toronto,” *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine*, Vol. 25, Num. 2 (spring 2002): 250-63. Available at Weldon Library through Web of Knowledge.

### **ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS**

#### **Student Code of Conduct**

The purpose of the Code of Student Conduct is to define the general standard of conduct expected of students registered at The University of Western Ontario, provide examples of behaviour that constitutes a breach of this standard of conduct, provide examples of sanctions that may be imposed, and set out the disciplinary procedures that the University will follow. For more information, visit <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/board/code.pdf>.

### **English Proficiency for the Assignment of Grades**

Visit the website <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/exam/english.pdf>.

### **Accommodation for Medical Illness or Non-Medical Absences**

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf)

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required where a student is seeking academic accommodation. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. An SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>.

Documentation is required for non-medical absences where the course work missed is more than 10% of the overall grade. Students may contact their Faculty Academic Counselling Office for what documentation is needed.

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner. Documentation for any request for accommodation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the appropriate

Academic Counselling Office of the student's Faculty of registration. For BHSc students, you may go to the School of Health Studies Office in HSB room 222.

### **Scholastic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).

Additionally,

1. All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com> ).
2. Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

### **Support Services**

There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:

1. Student Development Centre -- <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/>
2. Student Health --  
<http://www.shs.uwo.ca/student/studenthealthservices.html>
3. Registrar's Office -- <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>
4. Ombuds Office -- <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>