

Life, Society and Drugs

HLTH - 1050 401

Course Description

A comprehensive examination of the personal, social, health, political, and economic effects of substance use and abuse in the local and international communities. This course studies the impact of alcohol, tobacco, opiates, marijuana, and other drugs on the individual, family, and the global society.

Semester: All

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Use quantitative and/or qualitative analytical skills to understand the interconnectedness, interdependence and/or complexity of international and global systems as it relates to global drug use and production.
- Students will develop an understanding of the historical, cultural and legal considerations relevant to controlled substance abuse around the world.
- Students will produce an understanding of the immediate and long term physiological effects of drugs produced in the global community.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze, synthesize and evaluate various treatment and prevention approaches utilized in different global societies.
- Students will develop the ability to analyze, synthesize and evaluate specific actions that can be taken to reduce and prevent the abuse of substances in different regions around the world.
- Students will collect, synthesize, and analyze current information on the impact of illegal drug use and production on the individual, family, and the global community.

- Students will create an understanding of the function of attitudes and values in use, misuses, and abuse of substances in different regions around the world.
- Students will use a comparative and/or interpretive framework to examine the dynamics of power related to drug production and how it shapes such issues as privilege, gender, economies, religion, environment and/or race relations.
- Communicate effectively in oral and/or written form about drug use and production beyond—or transcendent of—the borders of the United States.

Course Prerequisites

Prerequisites: None

Credit Hours: 3

Required Text: International Production and Use of Recreational Drugs

Engagement Plan

- I will respond to email within 48 hours. I will offer feedback on major assignments within 72 hours. The best way to contact me is via the Canvas Inbox, as I will prioritize this email over other modes of communication.
- In this course I will be posting interactive announcements which will offer specific opportunities for class questions and extra credit every other week.
- Additionally, I will be participating in the discussion forums with you to share my perspective within the discipline and to offer some nuances of interpretation that may not be present in your textbook.

Course Content Advisory

The topics covered in this course can be intellectually and emotionally demanding. As we engage in vigorous discussions and confront differing viewpoints, I urge you to participate with sensitivity and empathy toward your classmates. Our goal is to explore these perspectives without creating conflict. This learning environment embraces the challenge of discomfort as we critically examine our fundamental beliefs and values—this isn't merely a philosophical exercise, but a crucial step in leading a genuine life. I encourage you to embrace the tough aspects of our discussions bravely. In return, I am dedicated to creating a supportive classroom atmosphere that nurtures your intellectual and emotional growth.

Please note that some class materials may depict drug use, production, trafficking, and contain mature language. While these sessions provide important insights and I encourage full participation, I fully understand if you need to step out for personal comfort. Your emotional well-being and self-care are of utmost importance.

Keys for Success (how to succeed in the course)

Log into the course twice per week.

Practice organization and prioritize assignments

Do not wait till the last minute to complete quizzes and assignments

Start thinking about essays now.

Required Text or Materials

Title: International Production and Use of Recreational Drugs

Authors: Paul Roberts

For more information on textbook accessibility, contact Accessibility & Disability Services at ads@slcc.edu.

Assignment Schedule

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
	Extra Credit	Assignment	0
	Introduce Yourself	Discussion	0
	Introduce Yourself	Discussion	0
	Introduce Yourself	Discussion	0
	Participation Aug 28	Assignment	10
	Participation Sept 4	Assignment	10
	Research Paper Presentation	Assignment	0
	Research Paper Presentation or 2nd Research Paper	Assignment	0
	What Questions Do You Have? (optional)	Discussion	0
	What Questions Do You Have? (optional)	Discussion	0
9/8/25	Class Participation - Sept 2	Assignment	15
9/12/25	Introduce Yourself	Discussion	10
9/12/25	Orientation Quiz	Quiz	6
9/12/25	Primary Source Article	Assignment	20
9/12/25	Submitting Assignments	Assignment	5
9/19/25	Article Assignment #1	Discussion	20
9/19/25	Module 1: Discussion	Discussion	20
9/19/25	Module 1: Quiz	Quiz	20

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
10/3/25	Module 2: Discussion	Discussion	20
10/3/25	Module 2: Quiz	Quiz	20
10/3/25	Article Assignment #2	Discussion	20
10/31/25	Article Assignment #3	Discussion	20
10/31/25	International Connections Paper #1	Assignment	50
10/31/25	Module 3: Discussion	Discussion	20
10/31/25	Module 3: Quiz	Quiz	20
10/31/25	Modules 1 - 3 Exam	Quiz	100
11/7/25	Article Assignment #4	Discussion	20
11/7/25	Module 4: Discussion	Discussion	20
11/7/25	Module 4: Quiz	Quiz	20
11/21/25	Article Assignment #5	Discussion	20
11/21/25	Module 5: Discussion	Discussion	20
11/21/25	Module 5: Quiz	Quiz	20
11/21/25	Research Paper	Assignment	100
12/4/25	Article Assignment #6	Discussion	20
12/4/25	Eportfolio Link	Assignment	50
12/4/25	International Connections Paper #2	Assignment	50
12/4/25	Module 6: Discussion	Discussion	20
12/4/25	Module 6: Quiz	Quiz	20

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
12/4/25	Modules 4 - 6 Exam	Quiz	100
12/4/25	Reflection Paper	Assignment	50

Brief Description of Assignments/Exams

Introduce Yourself Discussion 10

Primary Source Article 20

Orientation Quiz 10

7 Articles 140

7 Discussion posts 140

7 Quizzes 140

Mid-Term (Modules 1-3) Exam 100

Book Critique 100

Research Paper 100

Reflection Paper 50

2 International Connections Papers 100

Final (Modules 4-6) Exam 100

Total 1010

Grading Scale

- A 95-100%

- A- 90-94
- B+ 86-89
- B 83-85
- B- 80-82
- C+ 76-79
- C 73-75
- C- 70-72
- D+ 66-69
- D 60-65
- D- 55-59
- E Below 55

How to Navigate to Canvas

Institutional Policies

As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, and grading policies, Title IX and other important acknowledgements. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

For more information, navigate to the Institutional Policies tab on the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page.

Learning Support and Tutoring Services

We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or

want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, visit the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

[Advising and Counseling Support Services](#)

At our institution, we are committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advising and counseling services to help you navigate the challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, visit the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page under the Advising and Counseling Support Services tab. Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to support you in achieving your goals and overcoming any obstacles you may face.

[Student Academic Calendar](#)

As students you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar below:

[SLCC Student Academic Calendar](#)

[Additional Policies](#)

Keeping up with assignments is essential in this course. All assignments and quizzes are due by Sunday at the end of each module. It is important that submissions are made on time. Late submissions will result in a deduction of 2% per day, which will be automatically applied by Canvas.

Please be aware that each student is granted three late pass tickets, allowing for delayed submissions without penalty or need for explanation. If you face an emergency that might delay your submissions beyond these three allowances, please contact me directly to

discuss an extension. Your success in this course is a priority, and I'm here to support you through any challenges you might encounter.