

PUBHLTH 107 LEC A: EPIDEMIOLOGY OF DRUG USE



Official catalog description: Applies epidemiologic concepts to the use and misuse of licit/illicit substances. Emphasizes descriptive aspects of drug use and determinants of progressing from experimental use to misuse. Assesses subgroups of abusers, risk factors, trends, and surveillance techniques for estimating drug prevalence.

Additionally: The epidemiology of drug use necessarily involves several disciplines and subdisciplines, including social epidemiology, psychology, anthropology, sociology, history, and, of course, medicine. Insights and information from these and other areas will be used to address the use and abuse of licit and illicit drugs, from alcohol and cigarettes to heroin and cocaine and many things in-between.

Prerequisites: You must have upper division standing and have taken Public Health 1 to enroll in this class.

Times and location:

Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30pm - 4:50pm
Humanities Hall 178

Instructor:

Dr. Theodore Gideonse (pronounced **gid ee unz**)

t.gideonse@uci.edu

office hours: Tuesdays, 12pm to 2pm

location: AIRB, Suite 2030C, 2nd Floor

Teaching Assistant:

Philip Chen

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office hours: Mondays, 2pm-3pm

location: Starbucks at School of Business

Reader:

Erin Kenney

emkenney@uci.edu

Class website: <https://canvas.eee.uci.edu/courses/9451>

Readings:

Maisto, S. A., Galizio, M., & Connors, G. J. (2014). *Drug use and abuse*. 7th Edition. Cengage Learning.

The book (1285455517) can be purchased at the UCI bookstore and online, and it is available as an ebook. The book is expensive, but the previous edition (the 6th) is now much cheaper and can be used as a substitute.

I will occasionally provide updates to the material in the book during some lectures; **information from lectures will supersede information in the text**, for exam purposes.

Some articles will be assigned. All will be available through UCI at lib.uci.edu and may be posted on the course website.

Grading Breakdown:

Midterm exam: 20 points

Final exam: 30 points

Annotated Bibliography: 15 points

Brief Paper: 25 points

Lecture participation: 10 points

Lecture slides:

PDFs of lecture slides will be posted on this site prior to the lecture. Please keep in mind that lecture slides are meant to assist you in taking notes during the lecture and **are not substitutes for the lectures and readings.**

Academic Honesty:

Please read the policies regarding academic honesty on the UCI website.

Cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty **will not be tolerated.**

[UCI's Academic Senate Policy on Academic Integrity](#)

[The University of California Code of Conduct](#)[Links to an external site.](#)

Electronic Devices:

I am **banning** laptops from the class. If you have a specific (i.e. disability-related) reason why you need your laptop, please contact Dr. Gideonse. Laptop users must sit in the front row of class.

Unless you are using it for iClicker, your phone should be off during lecture. **Off.** Texting during lecture is obnoxious. If you cannot pay attention to the lecture, don't come.

Cell phones, laptop computers, and all other electronic devices must be off and stored out of sight during exams. The use of these devices during an exam is considered an act of academic dishonesty and will be dealt with accordingly.

Communication

Questions concerning class materials should be posted on the class discussion forum called "Post Your Questions and Comments Here," so that all students can benefit from reading the answer. Discussion postings are archived and will be available throughout the course.

Please refrain from emailing the instructor and TAs with questions about the assignments or lecture material. These types of questions should be posted to the discussion forum. We will do our best to respond quickly to questions.

When we have a need for communication that is private, whether personal, interpersonal, or professional, we will use individual email or Canvas messaging. Please wait 48 hours during week and 72 during the weekend before following up. But do follow up if you haven't heard from Dr. Gideonse or Philip.

Important class announcements will be made via Canvas. Please ensure that you have read each of these announcements, and adjust your Canvas settings so that you receive notifications when announcements are posted.

Attendance:

Lecture attendance is essential for doing well in the class. Thus 10% of your final grade will be based on your attendance and participation in lecture.

Annotated Bibliography and Short Paper:

There are two writing assignments for the class. They will be based on one drug and a public health attempt to deal with that drug's public health problem. The first assignment will focus on a written analysis of three scholarly sources concerning the topic and the second will be a paper will examine the problem and the intervention and why it succeeded or failed. Detailed assignments will be presented in class.

Exams:

There will be a midterm and a final. The midterm will cover week 1 through 5 and the final will cover the entire quarter. It will be a multiple choice exam using a scantron. You will need to bring your student ID to the exams.

Class Schedule:

Week	Date	Topic	Reading
1	4/3	Introductions	DUAA Ch. 1
	4/5	History of Drug Use	DUAA Ch. 2

2	4/10	Drugs and the Nervous System	DUAA Ch. 3
	4/12	Pharmacology	DUAA Ch. 4
3	4/17	Psychopharmacology and Drug Development	DUAA Ch. 5
	4/19	Marijuana	DUAA Ch. 11
4	4/24	Nicotine	DUAA Ch. 7
	4/26	Caffeine	DUAA Ch. 8
	4/27	Annotated Bibliography due at 6pm	
5	5/1	Review	
	5/3	Midterm Exam	
6	5/8	Alcohol	DUAA Ch. 9
	5/10	Opiates	DUAA Ch. 10
7	5/15	Stimulants	DUAA Ch. 6
	5/17	Methamphetamine	Article (see Module for Week 7)
8	5/22	Hallucinogens	DUAA Ch. 12
	5/24	Psychotherapeutic Medications & Other Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drugs	DUAA Ch. 13 & 14
9	5/29	Treatment of Substance Use Disorders	DUAA Ch. 15
	5/31	Treatment of Substance Use Disorders	DUAA Ch. 15
10	6/5	Prevention of Substance Abuse	DUAA Ch. 16
	6/6	Paper due at 11:00pm	
	6/7	Review	
Finals Week		6/12	Final Exam: 4pm to 6pm