

(First Class Begins Thurs. Aug. 29, 2013)

**Psych 63 – Alcohol & Drug Studies:
Prevention and Education**

Fall 2013, Room GC 420 (Sec. 4775)

Thurs. 6:45 pm – 10:00 pm

West Los Angeles College

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Office Hours: Thursdays 6:15-6:45 pm, Room GC 420

COURSE SYLLABUS

Alcohol/Drug Studies: Prevention and Education

Required text: **Trying to Stop the Runaway Train: Knowledge, Skills and Practice for Alcohol and Drug Prevention**, by Lori Phelps, Carlton Blanton and Lou Hughes, Sixth Edition, 2008

Course Description and Objectives: This course focuses on drug and alcohol abuse prevention in different communities including: family, schools and workplace. Science-based prevention practice provides the framework for our exploration into this rapidly emerging specialization. Creative Social Science Research Strategies for implementing programs and the various methods of obtaining government approvals are presented.

The **objective** of this course is to provide each student with a working knowledge of what the field of Drug and Alcohol Abuse and addictive disorders prevention is all about, and a framework for incorporating the different aspects into our lives and our goals. This course is required coursework for all Drug and Alcohol Counseling Certificates.

Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of Psych 63, the student will be expected to define primary, secondary & tertiary prevention and demonstrate knowledge of the related target populations and related drug prevention education programs.

Course Organization: The course is organized to acquaint the student with the basic tenets, principles, studies and experiences necessary for a full involvement in this introduction to the field of Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Addictive Disorders Prevention. The course consists of lectures, video and film presentations, discussions, individual and group learning experiences, occasional guest speakers, and creative research, both traditional and non-traditional.

Students with disabilities: In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, students requesting accommodation must register with the Office of Disabled Students Programs & Services, located in HRLC 119. Please contact the DSPS Center located in SSB 320 or call (310) 287-4420 for information and assistance. Students who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Disabled Students Programs and Services as soon as possible to better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Grading: As a student, your performance will be assessed on the basis of your completion of reading assignments, periodic exams, possible pop quizzes, completion of term project assignment, active participation in class discussions, groups and experiential assignments, plus attendance. **PLEASE NOTE: REPETITIVE TARDINESS and ABSENCES COULD**

RESULT IN YOUR BEING DROPPED FROM THE CLASS! TALKING IN CLASS WHEN IT IS NOT APPROPRIATE, AND VIOLATION OF THE RULES CONCERNING CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIN DEVICES COULD DEFINITELY AFFECT YOUR ABILITY TO DO WELL IN THE CLASS.

Grading Breakdown: Three scheduled exams will be given. Each exam will be worth 20% of your grade. Two Class Projects will be assigned, with specific guidelines for length, quality, sources, style, topic and due date and will each be worth 15% of your grade. Attendance will account for 10% of your grade. Also, a written autobiography assignment with a minimum of one page in length will be assigned during the first class meeting. Please remember that EVERY class meeting is important. In order to be marked "present" on the role sheet, students will need to be present for the entire class session, from the very beginning of the class period until the instructor dismisses the class. Your final grade in the class is determined by a mathematical calculation being applied to the above-stated formula. Occasionally, some students feel under pressure that they "have to get an "A", or "have to get a "B", for example. Your success in college is important, and your instructor will be available to talk with you about dealing with issues of self-pressure and the desire to excel in college, but these are YOUR issues, and they will have absolutely no effect on the stated grading formula.

Examinations will cover all material presented in your text, and class lectures. All tests will consist of multiple-choice, definitions, short-answer and essay questions. If you arrive late to class during an exam period, the exam still must be completed before the end of the period.

Extra Credit: There is no extra credit available in this course. Please arrange your time and energy to keep up with the reading and writing assignments.

16-Week Semester Calendar: WLA College is on a 16-week semester calendar. In working terms, this means that the start and finish times scheduled for each class are absolute, not just general guidelines. Also, there is one break scheduled during each of our class meetings this semester. If you need to leave the classroom BRIEFLY during class, please do so quietly without disturbing people.

Reading Assignments: The reading assignments are to be completed by the dates indicated on the Reading Assignments and Exam Schedule. Please read the entire chapter if page numbers are not indicated. Your first reading assignment is to read *Chapter 1*. Please read each assignment before its respective class date. Although all the material from each chapter may not be covered in class due to time constraints, **you will be held accountable** for all of the information from the assigned chapters or assigned sections of chapters in the scheduled examinations.

Pop Quizzes: No pop quizzes are currently scheduled. However, if it appears that the majority of students in the class are not keeping up with the reading (i.e., not able to participate in the discussions due to lack of preparedness), pop quizzes might be initiated, with the grades averaged in with your other grades.

Absences and Tardiness: You have to stay in classroom for the entire class period, from the beginning to the end, in order to be marked "present". The College rules state that a student MAY be dropped from the class if they miss 25% of the course (4 absences). People occasionally get sick and/or have things that come up during the semester, causing them to miss class or have an occasional tardiness. If you miss a class or are late to class, you are still basically responsible for finding out what went on during that class session. So, what this really means is that you should exchange phone numbers with several other students in the class, in order to find out what

happened that day and also to be able to look over their notes from that day. Habitual tardiness and/or habitual absences will definitely affect your performance in the class, and will probably affect your grades on exams, too, since you will have missed valuable learning experiences.

Make-Up Tests: There will be no make-up tests available, should the unfortunate situation arise whereby you might miss a test. West Los Angeles College has no facilities or personnel available to administer make-up tests. During the first class meeting you will be given a reading assignment, exam schedule and term project due date sheet. You will be made well aware of all important course dates. It is up to you to be responsible for attending to all of the important class dates, exam dates and project deadlines.

Withdrawal from the course: College regulations state that the instructor has the *option* of dropping any student from the course (before the drop deadline) for excessive absences. **Ultimately, it is the STUDENT'S responsibility to officially withdraw from the course (before the Drop Deadline) if the student wishes to exit the course without a grade being assigned. This is very important.**

Note-taking and Study Tips: You are responsible for keeping up with the reading assignments, taking notes during class on all lectures, discussions, films, videos, and special presentations. This doesn't mean that you have to write down everything that goes on every minute in class, but that you are basically responsible for assimilating the information we go over in class. PLEASE NOTE: YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KNOWING ABOUT THE LECTURE MATERIAL THAT HAS OCCURRED DURING EACH AND EVERY CLASS PERIOD, FROM THE VERY START OF EACH PERIOD THROUGH THE VERY END, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER YOU WERE PRESENT OR NOT. If you missed part or all of a class, look over some of the notes that other students have taken, either before or after class. Some of you will need to take more detailed notes than others. It is your responsibility to ask questions if you don't understand, and to ask the instructor to slow down and repeat information if you can't keep up with the pace.

Instructor Office and Conference Hours: Your Instructor is generally available for discussions, conferences and counseling before class, during the break and after each class meeting. Other times are also available upon special arrangement.

Academic Dishonesty Policy: College study is the process of learning to be an independent scholar. All students are expected to do their own work. All forms of cheating and plagiarism are absolutely forbidden. This is the official policy of this class. Students found cheating will have their exam(s) and/or assignment(s) marked 0 for failure and may receive a failing grade for this course. Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following:

- using unauthorized materials on exams
- copying other student exams
- submitting any assigned work that is not the student's own work
- copying other written materials without proper credit to the original author
- downloading from computer networks without citation

Incidents of cheating will be reported to both the Dean of Academic Affairs and the Vice-President of Student Services.

Cell Phones and Electronic Telecommunication Devices: You are responsible for turning these items off before each class begins. If you bring any of these items into the classroom, they must be switched to the TOTALLY SILENT MODE, NOT JUST TURNED DOWN OR VIBRATING. NO TEXTING OR READING OF TEXTING ALLOWED DURING THE CLASS, OR YOU MAY BE ASKED TO LEAVE FOR THE DURATION OF THE CLASS PERIOD. I understand that all of these devices have a way to take messages silently. If any of these items goes off during the class, which is highly disruptive, the student may be asked to leave the classroom for the rest of the period and may also be marked absent for that day, at the discretion of the instructor. If you answer a cell phone in class or run out of the room when your cell phone goes off, you definitely will be asked to leave the classroom for the rest of the period. If you anticipate that this will be a real problem for you, please talk with your instructor before this occurs. These behaviors are extremely disruptive (and rude) to the whole class and learning environment.

Food and Drink Rules for the Classroom: The College rules state that NO food or drinks are to be allowed in the classroom. The administration has stated that there are to be no exceptions to this rule.

Reading Assignment and Exam Schedule

Aug. 29 – Chap. 1, Introduction and Primary Prevention; Brief Autobiography assigned

Sept. 5 – Chap. 1 (Cont'd.); Chap. 2, Secondary and Tertiary Prevention: Harm Reduction, Treatment and Relapse Prevention; Project No. 1 Assigned;

Sept. 12 – Chap. 2 (Cont'd.); Brief Autobiography Due

Sept. 19 – Chap. 3, Community Prevention Partnerships and Collaboration

Sept. 26 – Chap. 3 (Cont'd.)

Oct. 3 – Exam No. 1; Bring SCANTRON Form 886-E, a No. 2 pencil, and a pen (Note: if you can't find Form 886-E, any other SCANTRON form with extra space for essay answers will suffice)

Oct. 10 - Chap. 4, Drug Prevention Education Programs

Oct. 17 – Chap. 4, Drug Prevention Education Programs (Cont'd.)

Oct. 24 – Chap. 5, Identifying the Target Audience

Oct. 31 – Chap. 6, Culturally Competent Programs

Nov. 7 – Chap. 6, (Cont'd.)

Nov. 14 – Exam No. 2; Bring SCANTRON Form 886-E, a No. 2 pencil, and a pen (Note: if you can't find Form 886-E, any other SCANTRON form with extra space for essay answers will suffice)

Nov. 21 – Chap. 7, Public Policy and Prevention: Prevention in the Workplace

Nov. 28 - THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY!! NO CLASS MEETING!

Dec. 5 – Chap. 8, Alcohol and Drug Prevention Services

Dec. 12 - Exam No. 3 (Final Exam), 6:45 – 8:45 pm; Bring SCANTRON Form 886E, a No. 2 pencil, and a pen