MASTER SYLLABUS

HMS 1021 EFFECT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students study the physiological and psychological effects of alcohol, sedatives, hypnotic, narcotics, stimulants and hallucinogenic drugs including marijuana, on the individual. In each drug classification the student will examine topics that include drug absorption, distribution, metabolism and half-life, tolerance and cross-tolerance, and drug elimination. Students are expected to apply this information to understanding the legal, social, and ethical effects of drug use in society as a whole.

II. COURSE PURPOSE

This course is designed for students to fully understand the pharmacological nature of mood-altering substances used and abused by the population in order to be prepared to professionally counsel and educate the individuals the student will meet. The knowledge acquired will be used almost daily and will prepare the student for the course on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction. This course is required for individuals seeking Chemical Dependency Counseling certification.

III. COURSE GOALS

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

A. Identify the pharmacological effects of alcohol and other drugs studied.
B. Understand alcohol and drug absorption, distribution, metabolism and elimination.
C. Understand development of tolerance and the principles behind drug half-life and tolerance.
D. Clarify the similarities and differences between alcohol and other drugs.
E. Know the various classifications of drugs.
F. Understand the physiological and psychological effects of alcohol and drugs.
G. Understand the role of the central nervous system in the effects of drugs on the body.
H. Be familiar with slang words or street names of drugs typically abused.
I. Understand social as well as legal implications of licit and illicit drug use.
J. Indicate dangers of alcohol and drug use during pregnancy.
K. Develop strategies for alcohol and drug education programs.
IV. SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES

A. Explain the basic pharmacological effects of alcohol and other drugs.
B. Explain ways drugs are administered to the body and then absorbed.
C. Discuss alcohol and distribution within the central nervous system.
D. Discuss the nature of drug metabolism, and drug elimination.
E. Discuss the similarities of alcohol and drugs as well as differences.
F. List and provide the general action of the various classifications of drugs studied.
G. Write definitions for the meaning of tolerance, cross tolerance and synergism.
H. Match slang words or street names for drugs with the proper name of the drug.
I. Relate how alcohol and drug use can create breakdowns in socialization and organization.
J. Reveal legal implications of illicit use.
K. Provide specific information regarding Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and the effects of other drugs during fetal development.
L. Outline an educational presentation on alcohol and other drugs.
M. Be aware of the myths and misconceptions of alcohol and drug action.

V. REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS


VI. COURSE TOPIC OUTLINE:

1. Orientation and General Discussion
2. Drug Use: An Overview
3. Drug Use as a Social Problem
4. Drug Regulations
5. Steroid use
6. The Nervous System
7. The Actions of Drugs
(Course topics continued)

8 Stimulants; Nicotine, Caffeine
9 Alcohol
10 Over-the-counter drugs
11 Psychotherapeutic drugs
12 Narcotics
13 Hallucinogens
14 Marijuana and Hashish
15 Issues and Conclusions

VII. ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend every class session. There will be no make-up or late assignments without prior permission of instructor or doctor's excuse.

VIII. EVALUATION PROCEDURES

Evaluation methods for this class should include information gathered in a number of different areas including subject area tests, written and oral communication skills, class participation and other methods that the instructor may feel are appropriate.