SOCA3630 DRUGS IN CULTURE

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Consultation hours: Thursday 10-11pm

Semester Semester 2 - 2006
Unit Weighting 10
Teaching Methods
Lecture
Tutorial

Brief Course Description
Using comparative material, this course will explore the social relationships and the cultural forms which drugs mediate. Ethnographic and historical material from Western and indigenous societies will be used to explore the particular social and cultural meanings of drug use. Attention will be given to the social history of drugs in the West and in Asia; the social and cultural rules governing drug use; drugs and social control; and the use of hallucinogens in relationship to shamanism, divination and healing in indigenous societies. The course will explore the cultural meanings attached to altered states of consciousness. The focus will not be so much on the scientific bio-medical aspects of drugs but on people's understandings of biology, embodiment and consciousness. Specific topics covered will vary from year to year. However, it is envisaged that possible topics will include: drugs and the exploration of alternative realities; drugs and identity; drugs and subcultures; the social distribution and control of drugs; the social and cultural effects of drugs; drugs and the financing of criminal activities and political conflicts; and the social use of alcohol in the West.

Contact Hours
Lecture for 1 Hour per Week for the Full Term
Tutorial for 1 Hour per Week for the Full Term
Lectures and tutorials attendance is compulsory

Learning Materials/Texts
Tutorial booklet of readings and other readings as advised in lectures

Course Objectives
Upon completion of this course students will be able to demonstrate:
1. An understanding of the different theoretical perspectives used to study cultural practices.
2. Knowledge of the way in which experiences are socially controlled and culturally formed.
3. An ability to critically analyse social practices and cultural representations.
4. Skills in writing academic essays, giving oral presentations, and policy research.

**Course Content**
1. Theories of the way in which experiences are symbolically and socially constituted.
2. Theories of the social control and use of drugs.
3. Classic ethnographic studies of how relationships are mediated by alternative realities.
4. Contemporary ethnographic studies of drugs use.
5. The political economy of drugs.

**Assessment Items**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essays / Written Assignments</th>
<th>Tutorial paper worth 20%, 1000 words.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>Essay 1 worth 40% due mid-semester, 1500 words.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>Essay 2 worth 40% due end of semester, 1500 words.</td>
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**Assumed Knowledge**
SOCA1020 or equivalent.

**Callaghan Campus Timetable**
**SOCA3630**
**DRUGS IN CULTURE**
Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science
Semester 2 - 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lecture and Tutorial</th>
<th>Thursday 11:00 - 12:00 [V02]</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>12:00 - 13:00 [W238]</td>
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<td>or</td>
<td>13:00 - 14:00 [W238]</td>
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<td>or</td>
<td>14:00 - 15:00 [GP3-22]</td>
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**Plagiarism**
University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. A student plagiarises if he or she presents the thoughts or works of another as one's own. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:
- copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;
- using another’s ideas without due acknowledgment;
- working with others without permission and presenting the resulting work as though it was completed independently.

Plagiarism is not only related to written works, but also to material such as data, images, music, formulae, websites and computer programs. Aiding another student to plagiarise is also a violation of the Plagiarism Policy and may invoke a penalty.

For further information on the University policy on plagiarism, please refer to the Policy on Student Academic Integrity at the following link -


The University has established a software plagiarism detection system called Turnitin. When you submit assessment items please be aware that for the purpose of assessing any assessment item the University may -
- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a plagiarism checking service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking).
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking.

**Written Assessment Items**
Students may be required to provide written assessment items in electronic form as well as hard copy.
Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations

Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date, as advised in the Course Outline, unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension of time for submission of the item. University policy is that an assessment item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension, will be penalised.

Any student:
1. who is applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or
2. whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate officer on the prescribed form.

Please go to the Policy and the on-line form for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you, at:

Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:

- **Requests for Special Consideration** must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the date of submission or examination.
- **Requests for Extensions of Time on Assessment Items** must be lodged no later than the due date of the item.
- **Requests for Rescheduling Exams** must be lodged no later than 5 working days before the date of the examination.

Your application may not be accepted if it is received after the deadline. Students who are unable to meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak to their Program Officer in the first instance.

Changing your Enrolment

The last dates to withdraw without financial or academic penalty (called the HECS Census Dates) are:

For semester 2 courses:  **31 August 2006**

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of semester and prior to the commencement of the formal exam period. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of semester will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of semester/trimester, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of semester/trimester must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with the Student Enquiry Centre.

To change your enrolment online, please refer to http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/changingenrolment.html

Contact Details

Faculty Student Service Offices

The Faculty of Education and Arts
Room: GP1-22 (General Purpose Building)
Phone: 02 4921 5314

The Dean of Students
Dr Jennifer Archer
Phone: 02 4921 5806
Fax: 02 4921 7151
resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au

Various services are offered by the University Student Support Unit:

Web Address for Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards
**STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS**
The University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness.

If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies, please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator.

Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register please contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, or via email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au

As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester.

For more information related to confidentiality and documentation please visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website at: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability

**Essential Criteria in**
This course contains compulsory components or assessment items that must be satisfactorily completed in order for a student to receive a pass mark or better for the course. These essential elements are described in the CTS.
1. 2 essays and a tutorial paper
2. attendance at lectures and tutorials is compulsory; an attendance record is kept of tutorial attendance

**Online Tutorial Registration:**
Students are required to enrol in the Lecture and a specific Tutorial time for this course via the Online Registration system:
Registrations close at the end of week 2 of semester.

**Studentmail and Blackboard:** www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/
This course uses Blackboard and studentmail to contact students, so you are advised to keep your email accounts within the quota to ensure you receive essential messages. To receive an expedited response to queries, post questions on the Blackboard discussion forum if there is one, or if emailing staff directly use the course code in the subject line of your email. Students are advised to check their studentmail and the course Blackboard site on a weekly basis.

**Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details**
Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date. Late assignments will be subject to the penalties described below.

**Hard copy submission:**
- **Type your assignments:** All work must be typewritten in 11 or 12 point black font. Leave a wide margin for marker's comments, use 1.5 or double spacing, and include page numbers.
- **Word length:** The word limit of all assessment items should be followed –, penalties will apply if there is excessive repetition and unstructured arguments.
- **Proof read your work** because spelling, grammatical and referencing mistakes will be penalised.
- **Staple the pages** of your assignment together (do not use pins or paper clips).
- **University coversheet:** All assignments must be submitted with the University coversheet: [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/school/hss/studentguide/index.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/school/hss/studentguide/index.html)
Assignments are to be deposited at any Student Focus. Focus are located at:

- Level 3, Shortland Union, Callaghan
- Level 2, Student Services Centre, Callaghan
- Ground Floor, University House, City
- Ground Floor, Administration Building, Ourimbah

Any changes to this procedure will be announced during the semester.

Do not fax or email assignments: Only hard copies of assignments will be considered for assessment. Inability to physically submit a hard copy of an assignment by the deadline due to other commitments or distance from campus is an unacceptable excuse. Assignments mailed to Schools are accepted from the date posted.

Keep a copy of all assignments: All students must date stamp their own assignments using the machine provided. Mailed assignments to schools are date-stamped upon receipt. However, it is the student’s responsibility to produce a copy of their work if the assignment goes astray after submission. Students are advised to keep updated back-ups in hard copy and on disk.

Online copy submission to Turnitin

In addition to hard copy submission, students are required to submit an electronic version of the following assignments to Turnitin via the course Blackboard website:

- First Essay
- Second Essay

Prior to final submission, all students have the opportunity to submit one draft of their assignment to Turnitin to self-check their referencing.

Assignments will not be marked until both hard copy and online versions have been submitted. Marks may be deducted for late submission of either version.

Penalties for Late Assignments

Assignments submitted after the due date, without an approved extension of time will be penalised by the reduction of 5% of the possible maximum mark for the assessment item for each day or part day that the item is late. Weekends count as one day in determining the penalty.

Special Consideration/Extension of Time Applications

Students wishing to apply for Special Consideration or Extension of Time should obtain the appropriate form from the Student Focus.

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/forms/index.html

No Assignment Re-submission

Students who have failed an assignment are permitted to revise and resubmit it in this course. Students should contact their Tutor, Lecturer or Course Coordinator to make a consultation time to receive individual feedback on their assignments.

Remarks

Students can request to have their work re-marked by the Course Coordinator or Discipline Convenor (or their delegate); three outcomes are possible: the same grade, a lower grade, or a higher grade being awarded. Students may also appeal against their final result for a course. Please consult the University policy at:


Return of Assignments

Students can collect assignments from a nominated Student Focus during office hours. Students will be informed during class which Focus to go to and the earliest date assignments will be available for collection. Students must present their student identification card to collect their assignment.
Preferred Referencing Style
In this course, it is recommended that you use the Harvard in-text referencing system (similar to the APA system) for referencing sources of information used in assignments. Inadequate or incorrect reference to the work of others may be viewed as plagiarism and result in reduced marks or failure.

An in-text citation names the author of the source, gives the date of publication, and for a direct quote includes a page number, in parentheses. At the end of the paper, a list of references provides publication information about the source; the list is alphabetised by authors' last names (or by titles for works without authors). Further information on referencing and general study skills can be obtained from:

Student Representatives
We are very interested in your feedback and suggestions for improvement. Student Representatives are the channel of communication between students and the School Board. Contact details of Student Representatives can be found on the School website.

Student Communication
Students should discuss any course related matters with their Tutor, Lecturer, or Course Coordinator in the first instance and then the relevant Discipline or Program Convenor. If this proves unsatisfactory, they should then contact the Head of School if required. Contact details can be found on the School website.

Essential Online Information for Students
Information on Class and Exam Timetables, Tutorial Online Registration, Learning Support, Campus Maps, Careers information, Counselling, the Health Service and a range of free Student Support Services can be found at:
SOCA3630 DRUGS IN CULTURE

Lecture and Tutorial Topics and Readings

Week 1 (17 July) Lecture: Heroin (Dr Andrew Lattas)

Lecture References:

Tutorial Readings
This will be mainly an organisational tutorial

Week 2 (24 July) Lecture Ecstasy: Drugs in a Modern World (Dr Andrew Lattas)

Lecture References:

Tutorial Readings

Week 3 (31 July) Lecture Drugs and Shamanism in Colombia (Dr Andrew Lattas)

Lecture References:

**Tutorial Readings**


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**Week 4 (7 August) Lecture Cannabis and Cultural Change (Dr Andrew Lattas)**

**Lecture References:**


**Tutorial Readings**


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**Week 5 (14th August) Lecture Crack and Women**

**Lecture References:**


**Tutorial Readings**


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**Week 6 (21th August) Lecture Prozac and the Medicalisation of Depression**

**Lecture References:**


Rosso, Amanda. "Behind every crooked thought there lies a crooked molecule": A sociocultural analysis of Prozac. BA (Honours), Macquarie University, 1997.
Tutorial Readings


Week 7 (28th August) Lecture: Ecstatic Religious States (Dr Barry Morris)

Lecture  Video: Dealing with Drugs (Dr David Suzuki)

Tutorial Readings


Week 8 (4th September) Lecture: Peyote: the return to paradise (Dr Barry Morris)

Lecture References:


Calabrese, J. 1994 Reflexivity and the Transformational Symbolism in the Native Peyote Meeting, Ethos, 22, 4, pp.494-527


http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peyote

Tutorial Readings

tba

Week 9 (11th September) Lecture: Rasta, Ganja and Babylon (Dr Barry Morris)

Lecture References:
Homiak, J. 1992 The Mystic revalation of Rasta Far-eye, in Dreaming, ed. Tedlock, Barbara, Santa Fe: School of American Research Press

Forsythe, D. 1999 Ch.6 On the Ganja Trail, in Rastafari: healing of the nations, New York: One Drop Books

Edmonds, E. B. ch. 4 The Ethos of Rastafari: structure, ideology and ritual, in Rastafari: from outcastes to culture bearers, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Tutorial Readings


Week 10, Lecture (18th September) **The Political Economy of Cocaine: South America**

Lecture References:


Tutorial Readings


Edmonds, E. B. ch.4 The Ethos of Rastafari: structure, ideology and ritual, in *Rastafari: from outcastes to culture bearers*, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Week 11 (25th September) **The Political Economy of Cocaine: New York’s Cocaine Kids**

Lecture References


Miller, Jerome G 1996 *Search and Destroy: African-American males in the criminal justice system*, New York: Cambridge University Press,

Tutorial Readings


Mid-Semester Recess: Monday 2 October – Friday 14 October

**Week 12** (16th October) **Lecture: Risk Society: delegitimating legal drugs**

**Lecture References**
Collison, Mike 1996 In search of the high life, *British Journal of Criminology*, v.36, no.3, pp428-444

**Tutorial Readings**

**Week 13** (23rd October) **Lecture: Skid Row and the social uses of alcohol**

**Lecture References**
Spradley, James P. 1970 *You owe yourself a drunk: an ethnography of urban nomads*, Boston: Little, Brown,

**Tutorial Readings**

**Week Fourteen, Lecture** (30th October) **Revision and Review**

**Tutorial**
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<tr>
<th>Grading guide</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>49% or less</td>
<td>Fail (FF)</td>
<td>An unacceptable effort, including non-completion. The student has not understood the basic principles of the subject matter and/or has been unable to express their understanding in a comprehensible way. Deficient in terms of answering the question, research, referencing and correct presentation (spelling, grammar etc). May include extensive plagiarism.</td>
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<tr>
<td>50% to 64%</td>
<td>Pass (P)</td>
<td>The work demonstrates a reasonable attempt to answer the question, shows some grasp of the basic principles of the subject matter and a basic knowledge of the required readings, is comprehensible, accurate and adequately referenced.</td>
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<tr>
<td>65% to 74%</td>
<td>Credit (C)</td>
<td>The work demonstrates a clear understanding of the question, a capacity to integrate research into the discussion, and a critical appreciation of a range of different theoretical perspectives. A deficiency in any of the above may be compensated by evidence of independent thought. The work is coherent and accurate.</td>
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<tr>
<td>75% to 84%</td>
<td>Distinction (D)</td>
<td>Evidence of substantial additional reading and/or research, and evidence of the ability to generalise from the theoretical content to develop an argument in an informed and original manner. The work is well organised, clearly expressed and shows a capacity for critical analysis.</td>
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<td>85% upwards</td>
<td>High Distinction (HD)</td>
<td>All of the above, plus a thorough understanding of the subject matter based on substantial additional reading and/or research. The work shows a high level of independent thought, presents informed and insightful discussion of the topic, particularly the theoretical issues involved, and demonstrates a well-developed capacity for critical analysis.</td>
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