# CJUS 3630: Drugs, Crime, and Society Course Syllabus

Instructor: Jordan Russell, M.S.

Term: Fall 2023

**Class meeting:** This is an online class. Course expectations and classroom policies are outlined in the syllabus below. While students are expected to participate in online discussions and online quizzes, there are no

formal on campus meetings for this course which would require a student to come to campus.

#### Instructor's Contact Information

Email Jordan.Russell@unt.edu

Office Location Chilton 273F
Office Hours By appointment

# Teaching Assistant's Contact Information

**Teaching Assistant** Mikey Walter

Email MikeyWalter@my.unt.edu

Scheduling meetings during office hours: If you need to schedule a face to face meeting, I am available by appointment. The primary method to contact me is through email (which is also the method used to schedule meetings).

\*\*Note: Emails sent after 5p or on the weekends (holidays) will be answered the following business day.

Email expectations: When sending an email, please put the COURSE NUMBER (CJUS 3630) in the subject line of the email. Only emails sent from your UNT email account (username@my.unt.edu) will receive a response. Please allow 48 hours of turnaround time (weekdays) for your email inquiries when contacting either the instructor or the TA. Also, to ensure that you receive timely course related correspondence, make sure your official email address at UNT is forwarded to your preferred email address.

# **Course Description**

Examines the relationship between drugs, crime and human behavior. Explores the relationship between drug abuse and crime and the policy proposals developed to control drug trafficking, drug abuse, and drug-related crime, as well as the multi-faceted aspects and effects of chemical abuse and dependency.

## **Course Structure**

This course will take place completely online through Canvas. The course is composed of several modules. Modules will last 2-3 weeks and the length of each is noted on the course calendar. Each module contains the relevant chapter outlines as well as other supplementary material as needed. Note not all modules will contain supplementary materials or require extra reading beyond the textbook.

Students will also participate in five (5) discussions and five (5) module quizzes through Canvas during the course.

# Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions

There are no prerequisites for this course.

# **Course Objectives**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- 1. Describe the extent of drug use in the United States.
- 2. Discuss the relationship between drugs, crime, and the criminal justice system.
- 3. Identify the different classes of drugs and their effects.
- 4. Differentiate between criminological theories explaining drug use.
- 5. Explain the drugs-crime connection.
- 6. Describe the historical context surrounding the War on Drugs.
- 7. Identify the policies used to police, prosecute, and sentence drug offenses.
- 8. Report the consequences of the War on Drugs.
- 9. Summarize emerging policies surrounding drug use in the 21st century.

#### Materials

- Belenko, Steven, & Spohn, Cassia. (2014). Drugs, Crime, and Justice. SAGE Publications.
  - o ISBN-13: 9781483324364
  - Available at the UNT Bookstore

# Course Technology & Skills

# Minimum Technology Requirements

- Computer
- Reliable internet access
- Speakers
- Microphone
- Plug-ins
- Microsoft Office Suite
- <u>Canvas Technical Requirements</u> (https://clear.unt.edu/supportedtechnologies/canvas/requirements)

## Computer Skills & Digital Literacy

- Using Canvas
- Using email with attachments
- Creating and submitting files in commonly used word processing program formats (.doc, .pdf)
- Downloading and installing software

#### **Technical Assistance**

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UIT Help Desk: UIT Student Help Desk site (http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

Email: <a href="mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu">helpdesk@unt.edu</a>
Phone: 940-565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130 Walk-In Availability: 8am-9pm

**Telephone Availability:** 

Sunday: noon-midnight

• Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight

Friday: 8am-8pmSaturday: 9am-5pmLaptop Checkout: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit <u>Canvas Technical Help</u> (https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

# **Course Requirements**

This course is made up of a series of assignments and assessments to assist you in achieving the course learning objectives. Each week you will work on various combinations of readings, discussions, and quizzes. Modules will become available students each week corresponding to the course calendar. Students can expect their grades and feedback to be released to them within 5 business days. There is a total of **450** points that can be earned in this class. The grading policy along with other class requirements is presented below.

Assignment	Points Possible
Module Quizzes (5)	200 points
Discussion Posts (5)	250 points
Total Points Possible	450 points

#### Module Quizzes (200 points total)

Each student will be required to take five (5) module quizzes in this course for a total of 200 points (each worth 40 points). Each quiz will consist of 20 multiple choice and true/false questions. Each quiz will cover all module note material, videos, assigned material in the classroom text, and other assigned reading material. Once you start the quiz you will have only 30 minutes to take it. *Quiz due dates are listed in the course calendar below.* 

#### Discussion Posts (250 points total)

Each student will be required to respond to 5 Canvas discussion assignments throughout the course of the semester. Each Canvas discussion is worth 50 points, for a total of 250 points towards your final grade. For each discussion, students will be required to both respond to the discussion question as well as make two substantive posts to classmates' posts to receive full credit. Discussion question responses should be at least 250 words of original content (references etc. do not count towards the word count requirement). Responses to a classmate's posts must reflect critical thought and reflect substantive contribution to the class discussion (a minimum of 100 words per response). Consider: what makes sense about your classmate's post? What flaws can you see in the post? A simple statement of agreement or disagreement with the initial posting is insufficient. Furnish a thoughtful response and support it. These posts account for a substantive portion of the overall course grade and will not be treated as completion grades. Students should take their time in responding and crafting a carefully thought-out response. Students will be graded on grammar, so proofread submissions prior to posting.

Responses should be typed in a word document before cutting and pasting them into the text submission box to ensure you have a backup copy in the event of a technical issue. Students are strongly encouraged to complete their work as early as possible during the discussion week to avoid these types of issues.

The best discussion/participation posts will incorporate scholarly references with appropriate in text citations as well as a complete reference page in APA format for all information obtained from academic references. A detailed rubric for the discussions is provided below.

Students are only permitted one attempt on discussion assignments. Students are required to submit their discussion response prior to viewing the responses or replies of other students. This standard method is to ensure all students are practicing academic honesty, and not drawing their discussion response information from the work of other students. For this reason, we only grade the first discussion response submitted by students, and students cannot delete a submission from our view. If the first discussion response is blank or incomplete, it will still be graded as the attempt. If you have any issues with your discussion submission, please email the TA or me ASAP.

\*All discussion and participation posts must be completed by the due date and time. No late discussion posts or participation posts will be accepted for any reason. If you have technical difficulties in submitting your post, you must email the instructor a copy of your post prior to the discussion due date for your circumstances to be evaluated. The instructor retains discretion to accept or evaluate any submission not turned in through the Discussion forum in Canvas by the due date and time. Discussion posts/participation posts will be graded and returned within one week of the assignment due date. Discussion posts submitted as an attachment will not be graded and will be assigned a score of a 0.

Discussion questions are designed to assess your comprehension and understanding of course materials, not a description of your personal opinion regarding drugs, crime and society. As such, discussions will be evaluated using the following criteria:

Content	Participation	Length	Editing	
			(spelling and grammar)	
Excellent 22-25 points	Excellent 13-15 points	Excellent 5 points	Excellent 5 points	
All of the required	Student submitted 2+	Discussion response	If there were any spelling	
components of the	substantive participation	exceeded required length, 2	or grammar errors they	
response were	posts with full and	participation responses	were insignificant	
adequately addressed	supported explanations.	were posted that also		
with full explanations		exceeded required length		
Good 18-21 points	Good 11-12 points	Good 4 points	Good 4 points	
A minor required	Student submitted 1-2	Discussion response met	There were a few spelling	
component was	substantive participation	required length, 2	or grammar errors that	
missing, or there was	posts with supported	participation responses	were noticeable but did not	
not good explanation	explanations.	were posted - one response	detract from the paper	
for at least one of the		met the 100 word count		
required major		requirement, one did not		
components				
Fair 15-17 points	Fair 9-10 points	Fair 3 points	Fair 3 points	
Important required	Student submitted 1-2	Discussion response was at	There were a few spelling	
components of the	substantive participation	or right below required	or grammar errors that	
response were missing	posts. Additional	length, 2 responses were	were noticeable and	
or there were a few	explanation or support	posted, but neither met the	detracted somewhat from	
components not fully	was needed.	100 word count	the paper	

explained.		requirement or 1 response was posted that met the 100 word count requirement		
Poor 12-14 points	Poor 7-8 points	Poor 1-2 points	Poor 1-2	
Not all of the required	Students submitted 0-1	Discussion response was at	points	
components of the	substantive participation	or below required length, 2	There were a number of	
response were	responses.	responses were posted 1	spelling and grammar	
addressed, nor were		substantive response was	mistakes that detracted	
they fully explained		posted that did not meet	from the paper	
		the 100 word count		
		requirement		
Failing 0-11 points	Failing 0-6 points	Failing 0 points	Failing 0	
The content of the	There were no	Discussion response was at	points	
response was	esponse was substantive participation or below the required		There were a great number	
inadequate with limited	posts submitted.	length and there were no	of spelling and grammar	
coverage of required		substantive participation	mistakes that detracted	
elements and very little		posts	greatly from the reading of	
if any explanation of			the paper, such that it was	
required components			difficult to read	

<sup>\*</sup>Last minute technical issues will not warrant a reset after the assignment (quizzes or discussions) due date. For example, if a student chooses to wait until the weekend, or evening, the quiz is due and there is a technical issue (such as my internet stopped working, Canvas kicked me out, etc.), the submission will retain the score at the time the assignment is due - which may be a 0. There will be no quiz resets following the due date.

# Grading

Discussion responses (5 @ 50 points each)	250 possible points
Quizzes (5 @ 40 points each)	200 possible points
	450 possible points

Note: The course is based on a point scale, not percentages. Grades will be determined based on the total number of points earned (as outlined in the table below) and will not be rounded or adjusted in any way.

Α	В	С	D	F
405-450	360-404	315-359	270-314	269 and
points	points	points	points	below

<sup>\*</sup>Grade related questions or concerns must be addressed within 1 week of the grade being posted to Canvas. Do not contact the instructor at the end of the semester with a concern over the first discussion – instead, contact the instructor immediately upon grades being posted to discuss these concerns.

#### **Course Evaluation**

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction (SPOT) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to

<sup>\*</sup>If an extra credit opportunity presents itself it will be posted as an announcement and assignment and available to the entire class. There are no individual opportunities for extra credit in the course. Focus your efforts on submitting all assignments on time to earn the most points possible.

you at the end of the semester to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Student feedback is very important to UNT, please complete your SPOT (Student Perceptions of Teaching) survey during the open evaluation time.

## **Course Policies**

#### **Examination Policy**

While course materials may be referenced during the quizzes, students should treat these quizzes as they would an in-class exam and prepare accordingly. Correct responses to quiz questions will be available after the quiz availability period has ended. As such, questions regarding your quiz score should only be sent to the instructor after the correct responses have posted and you have had a chance to review them. In the event that you lose Internet connection during a quiz, please contact the Student Helpdesk and document the remedy ticket number before contacting me.

#### Late Work

There are no make-up tests/assignments in this class with the exception of authorized absences according to University policies prescribing authorized absences in certain situations. I reserve the right to consider extreme circumstances and modify this rule. Those in athletics, those who are absent for religious holidays, and/or those involved in other school supported activities that require being absent from class will be allowed make up if proper procedures are followed in requesting an excused absence. I must have written documentation in advance that you will be away from class for the absence to be excused (e.g., traveling for a basketball game, observing a religious holiday).

# **Class Participation**

Students are required to login regularly to the online class site. The instructor will use the tracking feature in Canvas to monitor student activity. Students are also required to participate in all class activities such as the discussion board.

# Syllabus Change Policy

I reserve the right and have the discretion to change this syllabus. While every effort will be made to follow this syllabus as closely as possible, it is sometimes the case that it must be modified. In the case that it needs to be adjusted, I will announce such adjustments to the class. I will make every effort to ensure that any changes to the syllabus benefit the class. It is the student's responsibility to check announcements/email so that all changes are documented. Failure to obtain syllabus changes because of failure to check and read announcements/email does not constitute a defense against a missed Reading, test date, or other applicable changes.

## Artificial Intelligence Adopted Policy

I expect you to generate your own work in this class. When you submit any kind of work (including projects, exams, quizzes, or discussions), you are asserting that you have generated and written the text unless you indicate otherwise by the use of quotation marks and proper attribution for the source. Submitting content that has been generated by someone other than you or was created or assisted by a computer application or tool, including artificial intelligence (AI) tools such as ChatGPT is cheating and constitutes an academic integrity violation. You may use simple word processing tools to update spelling and grammar in your assignments, but you may not use AI tools to draft your work, even if you edit, revise, or paraphrase it. There may be opportunities for you to use AI tools in this class. Where they exist, I will clearly specify when and in what capacity it is permissible for you to use these tools.

Things you CAN use AI for: Use it to chat about a topic you're interested in. However, it's probably no more

than 65% accurate. You will need to use academic sources to verify what AI told you. It can be a useful tool for identifying starting points on a topic but should not be utilized as an alternative to scholarly research. It cannot provide reliable resources or data.

Things you CANNOT use AI for: Do not use AI to draft any written scholarly work. Do not use citations provided by AI. Not only is it unreliable, but you risk an academic integrity violation. You are here to analyze and develop your critical thinking skills. If you need to use it as a starting point, that's fine. However, when it's time to draft a written assignment, close AI generated content before you begin and utilize the reliable scholarly sources you have found.

The UNT library system is a valuable resource!

#### **UNT Policies**

# **Academic Integrity Policy**

Standards of academic integrity are expected with regard to any course related work or submission. Students should consult the UNT website for questions, guidelines, appeals, and other information related to these policies:

http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student Affairs-Academic Integrity.pdf

Academic violation of UNT policy consists of the following:

- A. Cheating. The use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:
  - 1. use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes or other assessments;
  - 2. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments;
  - 3. acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes or other academic materials belonging to a faculty or staff member of the University;
  - 4. dual submission of a paper or project, or re-submission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;
  - 5. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.
- B. Plagiarism. Use of another's thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student's intent, including but not limited to:
  - 1. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement or citation.
  - 2. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.
- C. Forgery. Altering a score, grade or official academic university record or forging the signature of an instructor or other student.
- D. Fabrication. Falsifying or inventing any information, data or research as part of an academic exercise.
- E. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty. Helping or assisting another in the commission of academic dishonesty.
- F. Sabotage. Acting to prevent others from completing their work or willfully disrupting the academic work of others.

Any violation of academic integrity will be handled on a case-by-case basis. At a minimum, the student will receive a zero on the assignment in question, but more serious academic violations may be subject to the assignment of a failing grade for the course. Please do not hesitate to the contact the instructor with questions related to citations or other academic integrity concerns.

#### **ADA Policy**

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website (https://disability.unt.edu/).

# Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses Federal Regulation

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website at http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov. The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at "Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G)" and can be found buried within this document: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/get-cfr.cgi?TITLE=8&PART=214&SECTION=2&TYPE=TEXT

#### The paragraph reads:

(G) For F–1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F–1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

## University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

- (1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
- (2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available

that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

# Copyright Notice

Some or all of the materials on this course Web site may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies.

Additional copyright information may be located at: http://copyright.unt.edu/content/unt-copyright-policies.

# **Academic Support & Student Services**

# **Student Support Services**

#### Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- <u>Student Health and Wellness Center</u> (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
- <u>Counseling and Testing Services</u> (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- UNT Care Team (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
- <u>UNT Psychiatric Services</u> (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
- <u>Individual Counseling</u> (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling)

#### **Chosen Names**

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- UNT Records
- UNT ID Card
- UNT Email Address
- Legal Name

\*UNT euIDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.

#### **Pronouns**

Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don't assume someone's name, we should also ask and not assume someone's pronouns.

You can <u>add your pronouns to your Canvas account</u> so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.

Below is a list of additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage:

- O What are pronouns and why are they important?
- O How do I use pronouns?
- O How do I share my pronouns?
- o How do I ask for another person's pronouns?
- How do I correct myself or others when the wrong pronoun is used?

#### Additional Student Support Services

- Registrar (https://registrar.unt.edu/registration)
- Financial Aid (https://financialaid.unt.edu/)
- <u>Student Legal Services</u> (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)
- <u>Career Center</u> (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center)
- Multicultural Center (https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center)
- Counseling and Testing Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- Pride Alliance (https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance)
- <u>UNT Food Pantry</u> (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry)

## **Academic Support Services**

- Academic Resource Center (https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources)
- Academic Success Center (https://success.unt.edu/asc)
- UNT Libraries (https://library.unt.edu/)
- Writing Lab (http://writingcenter.unt.edu/)

# **Course Calendar**

Students are responsible for keeping up with the schedule, any schedule changes as well as the assigned readings as we progress through the course. This is a tentative schedule, and the instructor reserves the right to modify any part of the schedule at any time throughout the semester. Late submissions are not accepted.

DATES: WEEK	MODULES, READING ASSIGNMENTS, AND DUE DATES
Week 1 8/21-8/27	Module 1: Drugs, Crime, and the Justice System Reading: Chapter 1 Assignments: Introduction Post: Must complete before you can proceed to Module 1
Week 2 8/28-9/3	Module 1: Psychoactive Drugs and Drug Use/Abuse Reading: Chapter 2 Assignments: Discussion 1 due by Sunday 9/3 at 11:59 PM
Week 3 9/4-9/10	Assignments: Module 1 Quiz (Chapters 1-2) will open on Monday, 9/4 and is due by Sunday, 9/10 at 11:59 PM
Week 4 9/11-9/17	Module 2: Theories of Drug Use and Abuse Reading: Chapter 3 Assignments: Discussion 2 due by Sunday, 9/17 at 11:59 PM
Week 5 9/18-9/24	Module 2: Drug Abuse and Crime Reading: Chapter 4
Week 6 9/25-10/1	Assignments: Module 2 Quiz (Chapters 3-4) will open on Monday, 9/25 and is due by Sunday, 10/1 at 11:59 PM
Week 7 10/2-10/8	Module 3: The War on Drugs: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives Reading: Chapter 5
Week 8 10/9-10/15	Module 3: The War on Drugs: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives Assignments: Discussion 3 due by Sunday, 10/15 at 11:59 PM
Week 9 10/16-10/22	Module 3: Policing Drugs: The Costs and Benefits of Law Enforcement Strategies Reading: Chapter 6 Assignments: Module 3 Quiz (Chapters 5-6) will open on Monday, 10/16 and is due by Sunday, 10/22 at 11:59 PM
Week 10 10/23-10/29	Module 4: Prosecuting Drug Offenders in State and Federal Courts Reading: Chapter 7 Assignments: Discussion 4 due by Sunday, 10/29 at 11:59 PM

Week 11 10/30-11/5	Module 4: Sentencing Drug Offenders Reading: Chapter 8 Assignments: Module 4 Quiz (Chapters 7-8) will open on Monday, 10/30 and is due by Sunday, 11/5 at 11:59 PM
Week 12 11/6-11/12	Module 5: The Impact of the War on Drugs Reading: Chapter 9
Week 13 11/13-11/19	Module 5: Drugs, Crime, and Justice in the 21st Century Reading: Chapter 10
Week 14 11/20-11/26	Thanksgiving Break (no classes): November 20-26, 2023
Week 15 11/27-12/3	Module Drugs, Crime, and Justice in the 21st Century Reading: Chapter 10 Assignment: Discussion 5 due by Sunday, 12/3 at 11:59 PM.
Week 16 12/4-12/10	Assignment: Module 5 Quiz (Chapters 9-10) will open on Monday, 12/4 and close on Sunday, 12/10 at 11:59 PM.