

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: HLT 121

Credits: 3

Course Title: Introduction to Drug Use and Abuse

Course Description: Explores the use and abuse of drugs in contemporary society with emphasis upon sociological, physiological, and psychological effects of drugs. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: This course will explore the science of drug use in those who are responsible and those who are irresponsible owing to abuse and misuse.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

None

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Demonstrate an understanding of the motivations for drug use, socio-behavioral factors involved, and the various treatment programs offered;
- b. Describe the functions of the various parts of the central nervous system and the effect of drugs on the functioning of each;
- c. Classify the drugs designated under the course content as to their physiological effect and psychological effect; and
- d. Designate the various drugs according to the legal schedules (both Federal and State), describe the potential for abuse, and illustrate possible penalties for possession and for distribution.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. Psychological, Sociological, and Physiological Reasons for the Use of Drugs
- b. Drug Action on the Central Nervous System
- c. Alcohol
- d. Cigarette Smoking
- e. Amphetamines
- f. Tranquilizers and Anti-Depressants
- g. Barbiturates
- h. Opiates
- i. Hallucinogens
- j. Marijuana
- k. Over-the-Counter Drugs
- l. Regulation of Drug Use

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