

בית הספר לבריאות הציבור • School of Public Health • مدرسة صحة الجمهور

DRUGS & SOCIETY
University of Haifa
School of Public Health
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Semester B
286.4371
Time: Thursdays, 08.00-10.00

Course description:

An important social problem facing our society today is that of drug use/abuse. This problem cuts across all cultures, as well as across social class, gender, and ethnic groups. It affects the economy of the country as a whole and the well-being of individuals, families and the communities in which they live. In order to understand this problem better, this course attempts to place "drugs" in a sociological perspective and through using the sociological imagination. This means that we will discuss the multidimensionality of substance use which includes the pharmacological dimension, psychological dimension, and the social dimension of drugs. We will study both legal (tobacco and alcohol) drugs and illegal drugs (Amphetamines, cocaine, marijuana, etc). We will examine different models to understand addiction. We will also critically examine drug policies and their intended and unintended effects.

The objectives of this course are for the students to:

1. Develop an understanding of how society deals with drug use and why
2. Develop an understanding of how the effects of drugs depend not only on the chemical consistencies of the substance, but also psychological and social factors.
3. Gain insight into the reasons why people use and abuse drugs.
4. Be able to apply theories in the field of sociology and public policy in order to explain and predict future directions in drug policy
5. Provide students with the tools to be creative and critical in analysis of readings on substance use

Structure of the course:

The course is structured around lectures, student presentations and group discussions. There are also required readings for each lecture.

Course evaluation:

1. Drug, harm and policy assignment – 1 page writing assignment to be handed in (60% of your grade)
2. Group presentation of addiction as a brain disease (20% of your grade)
3. Group presentation of cannabis policy (20% of your grade)

Course Schedule

No	Topic	Reading	In-class: Guest lecturer/student presentation/film
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions 2 Drugs and drug policy, what does evidence have to do with it? 	<p>Nutt D, King LA, Saulsbury W, Blakemore C. (2007) Development of a rational scale to assess the harm of drugs of potential misuse. <i>Lancet</i>. Mar 24;369(9566):1047-53. Review. PubMed PMID: 17382831.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group exercises: Categorization of drugs part 1 and part 2 • Video: David Nutt
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why people take drugs • Addiction: terms and definitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John M. Grohol, (2016), DSM-5 Changes: Addiction, Substance-Related Disorders & Alcoholism, https://pro.psychcentral.com/dsm-5-changes-addiction-substance-related-disorders-alcoholism/004370.html 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Netflix: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. your brain on psychedelics 2. Take our pill
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Models of addiction: addiction as a brain disease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domínguez-Clavé, E., Soler, J., Elices, M., Pascual, J.C., Álvarez, E., de la Fuente Revenga, M., Friedlander, P., Feilding, A., Riba, J., 2016. Ayahuasca: Pharmacology, neuroscience and therapeutic potential. <i>Brain Research Bulletin</i> 126, 89-101. • Bechara, A., Berridge, K.C., Bickel, W.K., Morón, J.A., Williams, S.B., Stein, J.S., 2019. A Neurobehavioral Approach to 	



הפקולטה למדעי הרווחה והבריאות
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		<p>Addiction: Implications for the Opioid Epidemic and the Psychology of Addiction.</p> <p>Psychological Science in the Public Interest 20, 96-127.</p>	
	<p>مدرسة صحة الجمهور</p>	<p>• Keith Humphreys, Robert C. Malenka, Brian Knutson, Robert J. MacCoun (2017) Brains, environments, and policy responses to addiction, <i>Science</i> 23 Jun: 1237-1238</p>	<p>בית הספר לבריאות הציבור • health</p>

No	Topic	Reading	In-class: Guest lecturer/student presentation/film
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Models of addiction: addiction as a brain disease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grifell, M., Hart, CL., 2018, Is Drug Addiction a Brain Disease? <i>American Scientist</i>, (May-June) Vol: 106(3); 106, https://www.americanscientist.org/article/is-drug-addiction-a-brain-disease Heilig, M., MacKillop, J., Martinez, D. <i>et al.</i> Addiction as a brain disease revised: why it still matters, and the need for consilience. <i>Neuropsychopharmacol.</i> (2021). https://doi.org/10.1038/s41386-020-00950-y Robins L.N., Helzer, M., Hesselbrock and E. Wish, (1980) Vietnam veterans three years after Vietnam: how our study changed our view of heroin, in the <i>Yearbook of Substance Use and Abuse</i>, edited by L. Brill and C. Winick, New York: Human Science Press, pp. 213-230 Solinas M, Chauvet C, Thiriet N, El Rawas R, Jaber M. Reversal of cocaine addiction by environmental enrichment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student presentation: models of addiction Ted Talk: how I became an alcoholic

		<p>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 2008;105:17145-17150.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Branch MN. Drug addiction. Is it a disease or is it based on choice? A review of Gene Heyman's <i>Addiction: A disorder of choice</i>. <i>Journal of Experimental Analysis of Behavior</i> 2011;95:263-267. 	<p>בית הספר לבריאות הציבורית School of Public Health</p>
5	<p>• Social construction of drugs as a social problem</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ben-Yehuda, N., (1994) The sociology of moral panics: toward a new synthesis, in Coomber (ed.) <i>Drugs and Drug Use in Society, a Critical Reader</i>, Greenwich University Press, pp: 201-220 Forsyth, A. J.M, (2001), Distorted? a quantitative exploration of drug fatality reports in the popular press, <i>International Journal of Drug Policy</i>, Volume 12 , Issue 5 , 435 - 453 Rainarman, C., (2017) The social construction of drug scares, http://realworldsociology.com/?page_id=3644 	

No	Topic	Reading	In-class: Guest lecturer/student presentation/film
6	<p>• Intended and unintended consequences of drug policy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merton RK. The unanticipated consequences of purposive social action. <i>Am Sociological Rev</i> 1936, 1: 894–904. Reuter, P. (2005), The unintended consequences of drug policies, Technical Report 5, RAND Europe, Santa Monica US, pp 1-22 World Drug Report 2009, Confronting unintended consequences :Drug control and the criminal black market, pp 163-166 DeVylder, D., Mittal, V.A., Shiffman, J., (2020), Balancing the Public Health Costs of Psychosis vs Mass Incarceration With the Legalization of Cannabis, <i>JAMA Psychiatry</i>. Published online September 2, 2020. doi:10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2020.2591 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student presentation



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PODCAST: https://freakonomics.com/podcast/marijuana-legalization/ 	
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug policy مدرسة صحة الجمهور 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School of Public Health • ספר לבריאות הציבור 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student presentation
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debate: needle exchange programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debra L. O'Neill. "Needle Exchange Programs: A Review of the Issues". Missouri Institute of Mental Health. September 27, 2004 • Aaron Lawrence. "Why a Needle-Exchange Program is a Bad Idea". Record. August 26, 2005 • Toni Meyer. "Making the case for opposing needle exchange". New Jersey Family Policy Council. November 16, 2007 • Alan Franciscus. "Needle Exchange - A Matter of Public Health". Hepatitis. April/June 2003 • "Interventions To Prevent HIV Risk Behaviors". National Institutes of Health, Consensus Development Conference Statement". February 11-13, 1997 • "Are Needle Exchange Programs a Good Idea?" by Jenny Murphy, Bryan Knowles; Thursday, June 15, 2000 • Muehlenberg, B. (2014) Say no to needle distribution programs, https://billmuehlenberg.com/2014/02/05/say-no-to-needle-distribution-programs/ 	

No	Topic	Reading	In-class: Guest lecturer/student presentation/film
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra: take a look at some of this, it is a long document you don't need to read it all but try to familiarize yourself with the document especially the sections on possible positive outcomes and possible negative outcomes: • National Research Council (US) and Institute of Medicine (US) Panel on Needle Exchange and Bleach Distribution Programs; Normand J, Vlahov D, Moses LE, editors. Preventing HIV 	



		<p>Transmission: The Role of Sterile Needles and Bleach. Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US); 1995. 7, The Effects of Needle Exchange Programs. Available from: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK232343/</p>	
9	<p>● Debate: Prohibition, decriminalization, legalization</p>	<p>● School of Public Health, Shryth, B. P., Cannon, M., Molodynski, A., Curran, H. V., Eastwood, N., & Winstock, A. R. (2020). Would decriminalising personal use of cannabis lead to higher rates of mental illness? <i>BMJ</i>, 368, 16975.</p> <p>● Caulkins, JP, Kilmer, B (2016) Considering marijuana legalization carefully: insight for other jurisdictions from analysis for Vermont, <i>Addiction</i>, 1-8</p> <p>● Crepault JF., Rehm, J., Fischer, B (2016) Cannabis Policy Framework by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health: A proposal for a public health approach to cannabis policy in Canada, <i>International Journal of Drug Policy</i>, http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2016.04.013</p> <p>● Hall, W., Lynskey, M., (2016), Evaluating the public health impacts of legalizing recreational cannabis use in the USA, <i>Addiction</i>, doi: 10.1111/add.13428</p> <p>● Kalant, H. (2016) A Critique of Cannabis Legalization Proposals in Canada, <i>International Journal of Drug Policy</i>, http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.drugpo.2016.05.002</p>	<p>בית הספר לבריאות הציבורית, הפקולטה לבריאות הציבורית</p>

No	Topic	Reading	In-class: Guest lecturer/student presentation/film
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Single EW. (1989) The impact of marijuana decriminalization: an update, <i>Journal of Public Health Policy</i>, vol. 10, no. 4, pp: 456-466 ● Lake S., Kerr, T., (2016) The challenges of projecting the public health impacts of marijuana legalization in Canada, <i>Int J Health Policy Manag</i> 2016, 5(x), 1–3 ● PODCAST: https://freakonomics.com/podcast/marijuana-legalization/ 	

10	Debate: Opioid prescription abuse הפקולטה לרווחה חברתית Faculty of social welfare الكلية لعلوم الرفاه والصحة	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chou, R., Turner, J.A., Devine, E.B., Hansen, R.N., Sullivan, S.D., Blazina, I., Dana, T., Bougatsos, C., Deyo, R.A., 2015. The effectiveness and risks of long-term opioid therapy for chronic pain: a systematic review for a National Institutes of Health Pathways to Prevention Workshop. <i>Annals of internal medicine</i> 162, 276-286. Cicero, T.J., Ellis, M.S., Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P., 2014. The changing face of heroin use in the united states: A retrospective analysis of the past 50 years. <i>JAMA Psychiatry</i> 71, 821-826. See extra reading in moodle 	בית הספר לבריאות הציבורית
11	Drugs and race	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Muehlmann, S., <i>The Gender of the War on Drugs</i>. <i>Annual Review of Anthropology</i>, 2018. 47(1): p. 315-330. 	
12	Drugs and gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Muehlmann, S., <i>The Gender of the War on Drugs</i>. <i>Annual Review of Anthropology</i>, 2018. 47(1): p. 315-330. 	
13	Drugs in Israel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dana Zarhin, Maya Negev, Simon Vulfsons, Sharon R. Sznitman (2019), "Medical cannabis" as a contested medicine: Fighting over epistemology, ontology and morality, <i>Science, Technology & Human Values</i>. https://doi.org/10.1177/0162243919862866 Bonny-Noach, H., <i>Harm reduction drug policy in Israel: what has been accomplished and what still needs to be done?</i> <i>Israel Journal of Health Policy Research</i>, 2019. 8(1): p. 75. Feingold, D., et al., <i>Fatal Overdoses of Opioids in Israel 2005–2014</i>. <i>European Addiction Research</i>, 2017. 23(6): p. 276-283. 	
14	Summary class		

סטודנטית יקרה,

• אם יש לך לקות למידה או מוגבלות/בעיה רפואית שעשויה להשפיע על לימודיך, ושבגינה אתה/זקוקה להתאמות אנא פנה/י לדיקנאט הסטודנטים למדור נגישות ולקוייות למידה: דואר LDA@univ.haifa.ac.il טל 8249265-04
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