

Mendocino College  
AOD 151: ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS- OVERVIEW  
Section #0033: 3 Units

---

Fall Semester, 2008  
Monday, 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
Room 1210

Dan Jenkins, MA, MAC  
468-3020; djenkins@mendocino.edu  
Office hrs (Rm. 1200): by arrangement

---

**Class information online:** [www.Mendocino.edu](http://www.Mendocino.edu) > Classes & Programs > Instructional Dept Web Pages > Human Service Programs > Alcohol and Other Drug Studies > For Students > AOD 151

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is an overview of the historical and contemporary role of psychoactive drugs (including alcohol) in society, emphasizing the physical, social, and emotional consequences of their use and abuse within a general theoretical framework. Topics include the myths, stereotypes, and socio-cultural factors that contribute to the use of alcohol and other drugs, pattern and progression of addiction, prevention and treatment, public policy, community resources, needs of special groups, and special populations.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:** *Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:*

1. Describe specific historical, physical and psychosocial factors which influence people's involvement with and attitudes concerning psychoactive substances.
2. Describe the affect alcoholism and other chemical dependencies have on the well-being of the individual and community.
3. Describe the continuum of services and resources, both professional and non-professional, addressing substance misuse, abuse and dependency.
4. Describe and provide a rationale for specific approaches to addressing substance abuse and dependency with special populations which have a higher risk for abuse and dependency than the general population.

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

1. Oakley, Ray. *Drugs, Society, and Human Behavior* (current edition). Boston: WCB/McGraw-Hill

Supplemental reading material will be provided by the instructor, and will contain information used in examinations. A good source of reference materials for this course can be found at the Human Service Programs "Hotlist" on the college library website; or go directly to <http://www.kn.att.com/wired/fil/pages/listhumansedj.html>.

**WRITING ASSIGNMENTS/EXAMS:**

1. Homework (written responses to reading assignments); quizzes; midterm exam; final exam
2. Group Project. See instructions for the group project below.

**MISSED EXAMINATIONS:**

Quizzes that are given at the beginning of class and other in-class, graded exercises or activities cannot be made up. Other examinations can only be made up if missed due to an illness or an emergency. Arrangements must be made with the instructor to take the make up exam prior to the next class meeting.

**METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

Classes will combine lecture, group discussion, handouts, video presentations, and guest presentations, when available.

BASIS FOR GRADING:

Homework Assignments  
Quizzes  
Midterm Exam  
Final Exam  
Group Project

GRADING POLICY:

A: 90-100% of total points  
B: 80-89%  
C: 70-79%  
D: 60-69%  
F: <60%  
CR: >70%  
NC: <70%

IMPORTANT DATES:

September 12: Last day to withdrawal without grade notation  
September 19: The last day to apply for “credit/no credit” grading status  
November 14: Last day to withdrawal

The last day to withdrawal from the class without grade penalty is November 14. To officially withdrawal from a course, you must submit a “Drop” card, signed by the instructor, to the Admissions and Records Office. It is the student’s responsibility to complete the paperwork to drop a class; students who discontinue the course without submitting a drop card will receive a failing grade for the course, which will appear on the permanent student record. PLEASE MEET WITH ME PRIOR TO MAKING A DECISION TO DROP THE COURSE! On numerous occasions students intending to drop a course have changed their minds after a consultation with the instructor, and have later expressed appreciation for remaining in the course. Together we can often find solutions to the perceived obstacles to remaining in the course.

STUDENT RESOURCES:

- Computer Lab: Computer use and assistance. Room 1280 (MacMillan Hall). Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00am-9:30 pm; Friday 8:00am-4:00pm
- Learning Center: Study groups; tutoring; computer access. Room 770 (Lowery Building). Hours: Monday-Thursday 8am-8:30pm; Friday 8am-3:30pm
- Library: the library houses a collection of over 30,000 volumes with other media. As a student, you have access to the resources made available through the library, including over 32,000 books that can be read online. Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00am-8:30pm; Friday- 8:00am-4:30pm
- Academic Counseling Services: All first-time college students are encouraged to meet with a counselor during their first semester to develop an education plan. The education plan details the courses that must be completed in order to accomplish student’s educational objective. Students may also discuss graduation concerns, GE requirements and transfer to other colleges and universities.
- Disability Resource Center: The DRC provides counseling and instructional support services to disabled Mendocino College students. The DRC gives students the support they need to succeed with academic and personal goals. The DRC has helped many students with hearing impairments, visual impairments, learning disabilities, depression, psychological problems, and mobility

impairments. If you suspect you might have a disability that interferes with your ability to succeed in the class, contact the DRC for a free assessment.

- **Career Center:** located in Room 1200, the Career Center contains information on careers and job placement services. The staff will assist students with personalized career development. Students can explore possible career directions or gather further information on a particular job or career from the Center's resources.

#### OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend all classes. At the discretion of the instructor, students who have 3 unexcused absences will be dropped from the course (Mendocino College policy).

**Class Participation:** Participation in classroom activities is expected. Human Services require a high degree of interpersonal interaction and self-awareness. Students will be encouraged to interact with the instructor and other students. While this may be difficult or feel awkward for some students initially, it is the intention of the instructor and this course to assist you in becoming more comfortable with interpersonal communications and self expression.

**Classroom Conduct:** It is expected that each student will show respect for their fellow students and the instructor by turning off cell phones or other electronic devices, avoiding any behaviors that would distract others and by staying focused on the subject at hand during class. Cross-talking, talking over or interrupting students, criticizing or disparaging others' opinions, using bigoted slurs (racial, ethnic, sexist or otherwise) will not be tolerated. This class should be a safe place to share differing perspectives and beliefs in an adult manner.

**Plagiarism:** If you use someone else's words or ideas without citing them, you are committing plagiarism and may receive a failing grade on individual assignments or for the entire course. Mendocino College's academic honesty policy and student code of conduct guidelines will be followed to address plagiarism.