



**TIFFIN**  
UNIVERSITY

**ONLINE**

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**NAT291 Drugs and the Body**  
**(3 credit hours)**  
**Course Syllabus**

### **Course Description**

The focus of this course is to develop an effective perspective on the multifaceted aspects and problems associated with drug use, abuse, addiction, and treatment.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

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

1. Identify the five groups of drugs and their characteristics.
2. Recognize the theories and treatments of drug addiction.
3. Demonstrate how social problems relate to drug use.
4. Recognize the physical and psychological effects of drugs.
5. Associate different regulations with the different classifications of drugs.
6. Identify the normal therapeutic usages of drugs for both treatments and procedures.

### **Required Textbook(s) and Resources**

A digital copy of your textbook is included with your DragonACCESS fees for this course. Use the DragonACCESS tool in Moodle to view your book.

Hart, C. L., & Ksir, C. (2021). *Drugs, Society and Human Behavior* (18th ed.). McGraw-Hill Education.

Be sure to also review the weekly **Explore** sections for additional library or web resources. For access to databases, research help, and writing tips, visit the [Tiffin University Library](#). You might consider registering for one of the library's many webinars on library research, source evaluation, copyright, and other topics, at the [Library Events - Upcoming Events](#) web page. For further assistance email a librarian, at: [library@tiffin.edu](mailto:library@tiffin.edu).

## Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this online class you should plan your time wisely to maximize your learning through the completion of readings, discussions, and assignments. Because of our accelerated, seven-week term, TU online courses are designed with the expectation that you dedicate a little over **six (6)** hours per credit hour to course activities and preparation **each week**. For example, for successful completion of a three-credit, seven-week online course you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week**.

To help plan your time and keep on track toward successful course completion, note the distinctive rhythm of assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).
2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.
3. Unless otherwise noted, initial assignments or discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Wednesdays**.
4. Additional assignments or follow-up discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Saturdays, and**
5. Major assignments and reflections are typically due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Sundays**.

## Learning Activities

Each week you will discover specific learning activities designed to educate you on the wonders and the pitfalls of drug use. Through written assignments, discussions and quizzes, you will learn that there are different 'layers' of drug use, including over-the-counter drugs, prescribed drugs, and illegal drugs that are void of medicinal value. Polydrug is the most common means of misuse. This course will guide you through the specific neurological action drugs have on the body and enlighten you on the potential for irreversible health damage that can occur over time with abuse. You will also explore the world of unregulated drugs such as caffeine, nicotine, and alcohol. Through the activities in this course, you can discover the real but innocuous role these items play in your daily lives. In addition to your final written project, you will create a newsletter to document your understanding of mental health issues people experience each day. Hopefully, this course will have a positive influence on any prospective involvement with drug use you may have.

## Grading and Points Distribution

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity, per week.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
<b>Discussions</b> Activity 1.1 (n/a) Activity 1.2 (25)	<b>Discussions</b> Activity 2.1 (25)	<b>Discussions</b> Activity 3.1 (25)	<b>Discussions</b> Activity 4.1 (25)	<b>Discussions</b> Activity 5.1 (25)	<b>Discussions</b> Activity 6.1 (75)	<b>Discussions</b> Activity 7.1 (25)	<b>225</b>
<b>Quizzes</b> Activity 1.3 (25)	<b>Quizzes</b> Activity 2.2 (25)	<b>Quizzes</b> Activity 3.2 (25)	-	<b>Quizzes</b> Activity 5.2 (25)	<b>Quizzes</b> Activity 6.2 (25)	<b>Quizzes</b> Activity 7.3 (25)	<b>150</b>
<b>Assignments</b> Activity 1.4 (50)	<b>Assignments</b> Activity 2.3 (100)	<b>Assignments</b> Activity 3.3 (100)	<b>Assignments</b> Activity 4.2 (50) Activity 4.3 (100)	<b>Assignments</b> Activity 5.3 (100)	-	<b>Assignments</b> Activity 7.2 (125)	<b>625</b>
<b>100</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>1000</b>

## Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	<60%

Please see the [Academic Bulletin](#) for grade appeal information.

# Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

## Start Here

- MON: Activity 1.1: Meet Your Peers - Initial Post

## Week 1 – Understanding Drug Misuse

- WED: Activity 1.1: Meet Your Peers - Secondary Posts
- WED: Activity 1.2 Discussion: Societal Trends
- SAT: Activity 1.3 Quiz: Effects on the Brain
- SUN: Activity 1.4 Paper: Week 7 Essay Topic

## Week 2 – Psychoactive and Polydrug Use

- WED: Activity 2.1 Discussion: Psychoactive Drugs
- SAT: Activity 2.2 Quiz: History of Regulation
- SUN: Activity 2.3 Paper: Essay on Legal and Illegal Polydrug Use

## Week 3 – Familiar and Commonplace Legal Drugs

- WED: Activity 3.1 Discussion: Caffeine Consumption
- SAT: Activity 3.2 Quiz: Connection Between Smoking and Health
- SUN: Activity 3.3 Paper: Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen

## Week 4 – Alcohol as a Drug

- WED: Activity 4.1 Discussion: Alcohol and its Implications
- SAT: Activity 4.2 Paper: Week 7 Sentence Outline
- SUN: Activity 4.3 Paper: Informational Blog Post

## Week 5 – Uppers and Downers

- WED: Activity 5.1 Discussion: Mental Illness and the Workplace
- SUN: Activity 5.2 Quiz: Overview of Inhalants
- SUN: Activity 5.3 Paper: Drugs in the Workplace Newsletter

## Week 6 – Restricted Drugs

- WED: Activity 6.1 Discussion: Summary of an Article - Initial Post
- SAT: Activity 6.1 Discussion: Summary of an Article - Secondary Post
- SUN: Activity 6.2 Quiz: Chapters 13-16

## Week 7 – Mitigation, Prevention, and Treatment

- WED: Activity 7.1 Discussion: Summary of Article - Initial Post
- THU: Activity 7.2 Paper: Reflective Essay
- SAT: Activity 7.1 Discussion: Summary of Article - Secondary Post
- SUN: Activity 7.3 Quiz: Prevention, Treatment, and Social Influences

## Tips for Success

Successful online learning requires a good deal of self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge and review one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery and constructiveness. Your course is a place for you to stretch and grow as you benefit from the expertise, knowledge, experience and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge, understanding and application.

To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

## Your instructor will expect you to:

- Thoroughly review orientation materials (Start Here) within the first 48 hours of the term.
- Monitor your TU email account **daily** for important updates and announcements.
- Take ownership of your learning experience and act in a proactive, self-directed manner. That means:
  - Fully participate in all learning activities.
  - Complete assignments as described in rubrics or other instructions.
  - Submit all work on time and in the specified format (e.g. APA format for citations). Late assignments will be accepted at the discretion of your instructor. Penalties may apply.
  - Utilize and incorporate instructor-provided feedback to improve your work.
  - Ask questions so you can better understand course material or assignments.

- Use the highest standards of intellectual honesty and integrity. For more information, see the TU Library guide: [Digital Literacy: Netiquette and Internet Safety](#).
- Treat others respectfully and demonstrate "netiquette" (online politeness and respectfulness) at all times. TU celebrates cultural uniqueness and expects all students to be considerate and thoughtful throughout their learning experiences.

### **You should expect your instructors to:**

- Post an introductory announcement/email at the beginning of each week to provide updates and help you prepare for the week's activities.
- Maintain an active and engaged presence in all course activities and throughout the course.
- Respond to your emailed questions within 48 hours, if not sooner.
- Clearly communicate any absences or expected non-participation due to extenuating circumstances. For example, "I will be traveling to attend a funeral this week and may not be able to respond to questions or participate in forums for a couple of days."
- When grading your work:
  - clearly indicate their grading approach (what they like to see in submitted work as well as what types of errors they tend to penalize more harshly),
  - thoroughly review and evaluate your submissions in a timely manner (in less than 5 days for most assignments), and
  - provide constructive feedback that indicates the strengths and weaknesses of your work and provides suggestions on how you can improve your performance on future assignments.
- Advocate for your success as a learner and help guide you toward successful completion of the course activities and most importantly, attainment of the course learning outcomes.

### **Accommodations**

The **Office for Disability Services** supports the institutional commitment to diversity by providing educational opportunities for qualified individuals with disabilities through accessible programs and services in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

If you need reasonable accommodations due to a documented disability, contact the Office for Equity, Access, & Opportunity 419.448.3021 or via email at [disabilityservices@tiffin.edu](mailto:disabilityservices@tiffin.edu).

## **Additional Resources & Support**

For technical support, either email [moodlesupport@tiffin.edu](mailto:moodlesupport@tiffin.edu) or call the 24/7 Technical Support Call Center at 855-664-1200.

If you need to consult an academic advisor refer to TU's [Meet the Team](#) page.

For information about TU's peer tutoring program, see the Murphy Center's [Tutoring Policies and Procedures](#) page. Veterans and active military can seek assistance from TU's [Veteran and Military Services Web Page](#).

## **Comments or Concerns**

TU's online programs are designed to be student-driven: to empower you with a voice and stake in your learning. Our courses feature multiple and varied ways you can share feedback, and we invite you to become an active voice and help drive our improvement efforts. In addition to providing in-course feedback, we encourage you to submit questions or comments directly to the online team at [online@tiffin.edu](mailto:online@tiffin.edu).