UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
College of Health Science
Health Science Program
CRN 14471 - HSCI 3305 - Substance Abuse
Course Credits: 3.0
(Last revised: 8-19-2015)

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E-mail: gabmejia@utep.edu
Office hours: Friday, 8:30 – 12:00
Class period: Tuesdays from 9:00 – 11:50 AM
Location: Health Sciences & Nursing Building 211

PURPOSE:
This syllabus is considered a contract between you and the professor. It is an agreement that includes the "rules" to be observed during the course, both by students and the instructor. Although this syllabus can change, no changes will be made without notice.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course will provide the student relevant information on drugs and the role they play in human behavior and society. Students interested or considering being involved on public health education, promotion, social sciences and community service should enroll in this course. There are no restrictions to register for this course. The teaching method is based on Problem based learning (PBL), which can include, but not be limited to:

1. Introductory lectures
2. Problem solving group work
3. Student discussions, presentations and exercises
4. Movies and other visual media materials
5. Possible guest lecturers (to be announced)

Using this technique will enable the student to apply the gained knowledge to solve common and practical problems related to the research process. In this regard, the course will emphasize a critical thinking approach to learning. A critical thinking approach takes the view that a student's knowledge is not passively absorbed from an instructor's lectures. In contrast, critical thinking assumes students will create knowledge in their own mind by actively thinking about the material. It is going to be crucial that you prepare for each lesson, reading and reviewing the material before coming to class. Your instructor will use class time to overview the assignment, clarify difficult concepts, expand your knowledge of selected topics, and to challenge you intellectually. This means that very possibly more material will be covered in class. Not necessarily your instructor will teach straight out of the book. Instead, the readings will be used as a springboard for classroom activities and discussions. In addition to your readings, in-class lectures will provide additional
information that will be testable. Handouts and other additional reference materials will be posted and made available through Blackboard.

RESTRICTIONS:
There are no restrictions to register for this course except for instructor’s authorization. For authorization, send an email with your general information to: gabmejia@utep.edu.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
After completing this course, the student will be able to:
1. Identify different types of drugs and drug uses, its actions, and their effects on human health
2. Understand individual problems and social conflicts related to substance use and abuse focusing on prevention.
3. Practice his/her ability to critically review research-based materials related to substance abuse issues.
4. Practice and increase his/hers oral and public presentation abilities necessary in future health care professionals.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
You will need the following required textbook:

**Drugs, Society, and Human Behavior**
By Charles Ksir, Carl L. Hart, Oakley Ray
**Publisher:** McGraw Hill, (Latest edition)

All chapters will be covered, and students will be required to complete read all of them; additionally, students will be required to go over all posted materials.

Group work will be an integral part of the course. Groups will be formed during the first week of the course. During this time period students will be given the option of freely assembling and joining one until a set deadline; however, if a student does not join a group by the set date, the instructor will assign the student at random to a group. More details on group work can be found in the **Grading Criteria** section.

Additionally, all students are required to:
- Have access to a computer that connects to the Internet and a working e-mail account (miners.edu account). Other e-mail systems should not be used for this course. If you do not own a computer, you can make use of several computer labs on campus.
- Have access to a broadband internet connection with a “speed” that is capable accessing, downloading, playing, etc. several types of programs and files. Follow this URL to tests your system’s speed capability: [http://www.speedtest.net/](http://www.speedtest.net/)
- Be able and have the means of accessing the online course by way of Blackboard. The course is only accessible online by logging in to your “My UTEP” portal at [http://my.utep.edu](http://my.utep.edu) and accessing the Blackboard tab that will show your entire course list. For information on how to log in you can contact the UTEP Help Desk
at (915) 747-5257, or check their information page at

- Have some abilities in using a mouse and keyboarding, and how to use a Web
  browser to access the internet, email and Blackboard.
- Be able to perform Internet searches, use e-mail, chat, and discussion boards.
- Be able to study independently, be self-disciplined, and have good study and time
  management skills.
- Have knowledge of how to use word processing, spreadsheet, visual media
  software, as well as capability to open pdf-type files. Usually, on-campus
  computers will provide the necessary software and connectivity. However, if you
  plan not to work on campus, it is your responsibility to make sure you have the
  software and connectivity requirements.
- Have the means to store all assignments and if necessary turn them in electronically
  (disks, flash drives, etc.).

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

Completion of course will require that the student fulfills the following:

a) Attendance (see correspondent sections for details).

b) Completing one main writing assignment and oral presentation on it (see
   correspondent sections for details):

c) Online examinations: Three (3): 1 mid-term, second partial & 1 final (optional;
   comprehensive).

d) Quizzes (10)

e) Active participation (Instructor’s prerogative points)

f) Extra credit assignment (s)

**Attendance**

The student must comply with at a minimum of 80% attendance. Refer to the
attendance criteria on “COURSE POLICIES” section for details.

**Online examinations**

Two (2) two-and-a-half hour midterm examinations and one (1) final comprehensive
examination will be given for the Fall’s 2015 Semester. **All examinations will be online**
**through UTEP’s Blackboard platform.** Examinations will consist of combination of
multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, and essay questions. The exams
can also be conceptual in nature. They are designed to test your ability to think about the
material, not your memory. Midterm examination is worth **100 points.** The final
comprehensive examination is also worth **100 points** and it will be scheduled during final’s
week. There is no re-scheduling of the final test.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examination Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examination type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm online exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second term online ex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final written exam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Group project writing and presentation assignment:

**Systematic Review**
For this project, you and your colleagues will be writing a short *systematic review* paper, which will be worth 0-100 points. You will present your results two ways: as a written report and in-class presentation. Refer to “Writing Assignment #1: Systematic Review” section for further instructions and deadlines.

**Oral presentation**
Additionally, each team will be required to deliver a **15-20 minute oral presentation** on their project:

a. Presentations will be scheduled for the last class meetings. Dates will be set by the instructor according to the number of groups. However, if a group feels prepared and the writing assignment has been finished, they may opt to present at an earlier date. The presentation can be scheduled to be held at any date after the Spring Break.

b. The total amount of possible points for oral presentation is 100 points.

c. Presentation score considers two types of scoring: group and individual. The total score points are the sum of these. Check for the parameters and values to be considered for scoring oral presentations in the “Oral/visual Scoring Rubric section.”

**Quizzes**
Ten quizzes will be scheduled during some course weeks, and worth 0-5 points each, thus you can obtain from 0-50. All quizzes and will be available through Blackboard® Learn platform on the scheduled dates (see Course Calendar).

Students must complete a quiz before each lecture to ensure students read the materials beforehand. The assessment will be related to textbook readings and reviews of other resources. These assessment might include quizzes, reviewing students’ writing in chat rooms, e-mail messages, and on discussion boards; portfolios, self-tests, peer assessments, and weekly unit questions. You will usually be given a limited time (20 minutes) to complete them depending on the number and type of questions. Scores will be automatically posted on Blackboard® Learn Grade Center once graded. No re-scheduling or re-taking of quizzes and other assessments will be allowed without a University approved excuse.

**Instructor Prerogative (IP) and Extra-credit Points**
A maximum of 25 IP extra points can be awarded based on class preparation, class participation, and professional behavior (e.g., attitude and teamwork) throughout the semester at the instructor’s discretion. A student can be awarded additional extra points for turning in correct and complete assignments. The amount of extra points to be awarded will be notified by the instructor once the assignment is given.

**Active participation**
Students are encouraged to actively participate in the learning process. This includes attentive listening when meeting face-to-face.

**Final grading**
The final score is based on the accumulation of points throughout the course; the total that can be earned taking on account two examinations, group project, and quizzes in this course is **550 points**, plus possible extra credit and instructor prerogative points.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Point value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm online examination</td>
<td>0 -100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second term online examination</td>
<td>0 -100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final online comprehensive examination</td>
<td>0 -100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online quizzes (10)</td>
<td>0 -50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group project (report &amp; presentation)</td>
<td>0 -200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra credit; IP points</td>
<td>0 – 50 (max)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>&gt;550</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The translation of points earned to a letter grade is defined as follows:

- 496 points and above .......... A
- 441 – 495 points and above...B
- 386 – 440 ...................... C
- 331 – 385 ....................... D
- 330 or less........................ F

**Student progress**
Grades will be available through Blackboard’s Grade Center; feedback from the instructor be sent by e-mail.

**Group work**
Group work will be an integral part of the course. Groups will be formed during the first week of the course. During this time period students will be given the option of freely assembling and joining one until a set deadline; however, if a student does not join a group by the set date, the instructor will assign the student at random to a group. The maximum number of members allowed will be determined in the first day of class. Blackboard’s group sign-in section is set to not allow joining freely or going over this number; groups can be of less than the set number members, or students can elect to work individually.

Although group work should be equally distributed, each will appoint a “Group Leader” who will be the liaison between the group and other groups and the instructor; another student (secretary) should be appointed for the responsibility of submitting group work and assessment. When completing a group assessment, the score will be the same for all members; however, at the end of the course, each group member can complete a “group-peer evaluation” in which students will evaluate, and rank member’s participation to receive proper merit in the form of extra credit points. In the case of a group member not performing at a satisfactory level, there is the option to change or drop form a group. The deadline for changing/dropping from a group is 9/30.
COURSE POLICIES

Attendance
Attendance is an important component of this course since information not contained in the textbook will be presented during class through lectures and discussions. So:

- Attend all classes and be punctual.
- You are expected to personally sign the attendance sheet at the beginning of each class. Responsibility for doing so is solely of the student. Not signing-in equals being absent.
- Avoid being late to class; students are discouraged from coming to class late or leaving early since this is disruptive to the instructor and more importantly to classmates. If you are late, please sign in after class. However, it will have an your grade; being late is arriving 30 minutes pass the start of the lecture; two (2) late sign/ins is equal to one (1) absence, and will also affect the possibility of being awarded IP points. Leaving class early without previous permission or notification will count the same as being late and subject to point deductions.
- Absences will affect your final score/grade. You required at least an 80% attendance (12 out of 15), including the first week of class. Furthermore, for each absence you will be deducted approximately 33% of a grade (17 points). You are allowed three excused absences; a fourth absence means that there is the risk of being dropped from the course at any time and regardless of your current performance, even if it occurs in the final week of class. Exceptions will be made in the case of University excused absences (sponsored activities approved by the Dean of students). You will only be able to make up for activities, exams, or assignments (scheduled or unscheduled) in the case of University excused absences (sponsored activities approved by the Dean of students).

Communication and Feedback Plan
This section includes how you and your students are expected to communicate during the course. When can students expect feedback from you? (I.e. within 24-48 hours) What tools can they use to contact you? UTEP email is the preferred method; send all emails to gabmejia@utep.edu; additionally emails can be sent to the courses’ appointed teaching assistant; his/her email will be provided later in the course. Occasionally, a Skype® session can be scheduled – if set up with previous time. Your instructors Skype® ID is gabboim61.

Class disruptions
The use of cell phones (even for text messaging), headphones in any manner, is prohibited during class. Laptop computers can be used if needed for in-class assignments. Students who are continuously talking during lectures are showing disrespect for their classmates who are serious about learning. In such case, students will be asked to leave the lecture and will only be invited to return at the discretion of the instructor and will be considered absent for the day.

Active participation
Students are encouraged to actively participate in the learning process. This includes attentive listening. A second component of active participation is asking questions for clarification of confusing information and expressing opinions. You can also make use of email, chat, or online discussion groups for these purposes.

**Policy on examinations**

Quizzes and exams will be accessible online using Blackboard platform and will be available on the scheduled day. You may access it at any time; however, once you begin the exam you will have a time limit to complete it. You will not be able to start the exam, stop, and then re-start again. You will have a maximum of 20-40 minutes to complete quizzes depending on the number and type of questions, and 3 hours to complete the midterm and final examinations.

**Missed quizzes and examinations:** Extensions and re-opening quizzes will be granted only if proven Blackboard failure occurs. There is NO re-scheduling of missed quizzes, so please do not ask to re-open them for you. If a student misses the midterm or final examination, a make-up exam may be re-scheduled only if the student has informed the instructor of the absence prior to the beginning of the examination, and only if the absence is approved by the instructor. All re-take exams have a point deduction penalty of 20% of the value of the exam, which will not allow the student to score higher than 80% of the value of the assessment. Only in rare instances will a student be excused from the examination. Students that due to a University excused absence missed a quiz will be given the opportunity to complete it at the end of the semester, and before the scheduled date for final examination; however, a similar penalization will be applied also. All other reasons or justifications are not valid for re-taking a quiz. This is not negotiable.

**Policy on late assignments**

Homework and other assignments must be turned in when scheduled in order for graded score points to be awarded points. A 10% deduction on graded score will be applied for every 24 hours an assignment is overdue, including weekends. No assignments will be accepted if submitted more than 1 week after the due date.

**Notice on dropping the course, withdrawals, and incomplete.**

Students may drop individual courses or completely withdraw from the University as described below. Refer to the on-line Academic Calendar at [www.utep.edu/calendar](http://www.utep.edu/calendar) or to the Class Schedule to identify the dates during which adds, drops, withdrawals, and pass/fail registration changes may occur.

**a) Student-initiated Drops**

It is the student’s responsibility to officially drop a course that s/he no longer wishes to take. Failure to do so may result in a grade of “F” on the student’s academic record. Athletes must receive permission from the Miner Athletic Advising Center before dropping a course. International students with F or J visas must receive permission from the Office of International Programs before dropping a course.

**b) Administrative Drops**
During registration periods for upcoming semesters, students will be dropped from registered courses for failure to meet prerequisites or co-requisites after final grades have been posted for the current semester and before the beginning of late registration for next semester. A student may petition the department chair of the course in question for a prerequisite or co-requisite waiver.

At the discretion of the instructor, a student may be dropped from a course because of excessive absences or lack of effort. Students may also be administratively withdrawn from a course during the semester for other reasons, with the concurrence of the academic dean or department chair. A grade of “W” will be assigned before the course drop deadline and a grade of “F” after the course drop deadline. A grade of “F” received due to disciplinary action imposed by the University overrides a grade of “W” received through a student-initiated or faculty drop. Students will be notified of their drop through their UTEP e-mail account.

c) Grade Assignment for Drops and Withdrawals
Grades will be assigned as follows when a student drops a course or completely withdraws from the University:

1. If a student drops a course before the official census date of a semester, neither the course nor a grade will appear on the student’s academic record.

2. If a student drops from a course after the census date but before the student-initiated course drop deadline listed in the Class Schedule, a grade of “W” will be assigned.

3. If the student drops after the student-initiated course drop deadline, instructors will determine a grade of “W” or “F” for each course. A grade of “W” is considered only under exceptional circumstances and must be approved by the instructor and department chair for the course. A student may petition for a grade of “W” in writing with the necessary supporting documentation.

d) Incomplete course work
If eligible, the student may receive a grade of Incomplete (I) that will appear on the academic transcript; an “I” (incomplete grade) can only be considered only if requested by the student in advance of the conclusion of the course and only for legitimate, documented emergencies. Failure to request and negotiate the terms of an “Incomplete” grade before the conclusion of the course will result in a denial except in the most extraordinary circumstances.

Notice of Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty is an assault upon the basic integrity and meaning of a University. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is dishonest activities are serious acts which erode the University’s educational and research roles and cheapen the learning experience not only for the perpetrators, but also for the entire community. It is expected the UTEP students will understand and subscribe to the ideal of academic integrity and that they will be willing to bear individual responsibility for their work. Materials (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill academic requirements must represent a student’s own efforts. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be
tolerated. Violations will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions.

**American Disabilities Act**
If you have or suspect a disability and need accommodations, you should contact the Disabled Student Support Services Office (DSSO) at (915) 747-5148. You can also email the office at: dss@utep.edu or go by Room 106 Union Building East. For additional information, visit the DSSO website at: www.utep.edu/dsso

**COURSE ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT:**

**Course related:** Your instructor is available to assist you online, by phone, and by blackboard email throughout the semester.
**Technical support:** Click on the “Help” hyperlink in Blackboard platform after logging in to your “My UTEP” portal at http://my.utep.edu. Furthermore, get additional technical information and assistance at The University of Texas at El Paso’s Helpdesk.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classes begin</td>
<td>Aug. 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Day (University Closed)</td>
<td>Sep. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Day</td>
<td>Sep. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course drop deadline</td>
<td>Oct. 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving holiday (University closed)</td>
<td>Nov. 26-27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
<td>Dec. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exams week</td>
<td>Dec. 7-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final grades due to the Records Office</td>
<td>Dec. 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final grades available online for students</td>
<td>Dec. 21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# HSCI 3305 - Substance Abuse

## COURSE CALENDAR

Note: The course calendar is subject to modification. It is the student’s responsibility to read the scheduled assigned materials before class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week number and dates</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Due dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1: 8/25</td>
<td>Class begins; Syllabus review; Team Building; Course overview;</td>
<td>Syllabus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Quiz 1</td>
<td>9/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2: 9/1</td>
<td>Introduction; Basic concepts Drug regulation and enforcement</td>
<td>Chapter 1, Chapters 2 &amp; 3</td>
<td>Quiz 2</td>
<td>9/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3: 9/8</td>
<td>Central Nervous System; Neurotransmission and drug interaction</td>
<td>Chapters 4 &amp; 5</td>
<td>Quiz 3</td>
<td>9/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Quiz 4</td>
<td>9/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4: 9/15</td>
<td>Stimulants</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
<td>Quiz 5</td>
<td>9/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5: 9/22</td>
<td>Depressants and inhalants</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
<td>Upload topic selection form</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6: 9/29</td>
<td>Prescription medications;</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
<td>Quiz 6</td>
<td>9/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Upload draft of background and methods sections</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7: 10/6</td>
<td>Alcohol</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
<td>Midterm Exam (Chapters 1 -9)</td>
<td>10/6 – 10/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8: 10/13</td>
<td>Tobacco &amp; Caffeine</td>
<td>Chapters 10 &amp; 11</td>
<td>Quiz 7</td>
<td>10/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Upload draft of background and methods sections</td>
<td>10/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9: 10/20</td>
<td>Opioids and hallucinogens</td>
<td>Chapter 13 &amp; 14</td>
<td>Quiz 8</td>
<td>10/27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10: 10/27</td>
<td>Marijuana; OTC and Dietary supplements;</td>
<td>Chapter 15 &amp; 12</td>
<td>Quiz 9</td>
<td>10/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Upload draft of results and discussion sections</td>
<td>11/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11: 11/3</td>
<td>Performance enhancement drugs</td>
<td>Chapter 16</td>
<td>Quiz 10</td>
<td>11/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 12: 11/10</td>
<td>Substance abuse prevention and treatment and prevention programs.</td>
<td>Chapter 17 &amp; 18</td>
<td></td>
<td>11/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 13: 11/17</td>
<td><strong>Project presentations</strong></td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>4 Groups – Final report</td>
<td>11/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Upload draft of results and discussion sections</td>
<td>12/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 14: 11/24</td>
<td><strong>Project presentations</strong></td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>4 Groups – Final report</td>
<td>12/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Second term Exam (Chapters 10 -18)</td>
<td>12/1 – 12/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 15: 12/1</td>
<td><strong>Project presentations</strong></td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>4 Groups – Final report</td>
<td>12/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Second term Exam (Chapters 10 -18)</td>
<td>12/1 – 12/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 17: 12/8</td>
<td><strong>FINAL ONLINE EXAM (Comprehensive; Chapters 1 – 18)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. This is a group project. Select members on first meeting.

2. For this project, you and your group colleagues will be writing a short systematic review paper.

3. Your group must decide on a topic related to a selected Healthy People 2020 (HP-2020) objective related to substance abuse topic area that also affects the U.S. Mexico border region Hispanic population. You will need to use a clear and comprehensive systematic search strategy to identify ALL relevant primary research articles published on the topic from 2009-2015, so the scope of the paper must be quite narrow.

4. Upload the “Systematic Review Project Topic Proposal” form no later than 9/8, then you must upload drafts of sections according to the following timeline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Scoring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Select a topic</td>
<td>9/8</td>
<td>0 or10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Draft of background and methods sections</td>
<td>10/16</td>
<td>0 or10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Draft of results and conclusions sections</td>
<td>11/13</td>
<td>0 or10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Final paper due</td>
<td>11/17; 11/24; 12/1</td>
<td>0-70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Your project must examine the literature published from 2009-2015 addressing the need to fulfill the selected HP-2020 objectives’ goal based on its stated baseline. It is highly suggested that first you get familiarized with all the details. An example can be such as exploring the question: “Is _____ {exposure} a risk factor for _____ {disease/condition} in _____ {population}?”, or the question, “Is _____ {intervention} effective in treating _____ {disease/condition} in _____ {population}?”,

5. You will need to use a clear and comprehensive systematic search strategy to identify ALL relevant primary research articles published on the topic from 2009-2015, so the scope of the paper must be quite narrow.

6. The final paper will require the following:
   - Cover, or title page
   - A structured abstract of 100-150 words
   - A body-of-text (not including the reference section), which should include the following sections:
     - Introduction
     - Background
     - Methods
     - Results
   - Conclusions
     - Overall conclusion
     - Conclusions regarding relationship to selected Healthy People 2020 objectives
• Conclusions regarding association/relationship & applicability to US-Mexico border
  o References – minimum of 12 references (at least 9 of which must be journal articles). Do not rely solely on government and/or organization information from websites and documents. You may use their databases, but necessarily what is posted in their websites. REMEMBER: this section does not count towards the required word count.

7. If you include pictures, it is highly recommended that picture quality is sufficient to provide the relevant information.

8. There is no minimum of pages; use as many as needed, what is important is the word count.

9. The maximum possible points that can be awarded for this writing assignment the project is 100. Scoring will be based on content quality, style format (APA), as well as spelling, grammar, and composition ability. You can visit www.apa.org, although UTEP’s library has plenty of resources on it including the Library’s Writing Center, which you can schedule visits to get advice. For scoring criteria, refer to “Systematic Review Report Scoring Rubric”.

10. The group should schedule the presentation of their project on 11/7, 11/24, or 12/1. A maximum of 4 presentations will be allowed per day, since they will be conducted during class time. Each presentation should last between 15-20 minutes and everyone in the group must participate. Refer to “Oral/visual Presentation Scoring Rubric”.

11. Deadline for submitting the Final Report is on the day of presentation. It has to in electronic and be hard copy format. The hard copy is to be turn in by hand to the instructor.

12. Electronic reports will be submitted by the instructor to TURNITIN for evaluation of potential plagiarism. A maximum of 25% of similarity will be considered as acceptable. Greater similarity percentages will be return for correction, which must be completed and re-submitted before the last day of class.
Systematic Review Project Topic Proposal

Instructions: Fill out the form and submit it by uploading it into the appropriate assignment section in Blackboard Learn platform. Use additional pages as necessary.

Group number:

Group members:
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.

Proposed substance abuse-related topic:

Question or issue to be explored:

Is this question/issues already been researched before? Yes _____ No ______

Does it go beyond what is already covered in class? Yes _____ No ______

If answer is “NO” then the topic selection is unacceptable. If answer is “YES”, explain how it goes beyond what is already covered in class: ____________________________

What Healthy people 2020 Substance Abuse objectives are addressed in the project?

What is the importance/relevance/relationship to the health of the US-Mexico border region populations?

Proposed outline:
## Systematic Review Report Scoring Rubric

Report title: ___________________________________________________

Group: _______________________________________________________

Date of presentation: ______________ Report submitted on: ____________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Potential points</th>
<th>Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selected topic proposal form submitted at/before deadline</td>
<td>0-10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft of background and methods sections submitted at/before deadline</td>
<td>0-10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft of results and discussion sections submitted at/before deadline</td>
<td>0-10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final written report submitted on day of presentation</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td>10% deduction for each 24 hours late</td>
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<tr>
<td>TURNITIN® Similarity Index (SI) score</td>
<td>_______%</td>
<td>SI scores greater that 25% will be returned for correction before grading</td>
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<tr>
<td>APA style formatting</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td>Non-compliant reports will be returned for correction before grading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front page</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td>Non-compliant reports will be returned for correction before grading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structured abstract</td>
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<td>Background</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods</td>
<td>0 - 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results</td>
<td>0 - 15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusions</td>
<td>0 - 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>References (12)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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**Total possible score points for project report: 100 points**
Scoring considerations for visual presentations

Group score (70 points total):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Was the thesis statement clearly stated, was the subject appropriate,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>manageable, etc.?</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>Was the purpose or the presentation evident? (Informative, persuasive,</td>
<td>0 - 10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>entertaining)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audience</td>
<td>Was the audience considered? (Size, knowledge level, attitudes,</td>
<td>0 - 10</td>
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<td></td>
<td>demographics, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Materials</td>
<td>Does it appear that appropriate research was done for the presentation?</td>
<td>0 - 20</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Was the design of visual materials appropriate?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outline</td>
<td>Was the presentation well organized and easy to follow? Was there a</td>
<td>0 - 20</td>
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<td></td>
<td>clear and effective introduction and conclusion?</td>
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Individual score (30 points total):

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<tr>
<td>Practice</td>
<td>Did the presenter seem well prepared?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speaking ability</td>
<td>Addressing the audience, use of visual materials, use of notes,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Dress code, overall impression of the presentation, voice and tone,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>posture, eye contact</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Practice</th>
<th>Speaking ability</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Total individual</th>
<th>Plus group</th>
<th>Final</th>
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Total possible score points for visual presentation: 100 points