



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

**TE KURA MAHINGA TANGATA**

**CRIMINOLOGY**

**CRIM 216**

**ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND CRIME**

**20 POINTS**

**TRIMESTER 1 2016**

## **Key dates**

**Trimester dates:** 29 February to 29 June 2016

**Teaching dates:** 29 February to 5 June 2016

**Easter break:** 24–30 March 2016

**Mid-trimester break:** 25 April to 1 May 2016

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds).

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)).

## Class times and locations

**Lectures:** Tuesday 11:00 - 12:50 Maclaurin MCLT101

**Tutorials:** Tutorials will begin in week two of the trimester. There will be 9 tutorials for this course. Please sign up for a tutorial using MyAllocator:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/timetables/tutorial-sign-up>

## Names and contact details

### Course coordinator:

Dr Fiona Hutton  
Tel: (04) 463 6749  
Level 11, Murphy Building, MY 1103  
Email: [fiona.hutton@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:fiona.hutton@vuw.ac.nz)

## Communication of additional information

Additional information will be communicated in lectures and on Blackboard. You will automatically receive all Blackboard announcements as an email sent to your @myvuw.ac.nz email address. If you are not going to use this Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

## Prescription

This course will examine the place of drugs, alcohol and crime in contemporary society by critically exploring the socially constructed boundaries between use and misuse, the separation between licit and illicit use, and the links between drugs/alcohol and crime.

## Course content

Key themes addressed on this course include: the bifurcation of substance use, the contested relationship between substance use and crime, and the legal and policy framework for policing, treating and managing misuse. Through readings, lectures, tutorials and students will be equipped to critically understand and assess the nature, extent and control of drug and alcohol related crime.

The use of drugs is a ubiquitous feature across human societies, both cross-culturally and historically, despite this the manufacture, sale, distribution and use of certain drugs have without any clear scientific evidence base, been often subject to punitive, criminal sanctions. Certain drugs have been associated with degeneration, violence, organized crime, theft, and other types of criminal activity. However, the misuse of both licit and illicit drugs is a major social, legal and health issue in modern societies, responsible for significant amounts of harm. This course will explore to what extent criminal behaviour is caused by the drugs, or caused by the socio-legal measures used to manage and control drugs.

The central aim of this course is to equip students with a good understanding of nature and context of legal and illicit drug use and drug misuse in society and to explore the complex and contested

relationship between drug use and crime.

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Describe and evaluate New Zealand law governing the management and control of drug and alcohol use and misuse.
2. Explain the social construction of use and misuse of substances and the bifurcation process between licit and illicit use.
3. Evaluate the contested and complex relationship between drugs, alcohol and crime.
4. Critically examine criminal justice strategies used to manage and control drug and alcohol related crime.
5. Critically analyse political debate concerning drugs, alcohol and crime.

## Teaching format

This course involves face-to-face lectures and seminars in a format designed to facilitate student learning and importantly interaction. Each lecture will normally involve a combination of lecturing, class discussion, in-class activities and the Blackboard virtual learning environment (VLE).

***It is imperative that all students*** come to lectures and tutorials having previously read the required material for that week, and that students are prepared and able to enter into class discussions.

The **tutorials** are a key component of the learning process to consolidate learning by providing opportunity for further discussion within the smaller group. Tutorials are not lectures so students are required to: engage in small group discussions; raise questions; and explore issues raised by the previous lecture material or set reading. Successful tutorials occur when the student group are willing to think aloud, explore, engage and contribute.

## Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. Attend at least 7 out of 9 tutorials. This will ensure students have the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the core criminological themes explored in this course (see course prescription) and to develop oral communication and teamwork skills through participating in the tutorial exercises.
2. Submit credible attempts at all three in-term assignments. In order to demonstrate the achievement of all the Course Learning Objectives you must obtain at least 35% for any assignment worth more than 10%.
3. Sit the in-class test on 31<sup>st</sup> May 11am.

Students are strongly advised to attend every lecture.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

## Workload

The expectations are that students will work 10 hours per point, therefore this 20-point course equates to 200 hours study over the trimester. This includes scheduled contact time, individual or group study, and work on assessment tasks.

In addition to attending lectures (24 hours for the trimester) and tutorials (7-9 hours) students can be expect to spend approximately 50 hours throughout the course on essential reading, 30 hours preparing for case study assessment, 40 hours preparing for the assignment and 50 hours preparing for the tests.

## Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Submission Deadline
<b>1</b> <u>Assessment 1</u> Case studies: Exploring the MDA 1975. 1,500 words ( <i>not including references</i> )	20%	1	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> April 4pm ( <b>please note assignments <i>must be submitted in hard copy as well as through 'Turnitin' on Blackboard</i></b> )
<b>2</b> <u>Assessment 2</u> 2,000 word assignment ( <i>not including references</i> )	30%	2	<b>Sun 15<sup>th</sup> May 12pm</b> midnight through 'Turnitin' on Blackboard & <b>Mon 16<sup>th</sup> May 4pm</b> hard copy ( <b>please note assignments <i>must be submitted in hard copy as well as through 'Turnitin' on Blackboard</i></b> )
<b>3</b> <u>Assessment 3</u> 20 questions test but divided into two halves: Part one handed in in week 11; Part two sat in class in week 12	50% (2 x 25%)	3,4,5	Part 1 Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> May 4pm ( <b>please note assignments <i>must be submitted in hard copy as well as through 'Turnitin' on Blackboard</i></b> )  Part 2. Tues. 31 <sup>st</sup> May 11am in class test

## Four key areas are considered when marking your assignments:

1. The content of your work - is it relevant to and does it answer the question set?
2. The structure – is your assignment coherent, does it flow properly between points and does it have an academic approach?
3. The quality of source material used - is the basis of your argument/s reliable, carefully considered and evidence based?
4. The style, presentation and referencing – does your assignment reflect university requirements for these three things?

## Submission and return of work

Student work provided for assessment in CRIM 216 may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. 'Turnitin' is an online plagiarism prevention tool which identifies material that may have been copied from other sources including the Internet, books, journals, periodicals or the work of other students. 'Turnitin' is used to assist academic staff in detecting misreferencing, misquotation, and the inclusion of unattributed material, which may be forms of cheating or plagiarism. At the discretion of the head of School, handwritten work may be copy typed by the School and subject to checking by 'Turnitin'. You are strongly advised to check with your tutor or the course coordinator if you are uncertain about how to use and cite material from other sources. 'Turnitin' will retain a copy of submitted materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

Students in CRIM 216 should submit a paper copy of their assignments to the Assignment Box at the SACS Administration Office, Level 9, Murphy Building (to the side of the lifts), by 4pm on the due date. Your essay **MUST NOT** be placed in individual staff pigeonholes, or under staff office doors, or handed to lecturers or tutors. The Assignment Box is cleared at 4pm every day. All work is date-stamped, recorded and then handed to the appropriate markers.

**ASSIGNMENTS 1, 2 & 3 for CRIM 216 MUST also be submitted electronically through 'Turnitin'** (via the 'Blackboard' system). Students must print out and attach their 'Turnitin' receipt to all their assignments. **Assignments will not be considered as submitted unless ALL 3 steps are followed.**

Marked assignments not collected in lectures or tutorials can be collected at the Murphy 9th floor reception desk, between **11:00am and 3:00pm only** from **Monday to Friday**.

The Institute insists on a high standard of written work from students. You should therefore ensure that there are no spelling or grammatical errors in your assignments, that work is appropriately attributed to authors, and that references are accurately cited. **Careful proof-reading of assignments is essential.** Failure to meet these standards will result in the deduction of marks.

## Extensions and penalties

### Extensions

All assessed work must be submitted by the specified date. You are expected to keep to these deadlines otherwise it is unfair to other students. Extensions will only be granted in **unforeseen exceptional** circumstances, and must be sought from the course coordinator Fiona Hutton, [fiona.hutton@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:fiona.hutton@vuw.ac.nz) **prior** to the deadline (please do not contact your tutor as they are unable to grant extensions). An example of an unforeseen exceptional circumstance would be illness confirmed by a letter from a medical practitioner. Please note that **a lack of prior organisation, other commitments and/or computer failures are not valid reasons for an extension.**

### Penalties

The word limit for each assessment can only be exceeded by a maximum of up to 10%. Any words submitted beyond the 10% limit will not be assessed.

Late submission of work **without an authorised extension** will be penalised by the following deductions:

One grade = Period up to and including 24 hours past due date.

Two grades = Period from 24 hours up to and including 72 hours past due date.

FAIL = All work handed in more than 72 hours late.

### Set texts

The set text ([available from Vic Books](#)): for this course is

***Coomber R., McElrath K., Measham, F. & Moore K (2013) Key Concepts in Drugs And Society, Sage, London***

Further readings will also be provided during the course via Blackboard. Please note that you are expected to read widely but carefully, using your research skills to identify and access additional materials relevant to specific topics. Students are encouraged to attend the University Library's workshops and contact the dedicated Criminology librarian to develop important study skills.

### Recommended reading

Please see Blackboard for extra readings for assignments, and to inform tutorial discussion.

### Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course.

## Student feedback

This course is highly valued by students. Students rate the assessment methods as particularly helpful to learning. The highly relevant and topical content was much appreciated and enabled students to think critically and want to learn more about the relationship between alcohol, drugs and the criminal justice system. Students particularly value the use of videos, tutorials and the accessible teaching style.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php)

## Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at [www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)

## School Contact Information

Head of School: Prof Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich, MY1019  
Phone: 463 6528, Email: [brigitte.bonisch-brednich@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:brigitte.bonisch-brednich@vuw.ac.nz)

International Student Liaison: Dr Hal Levine, MY1023  
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