# Approval Form

**Proposal Title:** Drugs and Crime in America

**Sponsor(s):** A. W. Salerno  
**Dept.:** Law/Justice  
**Ext.:** 6178

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<th>Check one:</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Specialization</th>
<th>Concentration</th>
<th>Minor</th>
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## Step 1 (Department)

- **Approved:** 10/6/1991  
- **Date:**  
- **Not Approved:**  
- **Date:**  
- **Reviewed:**  
- **Date:**  

**Dept. Chairperson:**  

**Step 2 (Receipt)**

- **SCC#:** 91-92-4A  
- **Date:**  
- **Proposal Received:**  
- **Date:**  

**SCC Chairperson:**  

## Step 3 (School CC)

- **Reviewed:** 6/10/1991  
- **Date:**  
- **Approved:**  
- **Not Approved:**  
- **Date:**  

**School Curr. Comm. Chairperson:**

## Step 4 (Academic Dean)

- **Recommend:**  
- **Not Recommend:**  
- **Conditionally Recommend (see comments):**  
- **Reviewed:**  
- **Date:**  

**Signature, Dean of School:**  

## Step 5 (SCC)

**Open Hearing:**  
- **Date:**  
- **Approved by Senate Curriculum Committee:**  
- **Date:**  

**Returned to sponsor(s) for the following reasons:**

## Step 6 (Senate)

- **Presented to Senate:**  
- **Date:**  
- **Approved:**  
- **Not Approved:**  

**Notification to Executive Vice-President/Provost:**  
- **Date:**  
- **Signature, SCC Chairperson:**
Step 7 (Executive V.P./Provost)

Received __________
Date

If no, reasons are as follows:

Approved □ Yes □ No

Student credit hours __________

Faculty load hours __________

Equalized credit hours __________

Official copy and approval sheet filed __________
Date

Signature: Executive Vice President/Provost

Registrar

Approved course description received 24 Aug 92
Date

Hegis Taxonomy and Course Number assigned 2105.322

Signature: Registrar

Notification forwarded:

□ Senate Curriculum Committee Chairperson

□ Department Chairperson(s)

□ Academic Dean(s)

□ Registrar

□ Sponsor(s)
A. COURSE PROPOSAL

1. **Title of the Course:** Drugs and Crime in America
   
   **Department:** Law/Justice
   
   **Sponsor:** A. W. Salerno

2. **Essence:**
   
   a. **Graduate or Undergraduate:** Undergraduate
   
   b. **Semester hours credit:** Three (3) hours
   
   c. **Course level:** Junior
   
   d. **Pre-requisites:** None
   
   e. **Effect of the course on the current and planned departmental curricular pattern:** It is a restricted elective in the elective bank.
   
   f. **Suggested time for implementation:** Fall, 1992

3. **Details:**
   
   a. **Adequacy of present staff:** course can be done with existing resources and staff of the department and college.
   
   b. **Statements as to the uniqueness of the course:** It will be the only comprehensive course in the department which addresses the social problems of drugs and crime.
   
   c. **Course objectives:** 1) Develop a comprehensive knowledge base of drugs and crime in America. 2) Understand the international and political aspects of illegal drugs. 3) Learn the means of controlling illegal drugs at the state and national levels. 4) Analyze, critique, and debate the
relevant issues.

d. **Evaluation and grading:** Exams, papers, attendance and participation.

e. N/A

4. **Topical Outline:**

Week 1  Historical aspects of drug use in America

Week 2  Illegal drugs: types and physiological and behavioral effects

Week 3  Extent of illegal drug use in America

Week 4  The criminalization of drugs

Week 5  Drug use and occupation, social class, race, gender, and adolescence

Week 6  International production and distribution of drugs

Week 7  Trafficking: organized crime and street gangs

**MID-TERM EXAM**

Week 8  The drugs-crime connection

Week 9  Drug offenders and the criminal justice system

Week 10  Theory: explaining drug use

Week 11  Controlling the problem: prevention, treatment, punishment

Week 12  The federal role in controlling drugs

Week 13-15  Critical issues: legalization, crack babies and the law, testing employees, AIDS

**FINAL EXAM**

5. **Rationale:**

The use of illegal drugs in America is by all accounts almost ubiquitous. Its relationship to crime started in the sixties with Heroin and has continued unabated to the present. With the "discovery" of Cocaine and "Crack"
in the early to middle eighties, the effects on crime rates and the criminal justice system have been compounded. For the Law/Justice curriculum the subject is only touched on in other courses. A social problem such as this requires a comprehensive, rather than a cursory treatment. A course of this kind is long overdue.

6. The department approves by a unanimous vote.
Catalogue Description:

This course explores and analyzes the relationship between illegal drugs and crime and all the relevant issues and ramifications. These include, but are not limited to: national and international trafficking, control of the problem, legalization, and explanations for drug use.
December 12, 1991

Mr. Tony Salerno
Law and Justice Department
Glassboro State College
Glassboro, New Jersey 08028

Re: Drugs and Crime in America

Dear Tony:

I was glad to hear of your desire to consider the addition of a new course to the department's curriculum concerning the specific problems and conditions associated with crime and the manufacture, sale, and use of illicit drugs in America.

Such a course should focus on the criminology, the law, and the response of the criminal justice system to the moral and public policy concerns which encompass this complex and emotional issue.

Look forward to seeing you in the future.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Harold W. Metz, Ed.D.
Associate Professor and Graduate Coordinator

HWM/sbs
January 16, 1992

Mr. Anthony Salerno
Department of Law and Justice
Wilson Building

Dear Tony:

I have read your course proposals, "Sentencing and the Rights of the Convicted" and "Drugs and Crime in America" with considerable interest. As someone who frequently offers a course in and is concerned with issues of deviant behavior and social control, I welcome this opportunity to make some comments about these two courses.

The former course offers an opportunity for our students as well as yours to explore issues of social policy from the perspective of political ideologies as well as accounting for issues of race and class. With regard to the latter, I am pleased that students from several different disciplines will have the opportunity to explore the ever-increasing nexus of drugs and crime. I believe both courses will attract students. I hope you find the above comments helpful.

Sincerely,

Jay Chaskes
Associate Professor

cc: John Myers
February 26, 1992

Mr. Anthony Salerno  
Law/Justice Studies Department  
Glassboro State College  
Glassboro, N.J.  08028

Dear Mr. Salerno:

As requested I have reviewed the course proposal for a new offering, "Drugs and Crime in America." As coordinator of the Psychology Department's sequence of six courses in the psychological study of alcoholism and drug abuse, I would like to offer the following comments:

1. The need for careful and comprehensive study of the problems of drugs and crime in a law/justice program is clear. While the National Household Survey conducted by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) indicates general declining or steady use rates for illegal drugs (such as marijuana, cocaine, hallucinogenic and stimulants) since 1974, data provided by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (Drug Abuse Warning Network) and the National Institute on Justice (Drug Use Forecasting) indicate that there is widespread drug use among those recently arrested in American urban areas. Consideration of the role(s) that drugs play in crime should indeed also be integrated into all law/justice courses. As you suggest, a course of this kind is clearly long overdue.

2. This course proposal focuses on illegal drugs, omitting the role(s) of alcohol in crime. Unfortunately, this may contribute to the perpetuation of the myths that alcohol is not a drug or is somehow a safer drug because it is legal to purchase. This omission obscures the central role that alcohol abuse plays in crime.

3. The proposal's topical outline is so general that I am unable to determine whether there is significant overlap with the psychology department offerings. For example, it is not clear to me what the difference is between the topics covered in weeks 6 and 9. If you could elaborate about the specific content to be covered, I would be willing to indicate if that material is already covered in our courses. Given the budgetary constraints facing the college, duplication of course material already being taught is obviously ill-advised.
If you would like to discuss these comments, please contact me at 6018.

Yours truly,

Linda R. Jeffrey, Ph.D.
Coordinator, Psychology Department Alcohol/Drug Sequence

cc: Dr. Eleanor Gaer, Psychology Department Chairperson
    Dr. John Myers, Curriculum Committee Chair, School of Liberal Arts and Sciences
April 30, 1992

To: Donna Hathaway, Chair  
   Senate Curriculum Committee

From: John Myers, Chair  
   Liberal Arts and Sciences Curriculum Subcommittee

Re: (1) Sentencing and the Rights of the Convicted  
(2) Drugs and Crime in America

The concerns this subcommittee had about consultation within the Law Justice Department with regard to the above two courses were relieved by Dr. Douglas's March 11, 1992 memo to Tony Salerno. We believe that all members of the department have now been consulted about this course.

Please reconsider the courses at the May 1, 1992 Senate Curriculum Committee meeting.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

c  Tony Salerno