

Graduate Alcohol and Drug Policies and Programs

In support of the educational mission of William Woods University, the following alcohol and drug policies are in place to create a safer campus environment that supports the academic and social success of all students.

Standards of Conduct involving alcohol and drugs: William Woods University prohibits the unlawful possession, use, manufacture, distribution and sale of alcohol and illegal and prescription drugs by William Woods University students and employees on University owned or managed property and/or at University sponsored or supervised activities. Possession of paraphernalia associated with the use, possession or manufacture of illegal drugs, or associated with the rapid consumption of alcohol, is also prohibited. Appearing on campus under the influence of alcohol or drugs, such that an individual may endanger himself or other persons, damage property, or disrupt the living and learning environment of others, is also prohibited.

Disciplinary Sanctions Pertaining to Alcohol & Drug Violations: Violations of the standards of conduct regarding alcohol and illicit drugs can result in disciplinary action up to and including removal from the course and/or dismissal from the University. First time alcohol violations occurring at a course location or site will be adjudicated by the dean. The dean will take into consideration aggravating factors such as property destruction and disrespect to staff. Subsequent and/or extreme cases of non-compliance with the alcohol and drug policy or assessed sanctions will be handled by a committee called by the dean.

Local, state, and federal sanctions for alcohol and drug violations: Local, state, and federal laws prohibit the unlawful possession, use, distribution and sale of alcohol and illicit drugs. Criminal penalties for violation of such laws range from fines up to \$100,000 to imprisonment for terms up to and including life.

Missouri State law prohibits consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages by those less than 21 years of age. State law also prohibits the operation of a motor vehicle while in an intoxicated or drugged condition or with open containers of alcohol.

Local Alcohol Ordinances: Reprinted from Drug and Alcohol Ordinance Booklet, Attorney General of Missouri, Oct. 1990

Selling to Minors: It is illegal to sell or supply non-intoxicating beer or intoxicating liquor to any person under 21 years of age. This shall not apply to use of such non-intoxicating liquor for medical purposes when administered by a physician, or by the parent or guardian of a person for medicinal purposes. * 4-13.

Public Drinking: It shall be unlawful for any person to drink intoxicating beer upon any public street, sidewalk, alley or public thoroughfare, or in any public building or parking lot. This section shall not apply to such consumption inside an establishment licensed to sell intoxicating liquor by the drink. * 4-20.

Penalties: A fine of not more than \$500, imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both such fine and imprisonment.

Health Risks Related to Alcohol and Drugs

Alcohol is a powerful depressant. Alcohol use decreases alertness and inhibitions. Accidents and/or risky behaviors may result in negative consequences such as disease transmission and sudden death. There is an increase in acquaintance rape and unsafe sex practices with alcohol intake. Long-term heavy drinking is linked to cancer, gastrointestinal problems, heart damage, psychological disorders and death. Tolerance as well as physical and psychological dependence develops.

Tobacco use in the form of cigarette smoking is linked to emphysema, lung cancer, heart disease, death, worsened asthma, and increased risk for upper respiratory illnesses. Physical and psychological dependence can develop. Smokeless tobacco use leads to cancer of the head and neck areas. Passive smoking increases the incidence of upper respiratory illnesses.

Abuse of prescription drugs is the use of those medications for reasons or in amounts they were not prescribed and using medications prescribed to others. Pain killers, amphetamines, tranquilizers, sleeping pills and medications to treat ADHD are all examples of prescription drugs that are commonly abused. Health risks relate to each class of drug.

Anabolic Steroids may produce aggressiveness, suicidal thoughts and attempts, fatigue, restlessness, and insomnia. Use by males may cause baldness, breast development, and impotence. Use by females may cause facial hair and breast size reduction. Serious health problems include liver and heart failure, cancer and death.

Stimulants increase the action of the central nervous system. There is risk of contracting hepatitis A, B, C and HIV infection with inhalation and intravenous use of any of these stimulants.

Amphetamines (uppers, Adderall) and Methamphetamine (Ice) cause violence, chronic psychosis, brain damage, depression, hallucinations and paranoia. Continued use of high doses may cause heart attack, malnutrition and sudden death.

Methylphenidate (Ritalin, Concerta) is a stimulant prescribed to control the symptoms of ADHD. Tolerance, psychological addiction may occur with abuse. Binge use, psychotic episodes and cardiovascular complications may occur with abuse.

Cocaine and Crack cause confusion, depression, and may result in physical dependence. Effects are unpredictable—convulsions, coma, cardiac arrest and sudden death are possible. Smoking causes lesions in the lungs.

Sedative/hypnotics or tranquilizers depress the central nervous system.

Barbiturates (Seconal, Nembutal), Benzodiazepines (Valium, Xanax) and methaqualone (Quaalude) may cause confusion and loss of coordination. Tolerance as well as physical and psychological dependence develops. Overdoses cause coma and death. Ingestion with alcohol heightens the sedative effects of these drugs and may cause coma or death. They are also used as “date rape” drugs to facilitate sexual assault. Withdrawal from chronic use may cause seizures and should only be done with medical supervision.

Rohypnol (roofies) cause sedation, feeling of well-being and memory loss. Due to increased effect when used with alcohol, it has become known as a “date rape” drug. Other drugs used to facilitate sexual assault are GHB (gamma hydroxybutyric acid) and ketamine.

Cannabis (Marijuana, Hash) alters moods and perception. Lowered inhibitions may result in accidents and/or risky behaviors with negative consequences such as disease transmission and sudden death. Marijuana may cause confusion and loss of coordination. Long-term use leads to tolerance and psychological dependence. Users may become comfortable with other more dangerous drug use.

Hallucinogens temporarily distort reality.

Lysergic Acid diethylamide (LSD) causes hallucinations and panic. Effects may recur (“flashbacks”) even after use is discontinued. Tolerance and psychological dependence develop.

Phencyclidine (PCP) causes depression, hallucinations, confusion, and irrational behavior. Tolerance develops. Overdoses cause convulsions, coma, and death.

Mescaline, Ecstasy, and other “Designer Drugs” cause muscle tension, tremors, blurred vision, and increased body temperature that can result in organ failure, coma and sudden death.

Narcotics lower perception of pain. Heroin, morphine, codeine, hydrocodone and opium cause lethargy, apathy, loss of judgment and self-control. Tolerances as well as physical and psychological dependence develop. Overdoses may cause convulsion, coma, and sudden death. Risks of use include malnutrition and when inhaled or taken intravenously hepatitis A, B, or C, and HIV infection.

Inhalants cause mental confusion. Aerosol products, lighter fluid, paint thinner, amyl nitrate, and glue cause loss of coordination, loss of bowel and bladder control, confusion, and hallucinations. Overdoses cause convulsion, cardiac arrest, and sudden death. Psychological dependence develops. Permanent damage to lungs, brain, liver, and immune system may occur. For further information, go to these web sites:

<http://www.factsontap.org> <http://www.goaskalice.columbia.edu/Cat2.html>
<http://www.justthinktwice.com/drugfacts/>

Alcohol and Drug Campus Resources: Counseling Services on the main William Woods University campus has information regarding area resources that are available to students for drug and alcohol counseling, treatment, and/or rehabilitation.