EXAM INFORMATION
This exam was developed to enable schools to award credit to students for knowledge equivalent to that learned by students taking the course. This exam tests the understanding of such substances as anabolic steroids, over-the-counter medications, dependency/addiction, societal effects, screening, diagnosis, and neurological factors.

The exam contains 100 questions to be answered in 2 hours.

Form Codes: SQ495, SR495, SY495, SZ495

CREDIT RECOMMENDATIONS
The American Council on Education’s College Credit Recommendation Service (ACE CREDIT) has evaluated the DSST test development process and content of this exam. It has made the following recommendations:

Area or Course Equivalent: Substance Abuse
Level: Lower-level baccalaureate
Amount of Credit: 3 Semester Hours
Minimum Score: 400
Source: www.acenet.edu

EXAM CONTENT OUTLINE
The following is an outline of the content areas covered in the examination. The approximate percentage of the examination devoted to each content area is also noted.

I. Overview of Substance Abuse and Dependence 12%
   a. Terminology
   b. Theories and models of abuse and dependence
   c. Demographics
   d. Costs to society and associations with social problems
   e. Screening and diagnosis

II. Classification of Drugs 6%
   a. DEA schedule
   b. Pharmacologic effect
   c. Regulations

III. Pharmacological and Neurophysiological Principles 6%
   a. Nervous system
   b. Actions of drugs
   c. Drug interactions

IV. Alcohol 14%
   a. History and types
   b. Determinants of blood alcohol level
   c. Effects
   d. Uses and administration
   e. Tolerance, withdrawal, and overdose
   f. Dependency issues
   g. Prevention and treatment

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V. Anti-Anxiety, Sedative, and Hypnotics 6%
   a. History and types
   b. Effects
   c. Uses and administration
   d. Tolerance, withdrawal, and overdose
   e. Dependency issues
   f. Prevention and treatment

VI. Inhalants 6%
   a. History and types
   b. Effects
   c. Tolerance, withdrawal, and overdose
   d. Dependency issues
   e. Prevention and treatment
   f. Uses and administration

VII. Tobacco and Nicotine 10%
   a. History and types
   b. Effects
   c. Uses and administration
   d. Tolerance, withdrawal, and overdose
   e. Dependency issues
   f. Prevention and treatment

VIII. Psychomotor Stimulants 6%
   a. History and types
   b. Effects
   c. Uses and administration
   d. Tolerance, withdrawal, and overdose
   e. Dependency issues
   f. Prevention and treatment

IX. Opioids 8%
   a. History and types
   b. Effects
   c. Uses and administration
   d. Tolerance, withdrawal, and overdose
   e. Dependency issues
   f. Prevention and treatment

X. Cannabinoids 11%
   a. History and types
   b. Effects
   c. Uses and administration
   d. Tolerance, withdrawal, and overdose
   e. Dependency issues
   f. Prevention and treatment
   g. Current trends

XI. Hallucinogens 4%
   a. History and types
   b. Effects
   c. Uses and administration
   d. Tolerance, withdrawal, and overdose
XII. Other Drugs of Abuse 4%
   a. Anabolic steroids
   b. Over-the-counter (OTC) substances
   c. Synthetic substances
   d. Club drugs

XIII. Antipsychotic Drugs 3%
   a. History and types
   b. Effects
   c. Uses and administration

XIV. Antidepressants and Mood Stabilizers 4%
   d. History and types
   e. Effects
   f. Uses and administration
   g. Tolerance and withdrawal
REFERENCES
Below is a list of reference publications that were either used as a reference to create the exam or were used as textbooks in college courses of the same or similar title at the time the test was developed. You may reference either the current edition of these titles or textbooks currently used at a local college or university for the same class title. It is recommended that you reference more than one textbook on the topics outlined in this fact sheet.

You should begin by checking textbook content against the content outline provided before selecting textbooks that cover the test content from which to study.

Sources for study material are suggested but not limited to the following:


SAMPLE QUESTIONS
All test questions are in a multiple-choice format, with one correct answer and three incorrect options. The following are samples of the types of questions that may appear on the exam.

1. Cannabis intoxication can?
   a. increase the heart rate
   b. increase mental activity
   c. cause respiratory collapse
   d. cause chromosomal damage

2. The drugs posing the most immediate risk of organic brain damage are?
   a. inhalants
   b. narcotics
   c. hallucinogens
   d. sedative hypnotics

3. The most commonly abused drug in the United State is?
   a. heroin
   b. cocaine
   c. marijuana
   d. alcohol

4. Endorphins and enkephalins are similar in effect to?
   a. steroids
   b. psychedelics
   c. opiates
   d. stimulants
5. The metabolism of alcohol takes place primarily in the?
   a. liver
   b. kidneys
   c. brain
   d. pancreas

6. Crisis intervention and detection of the early stages of drug abuse is referred to as?
   a. primary prevention
   b. secondary prevention
   c. tertiary prevention
   d. quaternary prevention

7. Which of the following is an opium derivative?
   a. codeine
   b. cocaine
   c. phenobarbital
   d. LSD

8. The junction between two neurons is called the?
   a. axon
   b. dendrite
   c. synapse
   d. receptor

9. Paradoxical effects of the benzodiazepines include all of the following EXCEPT?
   a. nightmares
   b. irritability
   c. agitation
   d. hypersomnia

10. Buerger’s disease caused by heavy cigarette smoking results from the?
    a. accumulation of tar in the lungs
    b. reduction of blood to the body’s extremities
    c. destruction of the cilia in the trachea
    d. disruption of the normal functioning of the liver

11. An alcoholic who drinks while taking Antabuse (disulfiram) is likely to experience?
    a. sedation
    b. nausea
    c. convulsions
    d. euphoria

Answers to sample questions:
   1-A, 2-A, 3-D, 4-C, 5-A, 6-B, 7-A, 8-C, 9-D, 10-B, 11-B