Cannabis vs. the ‘m’ word: An institutional process to using anti-oppressive language
Who We Are

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Learning Outcomes

1) Understand the historical context through an anti-oppression lens of cannabis prohibition, legalization, and criminalization in the United States.

2) Understand strategies for approaching a multi-dimensional language and policy shift on campus.

3) Understand how to use and implement the provided toolkit designed to help them get started on their campus.
Why?
What does it feel like to be wrong?
History of “marijuana/marijuana” in the United States
Timeline

1839 Irish physician and medical researcher, William B. O'Shaughnessy, publishes a study that investigated cannabis' therapeutic effects causing researchers to consider the medical applications.

1819 Virginia passes a law requiring hemp to be grown on every farm in the colony.

1839-1920 Approximately 1,000,000 migrate to the US seeking refuge from the Mexican Revolution. Anti-Mexican sentiment increases, shifting in using the term 'marijuana/marihuana' arises as a negative correlation of its use by Mexican immigrants.

Rumors of danger and homicidal tendencies caused by using 'Mexican cannabis' or 'locoweed' begin.

As negative perception increases, government begins regulating cannabis more aggressively. By 1927, 11 states have anti-MJ laws.

1920-1933 Alcohol prohibition.

1936 "Reefer Madness" in full swing. Movie released and other propaganda increases.

1910-1920 Approximately 1,000,000 migrate to the US seeking refuge from the Mexican Revolution.
1937 Marihuana Tax Act passes imposing heavy unrealistic taxes on the possession, sale, and transportation of the plan. Federally bans cannabis/MJ and paves way for 80 years of cannabis prohibition.

1940 British chemist, Roger Adams, isolates first cannabinoid, Cannabidiol (CBD). Adams' research is also credited discovery of the Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

1940 Dr. Raphael Mechoulam has discovered the impact of both THC and CBD. CBD now understood to not have mind-altering impact.

1964 Nixon passes Controlled Substance Act creating drug scheduling system. Each of the 5 schedules classify drugs based on their abuse potential, accepted medical applications in the U.S., and risk of addiction.

1970 Nixon declares War on Drugs. Rockefeller Drug Laws in New York incite other state and federal drug laws to intensify. Causing incarceration to increase from $30,000 in 1973 to 2.3 million.

1973 States begin decriminalizing cannabis, with Oregon being the first.

1977 Carter first president to endorse cannabis decriminalization.


1979 States begin decriminalizing cannabis, with Oregon being the first.

1980 Rohrabacher-Farr law enforced prohibiting the Justice Department from interfering with state medical cannabis laws.

1986 U.S. Justice Department allows recognized tribes to legalize cannabis on their lands, no matter what state and federal law says.


1998 States begin decriminalizing cannabis, with Oregon being the first.

2012 Colorado and Washington become first states to legalize recreational use of cannabis.

2014 Agricultural Improvement Act passes legalizing hemp products containing no more than 0.3% THC.

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The Science behind Terminology
## Strains

### Sativa
- Grows best in warm climates with a long season
- Plant appears tall with narrow leaves
- Typically more THC than CBD

### Indica
- Grows best in colder climates with short seasons
- Plant appears shorter with broad leaves, high quantities of resin
- Oftentimes more CBD than THC

### Ruderalis
- Plant appears short and stocky
- Not as common as the other 2
- Lower psychoactive impact
- Mostly used by growers to enhance potency and flavor properties from genetic partner

### Hybrids
- Most strains in market today are likely a hybrid
- Purpose is to balance the effects offered by different strains

### Hemp
- Low levels of THC
- Primary source of CBD
- Grow primarily for industrial purposes
What is a cannabinoid?

A compound that interacts directly with the body’s Endocannabinoid System

Over 85 cannabinoids found in the Cannabis plant but most prominent are:

- Cannabidiol (CBD)
- Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)
CB1 & CB2 Receptors

**CB1**
- Found in regions of brain responsible for mental and physiological processes (memory, cognition, emotion, motor coordination)

**CB2**
- Found in central nervous and immune systems
THC vs. CBD

Both THC and CBD bind to the CB2 receptor

But they interact with the CB1 receptors in different ways:

- THC binds directly with CB1 receptors. This bond results in psychoactive effects
- CBD does not bind directly and the presence can negate the bond between THC and CB1 receptors
  - Neutralizes the psychoactive effects from THC
Cannabis in research

Use of cannabis in research
Increase in potency - average in research is 3-5%
CBD is everywhere
A case for harm reduction

Why we use harm reduction on college campuses

Effectiveness
A Case to Address Bias and Oppression in the Student Conduct Process
Implementation
Process & Resources
Stakeholders: Initial outreach

- Student Conduct and Community Standards
- Substance Abuse Prevention Education
- Dean of Students
- Division of Student Life
- General Council
- Board of Trustees
- Marketing & Communication
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<th>Type</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
<th>Rationale</th>
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<tr>
<td>Definition</td>
<td>Section 1, II.</td>
<td>“Drug” means a controlled substance or its immediate precursor classified in Schedules I through V under the federal Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. 811 to 812, or as defined in ORS 475.005 or modified in ORS 475.035.</td>
<td>“Cannabis” means the parts, products, and derivatives of the plant Cannabis sativa, indica, ruderalis and hybrid strains, regardless of the delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol level. Cannabis is a Schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. 811 to 812. This does not include FDA approved substances as permitted in 1 CFR 1308.15(f) or industrial hemp as permitted by federal law, 7 U.S.C. 1639o. Pursuant to federal law, medical use of cannabis is prohibited on University Premises and at University Sponsored Events.</td>
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<td>Violation</td>
<td>Section 1, V, 3</td>
<td>Prohibited drug use, which includes: 1. Manufacture, processing, distribution, or cultivation of a Drug, including but not limited to marijuana or narcotics, on University Premises or at a University Sponsored Activity, except as expressly permitted by both State and Federal law. 2. Sale of a Drug, including but not limited to marijuana or narcotics, on University Premises or at a University Sponsored Activity; or 3. Possession of a Drug, including but not limited to marijuana or narcotics, on University Premises or at a University Sponsored Activity except as expressly permitted by law.</td>
<td>Prohibited cannabis use on University Premises or at a University Sponsored Activity, or other property when applicable under rules regulating “Off-Campus Jurisdiction” (section 2.IV.2.b of this Code), which includes: 1. Use, possession, or procurement of cannabis except as expressly permitted by both State and Federal law; 2. Furnishing, cultivation, manufacturing, distributing, or selling cannabis except as expressly permitted by both State and Federal law; or 3. Causing another to ingest cannabis without consent.</td>
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<td>Prohibited Controlled Substance use on University Premises or at a University Sponsored Activity, or other property when applicable under rules regulating “Off-Campus Jurisdiction” (section 2.IV.2.b of this Code), which includes: 1. Use, possession, or procurement of a Controlled Substance except as expressly permitted by both State and Federal law; 2. Furnishing, cultivation, manufacturing, distributing, or selling of a Controlled Substance except as expressly permitted by both State and Federal law; or 3. Causing another to ingest a controlled substance without consent.</td>
<td>DOS is working collaboratively to eliminate the term “marijuana/marihuana” from policies, written materials, and everyday vernacular for the following reasons: - Marijuana is not technically and could be misleading to our students. DFSCA prohibits use/possession of the entire “cannabis” section in the CSA drug schedule. This includes cannabinoids and other products students may incorrectly believe are allowed to be on campus. - Prevention science and other research units use the term “cannabis.” This change brings our response in line with their efforts. - Marijuana/marihuana is deeply rooted in the oppression and criminalization of brown and black communities in the United States. Separating cannabis from other controlled substances allows us to clearly track and assess problematic use on campus. Additionally, it is more transparent during records checks. This is important as cultural values and laws surrounding cannabis change. Adding a provision about causing another to ingest is important as we consider situations in which we are able to establish someone drugged someone else or subjected them to substances without their consent, but we are not able to establish any other prohibited behavior.</td>
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B. Furnishing, cultivation, manufacturing, distributing, or selling cannabis except as expressly permitted by both State and Federal law; or

C. Causing another to ingest cannabis without consent.
Challenges to Our Process
Challenges

- Student language: perceptions & misperceptions
- 3rd party vendors
- Perception of implementation timeline
- Assessment tools
- Legal/governing language
- Widespread adoption
- Student & staff cycle
Next Steps: Education, Awareness, & Allyship
New Student Orientation

- Have A Little Pot
- Protecting the Flock
Colleague Trainings

- Use of formal and informal opportunities
  - Student facing vs. non-student facing
Community Discussion
Resources

https://medium.com/cbd-origin/hemp-vs-marijuana-the-difference-explained-a837c51aa8f7
https://medium.com/cbd-origin/the-history-of-cbd-a-brief-overview-68545c05ccc9
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