

## WA State Medical Marijuana Consultant Certificate Course

### Course Syllabus and Requirements

Instructor: Trey Reckling

#### **CANVAS**

This course is offered on CANVAS, <http://waol.org> (choose Seattle Central College from the dropdown menu).

**IMPORTANT:** If you have technical problems with CANVAS, you should use the Help button underneath the login box when experiencing login issues. Once in CANVAS, use the Help button at the top right hand of your screen, select “Report a problem”, making sure to enter your full name and SID in the text of the message. Your problem will go right to your college’s LMS administrator, who should be able to help you.

#### **TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS**

This class requires you to have regular access to a computer and software adequate to complete the assignments and exercises (contact Canvas for technical support-contact details above). A reliable ISP connection is also a requirement. If you find that you cannot access the Internet at home, you must make alternate arrangements, e.g., you must go to a college/public library, an Internet café, Kinkos, a family or friend’s house, etc. (this is what I do when my connection fails). Moving or not having access to a reliable Internet connection is not an excuse for failure to turn in assignments or complete group projects on time.

#### **Course Information**

- a. **Title:** WA State Medical Marijuana Consultant Certificate Course
- b. **Course length:** 20 hours of course instruction and involvement
- c. **Meeting location:** This course will meet virtually using the Seattle Central College’s e-Learning environment, and weekly in-person classroom open discussion / Q&A led by qualified instructors will be provided as an optional learning enhancement
- d. **Prerequisites:** No prerequisites. All students must be 21 years of age at the time of enrollment.
- e. **Course Description:** The WA Medical Marijuana Consultant Certificate Course will prepare retail marijuana employees to serve qualified medical marijuana customers safely and effectively.

#### **2. Instructor Information**

- a. **Instructor:** The course is taught by Trey Reckling, founder of the Academy of Cannabis Science, and consultant with Kush Tourism. Trey has 15 years of higher education experience with conflict resolution, career development and training. The course has been endorsed by Scott Brown, PhD Physiology, MS Chemistry, master grower, former university professor and

co-founder of the Science of Cannabis Institute., as well as Dr. Matthew Thompson, the Helen D. Cohen Endowed Professorship of Family Medicine, Professor and Vice Chair for Research, Department of Family Medicine, University of Washington.

3. **Course purpose and objectives:** The course will cover WA State marijuana laws and regulations germane to the medical marijuana, MMJ, consultant position, qualifying conditions and possible medical marijuana applications, risks of use, misuse and abuse, safe handling, ethics and customer privacy. Students will become well versed in the legal boundaries of their MMJ consultant roles and responsibilities.

#### 4. **Learning Outcomes:**

- a. Collaboration: Contribute effectively to groups by evaluating different perspectives
- b. Communication: Exchange ideas and information through intentional listening, reading, speaking, writing and presenting.
- c. Critical thought: Analyze, reflect and synthesize information to identify issues, formulate hypotheses, develop strategies and solve problems.
- d. Applied learning: Select, understand, evaluate and use appropriate information resources, theoretical models, quantitative techniques and technology tools.

#### 5. **Module overview:**

- a. **Module 1: Washington State Laws and Rules Relating to Marijuana.** Students will learn the expectations and boundaries of the WA State medical marijuana consultant position. Students will become familiar with the WA medical marijuana database and privacy concerns surrounding its use. We will explore laws that led to legal cannabis in Washington including the Cole Memo, I-502 and SB 5052. We will also examine the role that the WA Liquor and Cannabis Board and the WA Department of Health play in regulating cannabis in the state. Students will be introduced to the legal concept of “affirmative defense.”
- b. **Module 2: Qualifying Conditions: Common Symptoms and Related Products That May Be Beneficial for Medical Use.** Students will become familiar with how best to communicate with medical marijuana patients. We will discuss the boundaries employees must respect and the illegality of practicing medicine without a license. Students will become familiar with each of the qualifying conditions for patient eligibility for medical marijuana in WA State. To improve insight, symptoms of each qualifying condition and the way it impacts life for patients will be discussed. Students will become familiar with the term of co-morbidity and how this may further complicate the daily lives of some patients. Once familiar with the qualifying conditions, we will discuss the types of products available on the market that "may be beneficial for medical use" and the importance of understanding that phrasing.
- c. **Module 3: Short and Long Term Effects of Cannabinoids.** Students will learn about the endocannabinoid system, an endogenous regulating system in the bodies of all vertebrates. While at times the breeding of cannabis has been towards a goal of high THC, industry experts are embracing the idea of Entourage Effect. We will discuss the theorized synergistic relationship between cannabinoids and how that is fueling a new interest in whole plant medicine. We will discuss short and long term effects associated with cannabis use. Students will explore the cannabinoids THC and CBD as well as the body's CB1 and CB2 receptors.

- d. **Module 4: The Products and the Risks and Benefits of Administration Routes and Safe Handling.** We will discuss the overall dangers of using cannabis. Because this course is simply part of a lifetime of developing cannabis knowledge base, students will be encouraged to consider their sourcing of information before acting on and sharing with the public. We also discuss the various methods of administration, including the pros and cons of each option. Safe handling best practices on the job rounds out this module as we learn the best means of protecting the public.
  - e. **Module 5: Customer Rights, Privacy and Ethics.** Students will discuss retail cannabis professionalism as it relates to patients and privacy. Students will learn the basic considerations of customer privacy. We will discuss the importance of having and knowing a retail store's privacy policy. Students will become familiar with the medical marijuana patient database and important practices around its use. We will explore the pros and cons of patient participation in the confidential patient database. We will conclude with a discussion about how good listening skills can make you a better consultant.
  - f. **Module 6: Overuse, Abuse and Addiction.** Students will discuss concerns regarding youth and teen cannabis use and the public safety concerns around it. Students will explore chemical use, substance use disorder and the prevalence of cannabis abuse. The theorized importance of social connection and addiction will be discussed. The class will consider the importance of dopamine to pleasure centers of the brain and the challenge and consequences of impaired driving.
6. **Methods of Instruction:** This is a 20 hour online course with optional in class open format question and answer sessions available to all students to supplement learning and clarify principles.
  7. **Required texts, supplemental readings, and materials:** All required reading materials are included, digitally linked and require no additional investment.
  8. **Learning Resources:** Subject matter has been drawn from a wide variety of private, government and private foundation research and is indexed here:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1K3\\_VX8Gq82VxMvcfiR33jgTAGRibIb-td07y3vb26Uw/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1K3_VX8Gq82VxMvcfiR33jgTAGRibIb-td07y3vb26Uw/edit?usp=sharing)
  9. **Feedback and evaluation; assessment methods:** There are 250 total available points that may be earned in this course. Assignments, test your knowledge quizzes and end of module quizzes all make up grading opportunities in this course. Students are evaluated by overall points scored.
  10. **Grading policy, criteria and scales:** This course will not be graded on a typical letter grade scale but will be a pass/fail opportunity. In order to pass, each student must score at least 175 of a possible 250 points to pass the course.
  11. **Americans with Disabilities Act:** Students with documented disabilities who need course accommodations, have emergency medical information or require special arrangements for building evacuation should contact the instructor within the first two weeks of class.

Please note that Seattle Central College is required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" for students who qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act. For more information on what this may mean for you or your students, please call Disability Support Services at 206 344-4347.

Adapted from:

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