



Health and Nutrition Sciences Honors Directed Research (HNS 83.1) Earn College Credit

Sex, Drugs, and HIV

Dr. Christian Grov has several fantastic opportunities available for HNS students interested in getting involved with HIV, Drug, and Sexuality Research.

Examples of Opportunities for Students

- Gain exposure to qualitative research through transcribing interviews for the Pillow Talk Project. These in depth interviews consist of participants' stories about their sexual experiences both sober and under the influence of alcohol and drugs.
- Assist with managing ongoing research projects- such as help with organizing data.
- Assist with Internet-based project recruitment for the Pillow Talk Project
- Assist in literature search for papers and grants in process. Create annotated bibliographies and literature reviews in support of the publication and funding process.
- Learn how to use the Endnote Reference Manager program and become familiar with how to quickly navigate reference databases and conduct electronic searches.



Ongoing Projects

1. **Sex Diaries and Pillow Talk** is investigating the sexual behaviors of highly sexually active gay and bisexual men. Participants involved in this project are completing quantitative and qualitative interviews, in addition to a daily online-diary. Half the men in this project meet criteria for sexual compulsivity, while the other half do not. This project is specifically interested in developing and informing HIV prevention for gay and bisexual men.
2. **Club drug use among Young Adults**
Between 2004 and 2006, we conducted qualitative and quantitative interviews with 400 club-going drug-using NYC adults (age 18-29). For this study, we collected data on participants' drug use and sexual behavior. Dr. Grov is in the process of analyzing the data and writing up the results.
3. **Developing a HIV risk reduction intervention for Bisexual African American Men**
Recent data on HIV incidence have indicated that African American men are disproportionately impacted by the epidemic. This is further exacerbated among bisexually-active African American men; highlighting the need to develop effective interventions. This project is developing an intervention to reduce HIV transmission risks among bisexually-active African American men.



Students can focus efforts on a single project or work across multiple ones. Students need only have interest in becoming more involved in the research. Prior research experience is not necessary. Students must have 12 credits of HNS coursework completed with at least a 3.0 GPA. Earn 3 credits in HNS 83.1. Time commitment, 150 hours/semester (10 hours/week).

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