

BOSTON UNIVERSITY**Spring 2018 IR 290/HI 331: Drugs and Security in the Americas****M/W/F 12:20-1:10pm****Location: Sargent 102****Professor Timo Schaefer****Pardee School of Global Studies****Office: 154 Bay State Road, Office 304****Email: tschaefer@bu.edu****Office Hours: M/W 1:30-2:30****Course Description:**

Drug trafficking is one of the greatest current threats to security and stability in the Americas. This illicit trade and the efforts to counter it have taken a devastating toll on individuals, societies, and nations. In this class, we will attempt to gain a greater understanding of how drug trafficking became such an immense problem and why it has been so difficult to combat.

After a general introduction to the theme, we will begin by exploring the origins of the international narcotics trade. Why is there such a great demand for drugs? How did the demand for and supply of narcotics develop? We will then focus on the three drugs that historically have had the greatest impact on the Americas: cocaine, marijuana, and opiates. After that, we will address the issue of control and supply, focusing on Latin American and U.S. providers and participants in trafficking networks. How do illegal drugs make their way from producers to consumers? Who participates in trafficking, and why? How did the Americas become involved in a War on Drugs, and why have we been unable to win that war? We will begin the second half of the semester studying the myriad consequences of drug trafficking, including militarization, violence, destabilization, and international tensions. We will conclude by exploring possible solutions to the pressing problem of drug trafficking in the Americas.

Learning Objectives:

1. You will gain knowledge about the historical dynamics and contemporary characteristics of drug trafficking and security in the Americas.
2. You will develop reading, writing, and communication skills that will serve you in your college career and beyond.

Grading:

- 1) **Mid-term exam:** (15%)
- 2) **Final Exam:** (25%)
- 3) **Book Review of *Women Drug Traffickers*:** (20%)
- 4) **News Story Analysis Paper:** (20%)
- 5) **Attendance and Participation:** (20%)

The Plus/Minus system of grading applies in this course.

93-100	A	80-82	B-	67-69	D+
92-90	A-	77-79	C+	63-66	D
87-89	B+	73-76	C	62-60	D-
83-86	B	70-72	C-	59-0	F

Assignment Descriptions:

1. Midterm Exam: In-class, short ID questions. I will distribute a list of possible ID terms one week before the exam. **February 23.**
2. Final Exam: Take-home, essay questions that will require you to think critically about the course content as a whole.
3. Book Review: Write a 4-page review of Elaine Carey's book *Women Drug Traffickers*. Your review should provide an overview of the book and evaluate its strengths and weaknesses. **Due March 16.**
4. News Story Analysis Paper: Write a 4-page analysis of a news story about drugs and security in the Americas. Analyze the story's framing, significance, and contribution to public understandings of drugs and security. **Due April 13.**
5. Attendance and Participation: Active participation will account for a large proportion of the final grade. This means not only coming to classes and actively participating in class discussions, but also turning in a daily file card (directions below). I will subtract 5% from your attendance and participation grade for each unexcused absence after the first. If you are sick, DO NOT COME TO CLASS OR OFFICE HOURS. Let me know, and I will mark your absence as excused.

All assignments should be double-spaced in Times New Roman size 12 font with a one-inch margin on all sides. Number your pages. Use Chicago Style footnote citations (for guidelines on proper citation format, see guide on Blackboard under Content and http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html). **Turn in your assignments on time—there will be a penalty of 5% for each day that an assignment is late.** You will only be allowed to turn in an assignment late without penalty if you have a documented emergency.

Expectations:

1. Communication.
 - a. If you have a question, don't hesitate to raise your hand and ask or contact me privately. If you have a problem or an emergency arises, let me know and I will be very willing to work with you.
 - b. If you need an accommodation for any type of physical or learning disability, medical needs, or any other reason, you should meet with the student disability services office and then meet with me privately to discuss the modifications necessary to ensure your full participation in the course.
2. Proper Academic Conduct. It is your responsibility to know and understand the provisions of the College of Arts and Science's Academic Conduct Code, available

at: <http://www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/>. I will refer cases of suspected academic misconduct to the Dean's Office.

Required Reading:

- Elaine Carey, *Women Drug Traffickers: Mules, Bosses, and Organized Crime* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2014). Available as an e-book through the BU Libraries website.
- News coverage of current events related to drugs and security in the Americas. We will discuss current events at the beginning of class every Monday.
- In addition, there are a number of articles and book chapters assigned for specific classes. These may be found on the class Blackboard web site under Content or in specified library databases (noted in syllabus).

Classes, Topics, and Reading Assignments

Week 1 - Introduction

F, Jan 19

- Course Overview

Week 2 - Demand

M, Jan 22

- Courtwright, David T., *Forces of Habit: Drugs and the Making of the Modern World* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2001), 91-111 (Blackboard)

W, Jan 24

- Comar, Scott, *Border Junkies: Addiction and Survival on the Streets of Juárez and El Paso*, (University of Texas Press, 2011), ix-xi, 1-14 (Blackboard)

F, Jan 26

- Lecture

Week 3 – Origins: Cocaine and Opiates

M, Jan 29

- Grinspoon, Lester and James B. Bakalar, "Coca and Cocaine as Medicines: An Historical Overview," and Naranjo, Plutarco, "Coca and Cocaine as Medicines: An Historical Overview," *Journal of Ethnopharmacology* 3:2 (1981), 149-172 (Elsevier)

W, Jan 31

- Courtwright, David T., *Dark Paradise: A History of Opiate Addiction in America* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1982), 1-34 (ProQuest ebrary)

F, Feb 2

- Lecture

Week 4 – Origins: Marijuana

M, Feb 5

- Campos, Isaac, *Home Grown: Marijuana and the Origins of Mexico's War on Drugs* (Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press, 2012), 1-38 (Blackboard)

W, Feb 7

- Campos, Isaac, *Home Grown: Marijuana and the Origins of Mexico's War on Drugs* (Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press, 2012), 39-66 (Blackboard)

F, Feb 9

- Lecture

Week 5 – Early Control Efforts

M, Feb 12

- Campos, Isaac, "Degeneration and the Origins of Mexico's War on Drugs," *Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos* 26:2 (Summer 2010), 379-408 (JSTOR)

W, Feb 14

- Musto, David F., *American Disease: Origins of Narcotic Control* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999), 1-23 (ProQuest ebrary)

F, Feb 16

- Lecture

Week 6 – Supply and Trafficking

T, Feb 20

- Gootenberg, Paul, "Cocaine's Long March North, 1900-2010," *Latin American Politics and Society* 54:1 (Spring 2012), 159-180 (EBSCOhost)

W, Feb 21

- Scott, Peter Dale and Jonathan Marshall, *Cocaine Politics: Drugs, Armies, and the CIA in Central America* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1998), 23-50 (Blackboard)

F, Feb 23

- Lecture

Week 7 – The War on Drugs: The Beginning

M, Feb 26

- Kuzmarov, Jeremy, “From Counter-Insurgency to Narco-Insurgency: Vietnam and the International War on Drugs,” *Journal of Policy History* 20:3 (2008), 344-378 (EBSCOhost)

W, Feb 28

- MIDTERM

F, Mar 2

- Thompson, Heather, “Why Mass Incarceration Matters: Rethinking Crisis, Decline, and Transformation in Postwar American History” *Journal of American History* 97:3 (December 2010), 703-734 (EBSCOhost)

Mar 3 – Mar 11 Spring Break

Week 8 – The War on Drugs: Spreading the Model Abroad

M, Mar 12

- Bagley, Bruce Michael, “U.S. Foreign Policy and the War on Drugs: Analysis of a Policy Failure,” *Journal of Interamerican Studies and World Affairs* 30: 2/3 (Summer-Autumn 1988), 189-212 (JSTOR)

W, Mar 14

- Tate, Winifred, *Drugs, Thugs, and Diplomats: U.S. Policymaking in Colombia* (Stanford University Press, 2015), 83-108 (Blackboard)

F, Mar 16

- Lecture
- BOOK REVIEW OF WOMEN DRUG TRAFFICKERS DUE

Week 9 – Consequences: Militarization and Economic Distortion

M, Mar 19

- Isacson, Adam, “The U.S. Military in the War on Drugs,” in Coletta A. Youngers and Eileen Rosin, eds., *Drugs and Democracy in Latin America: The Impact of U.S. Policy* (Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2005), 15-60 (Blackboard)

W, Mar 21

- Thoumi, Francisco E., "The Economic Impact of Narcotics in Colombia" in Peter H. Smith, ed., *Drug Policy in the Americas* (Boulder: Westview Press, 1992), 57-71 (Blackboard)

F, Mar 23

- Lecture

Week 10 – Consequences: Instability and Violence

M, Mar 26

- Diane E. Davis, "Irregular Armed Forces, Shifting Patterns of Commitment, and Fragmented Sovereignty in the Developing World," *Theory and Society* Vol. 39, No. 3/4 (May 2010), 397-413 (JSTOR)

W, Mar 28

- Kenny, Paul and Mónica Serrano, "Introduction: Security Failure Versus State Failure," in Paul Kenny and Mónica Serrano, eds., *Mexico's Security Failure: Collapse into Criminal Violence* (New York: Routledge, 2012), 1-25 (Blackboard)
- Knight, Alan. "Narco-Violence and the State in Modern Mexico," in *Violence, Coercion, and State-Making in Twentieth-Century Mexico: The Other Half of the Centaur*, Wil G. Pansters, ed. (Stanford, 2012), 115-134 (ebrary)

F, Mar 30

- Lecture

Week 11 – Consequences: Corruption and Cultural Innovation

M, Apr 2

- Maingot, Anthony P., "Laundering the Gains of the Drug Trade: Miami and Caribbean Tax Havens," *Journal of Interamerican Studies and World Affairs* 30: 2/3 (Summer-Autumn 1988), 167-187 (JSTOR)
- Eells, Josh, "America's Dirtiest Cops: Cash, Cocaine, and Corruption on the Texas Border," *Rolling Stone*, January 5, 2015 (EBSCOhost)

W, Apr 4

- Morrison, Amanda Maria, "Musical Trafficking: Urban Youth and the Narcocorrido-Hardcore Rap Nexus," *Western Folklore* 67:4 (Fall 2008), 379-396 (JSTOR)
- Penn, Sean, "El Chapo Speaks: A Secret Visit with the Most Wanted Man in the World," *Rolling Stone*, January 9, 2016, <http://www.rollingstone.com/culture/features/el-chapo-speaks-20160109>

F, Apr 6

- Lecture

Week 12 – Drugs as Entertainment

M, Apr 9

- Movie: “Clear and Present Danger” (Phillip Noyce, 1994)

W, Apr 11

- Movie: “Clear and Present Danger”

F, Apr 13

- Movie: “Clear and Present Danger”
- NEWS STORY ANALYSIS PAPER DUE

Week 13 – Alternatives to the War on Drugs: Community Policing

W, Apr 18

- Robert MacCoun and Peter Reuter, “The Varieties of Drug Control at the Dawn of the Twenty-First Century,” *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* Vol. 582 (July 2002), 7-19 (JSTOR)

F, Apr 20

- Enrique Desmond Arias and Mark Ungar, “Community Policing and Latin America’s Citizen Security Crisis,” *Comparative Politics* 41: 4 (July 2009), 409-429 (JSTOR)

Week 14 – Alternatives to the War on Drugs: Legalization and Local Measures

M, Apr 23

- MacCoun, Robert and Peter Reuter, “Interpreting Dutch Cannabis Policy: Reasoning by Analogy in the Legalization Debate,” *Science, New Series*, 278: 5335 (Oct 1997), 47-52 (JSTOR)

W, Apr 25

- Haaga, John G. and Peter Reuter, “The Limits of the Czar’s Ukase: Drug Policy at the Local Level,” *Yale Law and Policy Review* 8:1 (1990), 36-74 (JSTOR)

F, Apr 27

- Lecture

Week 15 – Conclusion: Coping with Drugs

M, Apr 30

- tba

W, May 2

- Conclusions: The War on Drugs Today

FINAL EXAM