"Drugs" are everywhere and policies differ across time and place. In Denmark, Belgium and South Australia personal possession of marijuana is legal but unlikely to produce a societal conviction. In The Netherlands a small amount of cannabis can be legally bought and consumed in coffee shops; shop owners cannot advertise, sell large quantities or to minors and must pay taxes. As a result of the drug war, the United States has now become the democratic country with the highest proportion of its citizens behind bars. In 1999 New Mexico Governor Gary Johnson, a Republican, called for a debate on legalization of drugs. Why is there so much disagreement on how to deal with consumption of drugs? Why have drugs become such an important aspect of international politics that the President would authorize an invasion of a small neighboring country (Panama 1989) and Congress would impose sanctions on a fellow democratic nation (Colombia 1996-97)? How have the anti-drug policies adopted by different consuming and producing countries varied and why? How should international cooperation in dealing with the drug trade be institutionalized and made more effective?

This course examines the domestic and international aspects of the drug trade in a search for answers to these and other questions. We investigate the drug war from the perspectives of consumers, producers, traffickers, money launderers, law enforcement, and crime victims. The course draws on the experiences of violence, consuming, producing and trafficking countries throughout the world.

Course Requirements: Grading will be based on a midterm (40%) and final exam (60%).

Readings: Readings are distributed among web sites, a book (David R. Mars, Drug Wars and Coffeeshops) and a stereo packet available through University Reader Printing Service; you can obtain them at www.universityreaders.com or RSE-552-1120. One course packet and one copy of my book will be on reserve at the library. You should also pursue the statistics on drug use at the US. http://mothersagainstdrugs.org for 8th, 10th and 12th graders and http://www.gallup.com/stories/stories.aspx for the population aged 12 years and older. We will examine the statistical evidence for other countries, but no other country has as extensive an empirical record across time, substance and geography (urban/rural and national in scope).

Introduction

Week 1: Conceptualizing the issues

Douglas Horak and Stanoss Poole, "'One of the major problems of our society': symbolism and evidence of drug harms in U.S. Supreme Court decisions" Contemporary Drug Problems 25:Summer 1998 pp. 191-233


David R. Mars, Drug Wars and Coffeeshops Chapters 1 and 2
Week 2: The Consumer

David R. Mares, *Drug Wars and Coffeehouses* Chapter 3

Jerold W. Cloyd, "People and Problematic Meanings: The Existential Effects, Social Contexts, and Class Conflict Surrounding Drug Use" pp. 17-56 in his *Drugs and information control*


Week 3: Production Dynamics

David R. Mares, *Drug Wars and Coffeehouses* Chapter 4


Peter Reuter, "After the Borders Are Sealed: Can Domestic Sources Substitute for Imported Drugs?" in Peter H. Smith, ed., *Drug Policy in the Americas* pp. 163-177

Week 4: Domestic Trafficking


Ian Walder and Sheila Murphy, "Perceived Risks and Criminal Justice Pressures on Middle Class Cocaine Sellers." *The Journal of Drug Issues* (23) 1993 pp. 11-32


Week 5: International Trafficking

David R. Mares, *Drug Wars and Coffeehouses* Chapter 5


Ada Nucci, "Italy: 'Mafia-dominated' Drug Market?" in Nicholas Dorn, Jürgen Jepson and Ernesto Savona, eds., *European Drug Policies and Enforcement* pp. 119-130

Week 6: Money Laundering

David R. Mares, *Drug Wars and Coffeehouses* Chapter 6

Ennio Savona, “Money Laundering, the Developed Countries and Drug Control: the New Agenda” in Dam, Jesper and Savona, eds., European Drug Policies and Enforcement pp. 231-241


MID-TERM EXAMINATION TUE

Part Two: Policies for Dealing with the Drug Trade

Week 7: International Cooperation

David R. Mares, Drug Wars and Coffeehouses Chapter 7


William B. McAllister, Drug Diplomacy in the Twentieth Century, Chapters 7 & 8, pp. 185-239

Week 8: Domestic Control


David R. Mares, Drug Wars and Coffeehouses Chapters 8 and 10 (U.S. and Sweden)

Week 9: Domestic Liberalization


David R. Mares, Drug Wars and Coffeehouses Chapter 9 (The Netherlands)

Week 10: Unilateral Policies

Raphael F. Perl, "International Drug Policy and the U.S. Congress" in Perl, ed., Drugs and Foreign Policy pp 61-78

Maria Cella Tero, "Unilateralism and Bilateralism" in Peter H. Smith, ed., Drug Policy in the Americas Westview, 1992 pp. 316-328