

HS3092 – A Brief History of Drug Use in Western Cultures

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What???

There haven't been many topics more controversial than drugs in North America. Drug use is one of those features of humanity that goes back into prehistory, and in many ways our current drug use isn't significantly different in a lot of ways. This course seeks to examine present-day debates about drugs through historical, sociological and ethical perspectives.

Mark Breakdown

Academic Book Review: *Forces of Habit* by David Courtright = 25% (**DUE: March 14, in class**)

Mid-term exam: in class, multiple-choice = 25%

Final exam: 2 hour final, multiple-choice = 50%

Course Schedule

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| January 3rd | – Course introduction, syllabus review, etc |
| January 10th | – Moral Panics (Movie: Reefer Madness: 67 mins) |
| January 14-17th | – Moral Panics & Tobacco
Read: 1.) Moral Panics
2.) Tobacco Use and the Construction of the Canadian Citizen |
| January 21-24th | – Cannabis
Read: Cannabis Law Reform in Canada |
| January 28-31st | – Alcohol
Read: 1.) Joe Beef of Montreal
2.) From Beverage to Drug |
| February 4-7th | – Opium & Heroin
Read: 1.) Deporting 'Ah Sin' to Save the White Race |
| February 11-18th | – Theories of Addiction (Documentary: Fix: 92 mins)
Read: 1.) Addiction: A Disease of Learning and Memory
2.) A Hard Habit to Break |
| February 21-25th | – Reading Week! |
| February 28th | – Harm Reduction (Documentary: Through a Blue Lens: 52 mins)
Read: 1.) Harm Reduction: Come as you are |
| March 4th | – In-class mid-term |

March 7-11th	– Performance-Enhancing Drugs: Mind & Body Read: 1.) Popping Pills to Study 2.) Gremlins of Sport
March 14-18th	– Cocaine Read: 1.) Cocaine History, Use, Abuse. 2.) The Setting for the Crack Era
March 21-25th	– LSD, Theophany & The Good Friday Experiment Read: 1.) Do Drugs have Religious Import? 2.) Mission of Madness
March 28-April 1st	– Disease Promotion? (Research & Advertising of Pharmaceuticals) Read: 1.) Leopards in the Temple 2.) Conflicting Interests in Toronto
April 4th	– Exam Review, Q & A

Readings

- readings assigned on WebCT

Plagiarism

“All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).”

Late Penalties

Forgetting to submit an assignment, or trying to submit it in another fashion not approved by Dr. Kirkwood will result in a grade of 0% without exception.

Other Academic Discipline Issues

Please see the document on WebCT about all expectations and obligations you have as students, and what remedies or penalties you might expect.