“Drugs” are everywhere and policies differ across time and place. In Denmark, Belgium and South Australia personal possession of marijuana is illegal but unlikely to produce a criminal conviction. In The Netherlands 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. 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 first impose sanctions on a fellow democratic nation (Colombia 1996-97) and then give it $1.3 billion dollars? How have the anti-drug policies adopted by different consuming and producing countries varied and why? How might international cooperation in dealing with the drug trade be increased 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 issue from the perspective of consumers, producers, traffickers, money launderers, law enforcement, and crime victims. The course draws on the experiences of various consuming, producing, trafficking and money-laundering countries throughout the world.

**Course Requirements:** midterm (40%) and final exam (60%)

**Readings:** Readings are in a xerox packet available through University Reader Printing Service; they will come to the class to sell the packet. Two readings are available free of charge: David R. Mares, “Drug Wars and Coffee Houses” chapters 1 and 2, available on my page in the Political Science department web site, polisci.ucsd.edu/faculty/mares.htm. **No course packet will be on reserve at the library.**

**Week 1: Conceptualizing the Issues**


David R. Mares, “Drug Wars and Coffee Houses” chapter 1
Part One: The Dynamics of the Phenomenon

Session 2: Consumer Dynamics

Jerald W. Cloyd, “People and Problematic Meanings: The Existential Effects, Social Contexts, and Class Conflict Surrounding Drug Use” pp. 17-58 in his Drugs and information control


David R. Mares, “Drug Wars and Coffee Houses” chapter 2

Session 3: Production Dynamics


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


Session 4: Trafficking Dynamics

Mark Harrison Moore, “Avoiding Arrests and Rip-offs: The General Structure of an Illicit Market in Heroin” in his Buy or Bust Lexington Books, 1977 pp. 5-65

Dan Waldorf and Sheigla Murphy, “Perceived Risks and Criminal Justice Pressures on Middle Class Cocaine Sellers” The Journal of Drug Issues (25)1 1995 pp. 11-32


Session 5: Movie on Heroin Trafficking

Session 6: Review & MID-TERM EXAMINATION

Session 7: Money Laundering


“International Money Laundering: Law Enforcement and Foreign Policy” Hearings before the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Narcotics and International Operations of the Committee on Foreign Relations, US Senate September 27 and October 4, 1989 pp. 1-51
Part Two: Policies for Dealing with the Drug Phenomenon

Session 8: Domestically-Oriented Policies: Controlling Demand or Liberalizing the Drug Laws?


Session 9: Unilateral International Policies

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


Session 10: Cooperative International Policies

