



ANTX1006

Drugs Across Cultures

Session 1, Online-flexible 2022

Macquarie School of Social Sciences

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Timothy Lynch

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

Using anthropological and ethnographic studies, this unit focuses mainly on the social and cultural contexts of drug use, both legal and illegal. Topics include: the international traffic in opium/heroin and cocaine in the Golden Triangle of mainland South-East Asia and in South America and the way this traffic inter-meshes with regional politics and local tribal, peasant and commercial systems of production and exchange; the social history of drugs in the USA, UK and Australia; youth culture and drugs in the West; AIDS and intravenous drug use; addiction and treatment; drugs and the law; the global political economy of pharmaceuticals, particularly contraceptives, erectile dysfunction drugs, and antiretrovirals in the age of AIDS; and the placebo effect. Students will learn to appreciate the complex ways that drug use is shaped by cultural, historical, economic, and political factors on a global scale. This unit also examines psychological theories of addiction and the neurology of drug use. All enrolment queries should be directed to Open Universities Australia (OUA): see www.open.edu.au

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- ULO1:** Demonstrate a basic understanding of the pharmacology of recreational drugs.
- ULO3:** Show familiarity with anthropological and ethnographic approaches to drug use, including the ritual and symbolic aspects of drug use.
- ULO2:** Describe the physical, psychological and social aspects of addiction.
- ULO4:** Describe the impact of broad social, political, and economic forces on drug use

and on social perceptions of drugs, including how social perceptions of drugs are influenced by gender, class, and ethnicity.

ULO5: Identify the influence of local, regional, and global factors on drug production and distribution.

ULO6: Apply anthropological knowledge to real world issues and clarify your own position on drugs to be able to make informed decisions about drug policy.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Mid-Semester Quiz	20%	No	Week 7
Weekly Quizzes	40%	No	Weekly
Final Exam	40%	No	Week 13

Mid-Semester Quiz

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 5 hours

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **20%**

An open-note, online, mid-term quiz will assess comprehensive knowledge of lectures and readings for the first half of the semester

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a basic understanding of the pharmacology of recreational drugs.
- Show familiarity with anthropological and ethnographic approaches to drug use, including the ritual and symbolic aspects of drug use.
- Describe the physical, psychological and social aspects of addiction.
- Describe the impact of broad social, political, and economic forces on drug use and on social perceptions of drugs, including how social perceptions of drugs are influenced by gender, class, and ethnicity.
- Identify the influence of local, regional, and global factors on drug production and distribution.
- Apply anthropological knowledge to real world issues and clarify your own position on drugs to be able to make informed decisions about drug policy.

Weekly Quizzes

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 13 hours

Due: **Weekly**

Weighting: **40%**

Weekly quizzes based on lecture materials and weekly readings. They are completed through iLearn and they are open-note and open-book.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a basic understanding of the pharmacology of recreational drugs.
- Show familiarity with anthropological and ethnographic approaches to drug use, including the ritual and symbolic aspects of drug use.
- Describe the physical, psychological and social aspects of addiction.
- Describe the impact of broad social, political, and economic forces on drug use and on social perceptions of drugs, including how social perceptions of drugs are influenced by gender, class, and ethnicity.
- Identify the influence of local, regional, and global factors on drug production and distribution.
- Apply anthropological knowledge to real world issues and clarify your own position on drugs to be able to make informed decisions about drug policy.

Final Exam

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 13 hours

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **40%**

A final exam will assess cumulative knowledge of lectures, readings and films from the entire semester.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a basic understanding of the pharmacology of recreational drugs.
- Show familiarity with anthropological and ethnographic approaches to drug use,

including the ritual and symbolic aspects of drug use.

- Describe the physical, psychological and social aspects of addiction.
- Describe the impact of broad social, political, and economic forces on drug use and on social perceptions of drugs, including how social perceptions of drugs are influenced by gender, class, and ethnicity.
- Identify the influence of local, regional, and global factors on drug production and distribution.
- Apply anthropological knowledge to real world issues and clarify your own position on drugs to be able to make informed decisions about drug policy.

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Lecture recordings will be available through 'Echo' on the unit iLearn page. All required readings are available through Leganto, also on the iLearn page. Additional readings can be accessed online through the Macquarie University Library.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about

throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

The Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via [AskMQ](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.