

DRUGS, CRIME AND SOCIETY***Responsible Faculty Instructor:*****Dr. A. Michael Loordhu Valan (a.michael@jgu.edu.in)**

Associate Professor, JGLS

Credits: 4Credits Type: Non-Law/Cross ElectiveCross-registration: YesPre-requisites: Nil**COURSE DESCRIPTION (COURSE VISION):**

The link between drugs and crime is a complex phenomenon with extensive effects on individuals, communities, and society. This complex relationship involves not only the indirect impacts on criminal behaviour and public safety, but also direct other criminal activities related to drug manufacturing, distribution, gang violence and use. To develop effective responses to drug-related challenges, stakeholders including policymakers, law enforcement agencies, healthcare professionals, and the public must thoroughly understand this intersectionality. Drug abuse, addiction, and usage are closely linked to criminal behaviour. Substance abuse/misuse can drive individuals to commit crimes such as theft, robbery, or drug trafficking to retain their addiction. Additionally, the illegal drug trade fuels organized crime networks, leading to increased violence and instability in communities. Drug use further aggravates social disorders, resulting in higher rates of child abuse, domestic violence, and property crime.

In this context, the course explores the complex relationship between drug use, drug trafficking, and their effects on society and the criminal justice system. It examines the drug-crime nexus in India by drawing on historical developments, criminological theoretical perspectives, and the typology of drugs along with their psychoactive and behavioural effects. Using comprehensive data on drug enforcement and investigation, the course critically assesses intervention strategies and their broader social implications. It also addresses the role of counselling and therapeutic interventions in the prevention and management of drug addiction.

Additionally, students will systematically understand Indian drug laws and their implications for law enforcement. In the end, this course equips students with the knowledge and skills necessary to actively engage in discussions and initiatives related to historical understanding of drugs, drug-related policies, effects, role of criminal justice, and public safety.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY:

The teaching pedagogy for this course will include a combination of interactive and research-oriented approaches. Classroom lectures will be supplemented with discussions on important theoretical perspectives, policy frameworks and research-based readings to deepen conceptual understanding. Group discussions and audio-visual documentaries will be integrated to promote critical thinking and real-world relevance.

Guest lectures by professionals and subject experts will provide practical insights into the link among drugs, crime, and society. The qualitative and quantitative assessment pattern will ensure a balanced evaluation of students' analytical and empirical understanding. Additionally, students will be encouraged to undertake field-based research connecting with the course objectives, promoting experiential learning. Overall, the course aims to offer a holistic and interdisciplinary educational experience.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the end of the course, students will,

- remember the problem of drug use and its impact
- correlate the connection between drug use and crime
- aware of the preventive strategies of drug use and sensitize the society

READING LIST (up to 10 select readings):

1. Brownstein, H. H. (2016). *The Handbook of Drugs and society*. John Wiley et Sons, Inc.
2. Deitch, David & Koutsenok, Igor & Ruiz, Amanda. (2000). The Relationship Between Crime and Drugs: What We Have Learned in Recent Decades. *Journal of psychoactive drugs*. 32. 391-7. 10.1080/02791072.2000.10400241.
3. Levinthal, C. F., & Lovins, L. B. (2020). *Drugs, society, and criminal justice*. Pearson.
4. Schroeder, R. D., & Ford, J. A. (2012). Prescription Drug Misuse: A Test of Three Competing Criminological Theories. *Journal of Drug Issues*, 42(1), 4-27.
5. Lurigio, Arthur & Swartz, James. (1999). The nexus between drugs and crime: Theory, research, and practice. *Federal probation*. 63. 67-72.
6. Nordstrom, Benjamin & Dackis, Charles. (2011). Drugs and Crime. *The Journal of Psychiatry & Law*. 39. 663-687. 10.1177/009318531103900407.
7. Rafeaie, R., Olyae, S., & Sargolzaie, A. (2013). The relationship between the type of crime and drugs in addicted prisoners in zahedan central prison. *International journal of high risk behaviors & addiction*, 2(3), 139–140. <https://doi.org/10.5812/ijhrba.13977>
8. UNODC. (2024) *World Drug Report 2024*. USA: United Nations Office on Drugs And Crime
9. Kethineni, Sessa; Guyon, Lois; Fennick, Ruth McLennan (1995). *Drug use in India: Historical traditions and current problems*. *International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice*, 19(2), 211–221. doi:10.1080/01924036.1995.9678548
10. Bean, P. (2010). *Legalizing Drugs: Debates and Dilemmas*, Cambridge: Policy Press

WEEKLY READING PLAN (WEEKLY OUTLINE):

A weekly plan is provided below:

MODULES	WEEK(S)
<p>MODULE 1: INTRODUCTION TO DRUGS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This module covers topics such as the introduction to drugs and narcotics, myths and realities surrounding drug use, and an understanding of their prevalence in India. 	Week 1
<p>MODULE 2: HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE ON DRUGS AND CRIME</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This module covers topics such as, historical perspective of narcotic drugs in India and the world. It also covers the colonialism and the political economy of drugs 	Week 2
<p>MODULE 3: CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORIES AND DRUG-RELATED OFFENCES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of some criminological theories connecting drugs narcotic drugs will be covered. Some critical - Critical Scholarship such as race, inequality, and the politics of drug control will also be covered. 	Week 3
<p>MODULE 4: DRUG LAWS AND ENFORCEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In this week, topics such as national and international legal instruments dealing with narcotic drugs and its syndicate will be discussed. Along with this, costs and benefits of law enforcement strategies will also be discussed. 	Week 4
<p>MODULE 5: TYPOLOGY OF DRUGS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This module covers topics such as overview of some of the highly prevalent drugs such as Marijuana, Opioids, Cocaine and Methamphetamines and its impacts in the society. 	Week 5
<p>MODULE 6: TYPOLOGY OF DRUGS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This module covers topics such as overview of some of the highly prevalent drugs such as alcohol, hallucinogens, depressants, and synthetic drugs and its impacts in the society. 	Week 6
<p>MODULE 7: JUVENILE AND DRUGS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This module covers topics such connection with juveniles and drug abuse, its impact in the society, theories related to juvenile drug use, rehabilitative measures. 	Week 7

<p>MODULE 8: PSYCHOLOGY OF DRUG ADDICTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This module covers topics such psychology of drugs, understanding addiction, public safety, impact of addiction in the society and drug addiction prevention program. 	Week 8
<p>MODULE 9: DRUG MARKET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topics including understanding the drug market, peddlers, trafficking routes, and Distribution Networks 	Week 9
<p>MODULE 10: DRUG TRAFFICKING AND TERRORISM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This module covers some aspects of connection with drug trafficking and terrorism, narco-terrorism, money laundering, process of narco-terrorism, case studies. 	Week 10
<p>MODULE 11: TREATMENT OF DRUGS ADDICTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modules cover some components including, punishment for drug crimes and human rights discourse, treatment and rehabilitation of drug offenders 	Week 11
<p>MODULE 12: ROLE OF MEDIA IN DRUG ABUSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In this module discussion related to the role of media in reporting and prevention drug related information, best practices, how media portrays drug related crimes will be covered. 	Week 12
<p>MODULE 13: Debate on Legalizing Drug</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topics such issues and challenges in legalizing drugs in India and the globe. Discussions will also be held to compare and suggest the best practices followed in other countries and its applicability in the Indian context. 	Week 13
<p>MODULE 14: INTERVENTION STRATEGIES: POLICIES AND PRACTICES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The module highlights the roles of the criminal justice system, public health institutions, and community-based initiatives in addressing the issue. 	Week 14
<p>REVISION WEEK</p>	Week 15