Course Specifications
Valid in the academic year 2017-2018

Selected Issues: Drug Policy (B001167)

Course
Specifications

Lecturers in academic year 2017-2018
Colman, Charlotte  RE23  lecturer-in-charge
Decorte, Tom  RE23  co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2017-2018
Master of Science in Criminological Sciences
4  1
Master of Laws in Laws
4  1

Teaching languages
Dutch

Keywords
drug phenomena, drug sector, vulnerable groups, societal factors, criminal policy, international policy, policy strategies

Position of the course
In this course, we will discuss the drug phenomenon in depth. Furthermore, we will focus on a specific drug phenomenon topic, i.e. the different levels of the drug supply chain.
The course aims to focus on the European and international context of the drug phenomenon, besides the national context. The course strives to promote the critical insight of the students in the possibilities and restrictions of the (international) drug policy as an answer to the drug phenomenon.

Contents
• Study of different levels of the drug markets in the consuming countries: local (retailsale), middle and upper-level drug markets
• Studying specific drug supply cases: focus on the drug problems in Afghanistan, focus on the aspect of drug-related crime as an indicator for monitoring drug supply, the production of cannabis, drug houses.
• Thoroughly studying relevant policy documents with respect to the EU and international drug policy.
• Mechanisms of social exclusion. Drug use patterns in minority groups are discussed, e.g. (im)migrants, refugees, etc., and the aspects that define these patterns, i.e. (international) drug policy, migration and migration policy, economic aspects (drug markets, drug trade, availability), and socio-cultural aspects. Attention is directed towards the historical dimension and towards acculturation processes.

Initial competences
No specific competences are required to start this course. This course builds on the knowledge students have acquired in various courses over the past few years.

(course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)
Credits 4.0  Study time 120 h  Contact hrs 45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2017-2018
1 (semester 2) Dutch
  group work 5.0 h
  seminar 5.0 h
  lecture 35.0 h

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(Approved)
Final competences

1. Understanding of basic concepts and theoretical insights used by the prominent disciplines who contribute(d) to the criminological study of the drug phenomenon.

2. Insight into the possibilities and limitations of the drug policy as an answer to a societal phenomenon.

3. A multidisciplinary insight into the quantitative, qualitative en contextual aspects of the drug phenomenon, including an EU and international dimension.

4. Critically reflect on drug phenomena and the social and individual reactions towards it.

5. Formulate a personal, scientifically based opinion about how to approach drug phenomena.

6. Independently consult, analyse and judge scientific sources from criminology in the framework of the drug phenomenon and the international and European drug policy.

7. Formulate personal, original and critical reflections on the international and EU policy concerning drug problems, based on group discussions.

8. Present, in writing and orally, a theme on the supply side of a drug phenomenon within the framework of the international and EU policy.

9. A critical and scientific attitude towards (historical) sources, (scientific) literature and (empirical) data concerning drug phenomena.

10. Be willing to go deeply into and to empathize with divergent situations, perspectives and experiences with intoxicating substances (and the reactions towards it) within diverse target groups and actors working in the field (‘empathic ability’).

11. A critical-scientific attitude towards, sources, (scientific) literature and (empiric) data on the drug phenomenon and on the (European and international) drug policy.

12. Respect and integrate integrity and deontology in the working field.

13. Demonstrate a sense for pluralism, diversity and tolerance when identifying and assessing existing, new or evolving phenomena within the drug phenomenon.

14. A thorough knowledge of the scientific and drug related English technical jargon.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in ‘Starting Competences’

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, lecture, seminar

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lectures (75%), group work (20%), seminar (5%)

Students have to write a paper which they will present orally during seminar after which the opposition will ask questions about the paper. The group work and the seminar arouse further (cricital) reflection about the treated subject material.

Learning materials and price

Partim prof. De Ruyver:
• Syllabus is an e-reader composed by scientific contributions and slides that are distributed via Minerva.

Partim prof. Decorte:

(Approved)
The students may receive information on the subject matter during the lectures, during the practical exercise, and during office hours of the university teachers or assistants. Furthermore, the Minerva forum provides interactive support. Personal interactive support is possible by mail or individual support after making an appointment. Interaction is encouraged during lectures. During the practical exercise, students have to work in group. This boosts critical reflection.

Course content-related study coaching
The students may receive information on the subject matter during the lectures, during the practical exercise, and during office hours of the university teachers or assistants. Furthermore, the Minerva forum provides interactive support. Personal interactive support is possible by mail or individual support after making an appointment. Interaction is encouraged during lectures. During the practical exercise, students have to work in group. This boosts critical reflection.

Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment
Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period
Oral examination
Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
Oral examination
Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
Participation, assignment
Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
examination during the second examination period is possible
Extra information on the examination methods
Periodical evaluation: oral examination (75 %), consists of two parts;
Non-periodic evaluation: preparation of a paper with oral presentation (25 %);
Non-periodic evaluation
a) Paper (group)
   i. Preparation of a paper
   ii. An oral presentation of the paper during the working seminars
b) Working seminar ‘Opposition’: Critical reflections on one paper (individual)
   Students have to write a paper which they will present orally during seminar after which the opposition will ask questions about the paper. The group work and seminar arouse further (critical) reflection about the treated subject material.
Calculation of the examination mark
• Periodical evaluation: oral exam 75% (part prof. De Ruyver and prof Decorte)
• Non-periodic evaluation: group work & seminar 25% (part of NN)
STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL EVALUATION

(Approved)
COMPONENTS (both periodic and non-periodic evaluation). Students who do not participate in all evaluations achieve maximum 7/20 for this course.

Facilities for Working Students

Students may contact the lecturer in the course of the semester to gain more detailed information on the course matter and the topics that are to be studied for the exam. The academic assistants are also available to provide more information (via mail or after making an appointment).