

Drugs and Germs in Global Trade and Empire
History 79-752
Revised to reflect cancellation of 1/22 class

Instructor: Caroline Acker
Office: Baker Hall 240C
Email address: acker@andrew.cmu.edu
Phone: 412 268 6040

Class meeting time and place: Thursdays 9:00 to 11:50 am in BH 246A

Course Description: The course will begin in the period just before the European voyages of exploration and will end in the late twentieth century. It will follow drugs across oceans and borders from when they became important commodities in the emerging global trade of the early modern period. It will also examine social and cultural contexts of and meanings ascribed to drug use by different peoples in different times. In particular, it will examine what happens to patterns of use as a drug moves from one social, cultural, and economic setting to another. Drugs to be followed will include opium, tobacco, chocolate, and coffee in the early modern period as these drugs were used in China, India, Mesoamerica, Europe, and the Middle East. Later readings will focus on heroin and cocaine trafficking and use in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries in Latin America and the United States.

As people increasingly traveled long distances around the world, bacteria and viruses traveled with them to places where populations were unfamiliar with them. Resulting epidemics sparked panic as well as more orderly attempts to control and prevent epidemic outbreaks. Over time and with new or continued exposure, people and pathogens evolved into new forms of relationship. Some species purposely brought to new lands also altered ecological arrangements. Among the diseases to be analyzed in specific settings, especially port cities in several continents, are cholera, malaria, and bubonic plague.

Both drugs and disease posed challenges that elicited state action. Drugs could be sources of state revenue, or objects of concern based on their effects on behavior, or both; they could also be medicines for the treatment of disease. Disease could cause social upheaval and sap productivity. States acted vigorously to attempt to structure the market channels in which drugs moved and to control the spread of infectious disease. Moreover, states sometimes responded to drug use and disease outbreak in similar ways. Both drug use and disease elicited state attempts to control subjects' or citizens' behavior. The spread of drug use in populations was compared to the spread of disease. The course will examine how attempts to control drug trade and disease incidence influenced not just the actions of states but also the bases for states' claims to power and authority.

This course falls in the Technology, Environment, Science, and Health cluster.

Assignments: Beginning in week 2 (Jan. 22), students will submit a two to three page double-spaced essay discussing the week's readings to Blackboard by 12:00 pm the day before class. Each student will submit a four to five double-spaced essay on a week's readings once during this semester (this essay replaces the shorter one for that week). These longer essays should also be posted by 5:00 pm the day before class. Students should read all the posted essays before class meets. In weeks when a student has written a 4-5 page essay, that student will lead class discussion for the first half of the class session (9:00 to 10:20).

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Alfred W. Crosby, Jr. *The Columbian Exchange: Biological and Cultural Consequences of 1492*. 30th Anniversary Edition. Westport, Conn: Praeger, 2003. (First edition was published in 1972.)

Marcy Norton. *Sacred Gifts, Profane Pleasures: A History of Tobacco and Chocolate in the Atlantic World*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2008.

James H. Mills. *Cannabis Britannica: Empire, Trade, and Prohibition, 1800-1928*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003.

Myron Echenberg. *Plague Ports: The Global Urban Impact of Bubonic Plague, 1894-1901*. New York: New York University Press, 2007.

Richard Evans. *Death in Hamburg: Society and Politics in the Cholera Years 1820-1910*. Penguin, 2005.

Matthew Gandy and Alimuddin Zumla, eds. *The Return of the White Plague: Global Poverty and the "New" Tuberculosis*. London: Verso, 2003.

Paul Gootenberg. *Andean Cocaine: The Making of a Global Drug*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2009.

Warwick Anderson. *Colonial Pathologies: American Tropical Medicine, Race, and Hygiene in the Philippines*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2006.

Alfred W. McCoy. *The Politics of Heroin: CIA Complicity in the Global Drug Trade*. Revised and expanded edition of *The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia*. Brooklyn, Lawrence Hill, 1991.

Philippe Bourgois. *In Search of Respect: Selling Crack in El Barrio*. Second edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.

Paul Farmer. *Infections and Inequalities: The Modern Plagues*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999 .

WEEKLY READINGS:

Jan. 15:

Charles E. Rosenberg. "Disease and Social Order in America: Perceptions and Expectations." In Elizabeth Fee and Daniel M. Fox., eds. *AIDS: The Burdens of History* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1988), 12-32.

Günter B. Risse. "Epidemics and History: Ecological Perspectives." In Elizabeth Fee and Daniel M. Fox., eds. *AIDS: The Burdens of History* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1988), 33-66.

Howard Becker. "Becoming a Marijuana User" and "Marijuana and Social Control." In *Outsiders: Studies in the Sociology of Deviance* (New York: Free Press, 1963), 41-78.

Andrew Sherratt. "Introduction: Peculiar Substances." In Jordan Goodman, Paul E. Lovejoy, and Andrew Sherratt, eds. *Consuming Habits: Global and Historical Perspectives on How Cultures Define Drugs*. 2nd edition. (London: Routledge, 2007), 1-10.

Jordan Goodman and Paul E. Lovejoy. "Afterword." In Jordan Goodman, Paul E. Lovejoy, and Andrew Sherratt, eds. *Consuming Habits: Global and Historical Perspectives on How Cultures Define Drugs*. 2nd edition. (London: Routledge, 2007), 255-60.

All articles available at Blackboard.

Jan. 22: Class cancelled because of instructor illness.

Jan. 29: Alfred W. Crosby, Jr. *The Columbian Exchange: Biological and Cultural Consequences of 1492*. 30th Anniversary Edition. Westport, Conn: Praeger, 2003. (First edition was published in 1972.)

Recommended reading: Samuel Eliot Morison. *The European Discovery of America: The Northern Voyages A.D. 500-1600*. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1971.)

Feb. 5: Marcy Norton. *Sacred Gifts, Profane Pleasures: A History of Tobacco and Chocolate in the Atlantic World*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2008.

CLASS MEETS AT 5 HIGHLAND COURT; BREAKFAST WILL BE PROVIDED.

Recommended reading: Richard Evans Schultes and Albert Hofmann. *Plants of the Gods: Origins of Hallucinogenic Use*. New York: McGraw Hill, 1979.

Andrew Weil. *The Marriage of the Sun and the Moon: A Quest for Unity in Consciousness*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1981.

Feb. 12: James H. Mills. *Cannabis Britannica: Empire, Trade, and Prohibition, 1800-1928*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003.”

James H. Mills and Patrician Barton. “Introduction.” In James H. Mills and Patricia Barton, eds. *Drugs and Empires: Essays in Modern Imperialism and Intoxication, c. 1500-c. 1930* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007), 1-16. Available at Blackboard.

Recommended reading: James H. Mills and Patrician Barton, eds. *Drugs and Empires: Essays in Modern Imperialism and Intoxication, c. 1500-c. 1930*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.

Feb. 19: Articles on opium in India and China.

Timothy Brook and Bob Tadashi Wakabayashi, “Opium’s History in China.” In Timothy Brook and Bob Tadashi Wakabayashi, eds., *Opium Regimes: China, Britain, and Japan, 1839-1952* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000), 1-27.

Carl A. Trocki. “Drugs, Taxes, and Chinese Capitalism in Southeast Asia.” In Timothy Brook and Bob Tadashi Wakabayashi, eds., *Opium Regimes: China, Britain, and Japan, 1839-1952* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000), 79-104.

David Bello. “Opium in Xinjiang and Beyond.” In Timothy Brook and Bob Tadashi Wakabayashi, eds., *Opium Regimes: China, Britain, and Japan, 1839-1952* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000), 127-51.

Frank Dikotter, Lars Laamann, and Xun Zhou. “China, British Imperialism, and the Myth of the ‘Opium Plague.’” In James H. Mills and Patrician Barton, eds. *Drugs and Empires: Essays in Modern Imperialism and Intoxication, c. 1500-c. 1930* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007), 19-38.

Amar Farooqi. “Opium and the Trading World of Western India in the Early Nineteenth Century.” In James H. Mills and Patrician Barton, eds. *Drugs and Empires: Essays in Modern Imperialism and Intoxication, c. 1500-c. 1930* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007), 83-100.

All articles available at Blackboard.

Recommended reading: Timothy Brook and Bob Tadashi Wakabayashi, eds., *Opium Regimes: China, Britain, and Japan, 1839-1952*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000.

Carl A. Trocki. *Opium, Empire and the Global Political Economy: A Study of the Asian Opium Trade, 1750-1950*. New York: Routledge, 1999.

William O. Walker. *Opium and Foreign Policy: The Anglo-American Search for Order in Asia, 1912-1954*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1991.

Frank Dikotter, Lars Laamann, and Zhou Xun. *Narcotic Culture: A History of Drugs in China*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004.

Yangwen Zheng. *The Social Life of Opium in China*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005.

Roy Porter and Mikulas Teich, eds. *Drugs and Narcotics in History*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995.

Feb. 26: Articles on drug travels and disease constructions.

Alexander von Gernet. "Nicotian Dreams: The Prehistory and Early History of Tobacco in Eastern North America." In Jordan Goodman, Paul E. Lovejoy, and Andrew Sherratt, eds. *Consuming Habits: Global and Historical Perspectives on How Cultures Define Drugs*. 2nd edition. (London: Routledge, 2007), 65-85.

Jordan Goodman. "Excitantia: Or, How Enlightenment Europe Took to Soft Drugs." In Jordan Goodman, Paul E. Lovejoy, and Andrew Sherratt, eds. *Consuming Habits: Global and Historical Perspectives on How Cultures Define Drugs*. 2nd edition. (London: Routledge, 2007), 121-41.

Woodruff D. Smith. "From Coffeehouse to Parlour: The Consumption of Coffee, Tea and Sugar in North-Western Europe in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries." In Jordan Goodman, Paul E. Lovejoy, and Andrew Sherratt, eds. *Consuming Habits: Global and Historical Perspectives on How Cultures Define Drugs*. 2nd edition. (London: Routledge, 2007), 142-57.

Bin Yang. "The Zhang on Chinese Southern Frontiers: Disease Constructions, Environmental Changes, and Imperial Colonization." *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 84(Sep. 2010)2:163-92.

All articles available at Blackboard.

Recommended reading: Jordan Goodman, Paul E. Lovejoy, and Andrew Sherratt, eds. *Consuming Habits: Global and Historical Perspectives on How Cultures Define Drugs*. 2nd edition. London: Routledge, 2007.

Luisse White. *Speaking with Vampires: Rumor and History in Colonial Africa*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000.

Mar. 5: Myron Echenberg. *Plague Ports: The Global Urban Impact of Bubonic Plague, 1894-1901*. New York: New York University Press, 2007.

Recommended reading: Günter B. Risse. *Plague, Fear, and Politics in San Francisco's Chinatown*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2012.

Mar. 12: **NO CLASS; SPRING BREAK**

Mar. 19: Richard Evans. *Death in Hamburg: Society and Politics in the Cholera Years 1820-1910*. Penguin, 2005.

Recommended reading: Peter Baldwin. *Contagion and the State in Europe, 1830-1930*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999.

Mar. 26: Selections from Matthew Gandy and Alimuddin Zumla, eds. *The Return of the White Plague: Global Poverty and the "New" Tuberculosis*. London: Verso, 2003: Prologue; Introduction; Chapters 1, 4, and 10; Epilogue; one other chapter to be announced.

Recommended reading: Rene J. Dubos. *The White Plague: Tuberculosis, Man, and Society*. Reprint of 1952 edition with introduction by David Mechanic. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1987.

Randall Packard. *White Plague, Black Labor: Tuberculosis and the Political Economy of Health and Disease in South Africa*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1989.

Apr. 2: Paul Gootenberg. *Andean Cocaine: The Making of a Global Drug*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2009. Caroline Jean Acker. "How Crack Found a Niche in the American Ghetto: The Historical Epidemiology of Drug-Related Harm." *BioSocieties* 5(2010)1:70-88.

Recommended reading: Francisco E. Thoumi. *Illegal Drugs, Economy, and Society in the Andes*. Washington, DC: Woodrow Wilson Center Press; Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003.

William O. Walker. *Drug Control in the Americas*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1989.

Bruce Michael Bagley and William O. Walker, eds. *Drug Trafficking in the Americas*. Coral Gables: University of Miami Press, 1994.

Peter Dale Scott and Jonathan Marshall. *Cocaine Politics: Drugs, Armies, and the CIA in Central America*. Updated edition. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1998.

Apr. 9: Warwick Anderson. *Colonial Pathologies: American Tropical Medicine, Race, and Hygiene in the Philippines*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2006.

Recommended reading: Randall Packard. *The Making of a Tropical Disease: A Short History of Malaria*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007.

Apr. 16: Alfred W. McCoy. *The Politics of Heroin: CIA Complicity in the Global Drug Trade*. Revised and expanded edition of *The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia*. Brooklyn, Lawrence Hill, 1991.

Recommended reading: William B. McAllister. *Drug Diplomacy in the Twentieth Century: An International History*. New York: Routledge, 2000.

Apr. 23: Philippe Bourgois. *In Search of Respect: Selling Crack in El Barrio*. Second edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003. Lisa Maher and Kathleen Daly. "Women in the Street-Level Drug Economy: Continuity or Change?" *Criminology* 34(1996):465-9. Reprinted in James Inciardi and Karen McElrath, *The American Drug Scene: An Anthology*. Sixth edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

Recommended reading: Junot Diaz. *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*. New York: Riverhead Books, 2007.

Marsha Rosenbaum. *Women on Heroin*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1981.

James Inciardi and Karen McElrath, *The American Drug Scene: An Anthology*. Sixth edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

Apr. 30: Paul Farmer. *Infections and Inequalities: The Modern Plagues*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999.

Recommended reading: Maryinez Lyons. *The Colonial Disease: A Social History of Sleeping Sickness in Northern Zaire, 1900-1940*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992.

Paul Farmer. *AIDS and Accusation: Haiti and the Geography of Blame*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2006.