

**HIS 401.03**  
**Drugs in History**

Satisfies: EXP+, SPK, WRTD

Thursdays 1:00 PM - 3:50 PM  
Paul Gootenberg

“Drugs”—licit and illicit—have long been integral to human experience and societies across the globe. Cannabis, hallucinogens, alcohol, tobacco, coffee, cocaine, amphetamine, and opiates (name it, the list goes on) are finally gaining serious and broad scholarly attention of historians in what is now called “the New Drug History.” This small capstone discussion and writing seminar will, in the first half, introduce students to the working concepts, debates, and recent “historiography” of drug history, by close reading and discussion of 3-4 path breaking books in the field. The second half will guide students through the process of conceiving and writing a rigorous, properly formatted 10 to 12-page paper on the topic, based on original library-based research and attention to primary source materials. Your papers will be presented in a group format in the final weeks of the seminar.