OBJECTIVES:

International Political Economy scholarship has begun to pay greater attention to transnational markets for illicit goods and services. State agencies, corporations, organized criminal groups, terrorists, and others interact in these markets as participants as well as aspiring regulators. The nature of transactions in these illicit markets is multifaceted. The illicit flow of goods includes products ranging from cocaine and heroin to human body parts and weapons of mass destruction. The illicit flow of capital includes a myriad of forms of laundered money ranging from cash and securities to electronic currency and currency speculation. Illicit movements of people include the smuggling of migrant workers as well as the trafficking in women and children for sexual slavery.

The objectives of this course are threefold. First, students will learn the major theoretical approaches that seek to explain the illicit global economy. Second, students will learn the basic characteristics and mechanics of, and participants in, the substantive issue areas that comprise the illicit global economy. Third, students will learn to apply and assess the merits of theoretical approaches in seeking to understand patterns of participation and efforts to control this dimension of international economic relations.

REQUIREMENTS:

The course grade will be based on two exams and a research paper (12-14 pages). The midterm and final exams will each count for 30 percent of the course grade, the paper outline for 10 percent and the paper for 30 percent. The research paper must use at least eight sources of which six must be books or scholarly journal articles. Readings already assigned for the course do not count. Citation rules will be discussed in class and strictly enforced. A required 3-4 page outline detailing the paper’s puzzle/problem, thesis, and preliminary organization along with three annotated sources (150 words each) is due on March 30. The final paper is due May 6. No late outlines or final papers will be accepted. The direction of borderline grades will be based on class participation. Graduate students should meet with the instructor during the first week of the semester to discuss additional course requirements.

Students are responsible for completing and thinking about the assigned reading before coming to class. Class format will be a combination of lecture and discussion. If it becomes clear that the course readings are not being completed, the instructor reserves the right to add to the course requirements through the use of surprise reading quizzes. The successful completion of this course requires attention to both course readings and class lecture/discussions. Attendance obligations are outlined in the 2015/2016 MU UNDERGRADUATE BULLETIN and Academic Misconduct Policy will apply to all coursework.

GRADING SCALE:

1000 point total: 950-1000 = A; 900-949 = AB; 850-899 = B; 800-849 = BC; 750-799 = C; 700-749 = CD; 650-699 = D; 0-649 = F
REQUIRED TEXTS:

There are two required texts for the course: 1) Asif Efrat, Governing Guns, Preventing Plunder: International Cooperation against Illicit Trade (Oxford, 2012 hardcover; or 2014 paper); 2) H. Richard Friman, ed., Crime and the Global Political Economy [CGPE] (Lynne Rienner, 2009). Additional readings will be on library reserve (password: IGE16), available electronically through MARCAT, on the web, or posted on D2L.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE [READINGS SHOULD BE DONE IN THE ORDER LISTED]

Part I: Introduction

January 20, 25, 27: Introduction and Perspectives
Read: January 25
On D2L

Read January 27:
Andreas and Nadelmann, “The Internationalization of Crime Control,” CGPE, 21-33

February 1, 3: The Challenge of Cooperation and Control
Read: February 1
Efrat, Governing Guns, Chapter 2

Read: February 3
Friman, “Externalizing the Costs of Prohibition,” CGPE, 49-65
Reno, “Illicit Commerce in Peripheral States,” CGPE, 67-84

Part II: Drug Trafficking

February 8, 10
Read: February 8
Peter Andreas, Snuggler Nation, Chapter 14, on D2L
Efrat, Governing Guns, (Chapter 6 focus on pages 225-249)

Read: February 10
Serrano, “Drug Trafficking and the State in Mexico,” CGPE, 139-157
Part III: Human Smuggling and Trafficking

February 15, 17, 22
  Read: February 15

  Read: February 17
  Picarelli, “Enabling Norms and Human Trafficking,” CGPE, 85-101
  Efrat, Governing Guns, Chapter 5

  Read: February 22

Part IV Arms Trafficking
February 24, 29, March 2
  Read: February 24
  Efrat, Governing Guns, Chapter 3

  Read: February 29, March 2

March 7: Midterm Exam (in class)

March 9, 14, 16: IGE in Film (selections TBA)

Break: March 17- March 28: No Class

Part V: Money Laundering
March 30, April 4, 6
  Read: March 30
  William F. Wechsler, Follow the Money,” Foreign Affairs 80, 4 (July/August 2001): 40-
  On D2L
  Palan, “Crime, Sovereignty and the Offshore World,” CGPE, 35-48
Read: April 4, 6
Efrat, Governing Guns (Chapter 6, focus on pages 250-263)
FATF, “The 40 Recommendations.” On D2L
De Geode, “Governing Finance in the War on Terror,” CGPE, 103-118

March 30 (Thursday): Paper Outlines Due

Part VI: Antiquities Trafficking
April 11, 13
Read:
Efrat, Governing Guns, Chapter 4

Part VII: Environment and Trafficking
April 18, 20
Read:

Part VIII: New Tech and the Evolution of Illicit Markets
April 25, 27, May 2
Read:

May 4: Conclusion

May 6: Research Paper Due (Submit to D2L Dropbox)

Final Exam: Friday, May 13 (8:00-10:00 am)