

**University of Roehampton  
International Summer School**

**Department of Social Sciences  
Module Title: Illegal Economies  
Module Tutor: Dr Gulzat Botoeva**

**Module Rationale:**

The module is concerned with the illegal economic practices. The students will discuss differences between illegal, illicit and informal economies. They will have a chance to examine the social, political and economic contexts under which illegality and informality can flourish. One of our aims in the course will be developing an understanding of the relationship between the states and illegal markets and the effects of control on illegal markets. Another aim of the course will be evaluating the social factors such as religion, traditions that provide moral imperatives to illegal activities and assist the groups in blurring the lines between legal and illegal activities. This helps to understand that population could justify some of the illegal activities and resist the control imposed by the states. In general, this course will allow students to develop their understanding of sociological, criminological and political economy theories on illegal markets and their control. It will lead to understanding of illegal markets on the national and international contexts.

**Learning outcomes:**

The module is designed to:

- 1) Develop theoretical foundation in criminological analysis of illegal markets;
- 2) Critically analyse economics of illegal markets;
- 3) Critically examine the relationship between formal and informal/illegal economies
- 4) Evaluate the effects of control on illegal markets;
- 5) Critically examine the relationship between states and illegal markets;
- 6) Develop transferable skills

Students who successfully complete the course will be able to:

- 1) Develop a good understanding of theoretical perspectives of illegal, hidden and informal markets;
- 2) Develop transferable skills in independent learning, group work, oral and written analysis;
- 3) Show understanding of the ways in which illegal markets emerge and develop under different factors;
- 4) Develop ability to take a reflective approach to sociological, criminological and political economy theories on illegal markets and their control;
- 5) Develop knowledge in understanding illegal markets on the national and international contexts

### **Session topics**

Session 1.

An introduction to Illegal Economies module. Economies and markets: legal and illegal, shadow, hidden and underground.

Session 2.

Different types of economies: Gift giving, planned, capitalist and neoliberal economies

Session 3.

Globalisation, neoliberalism and illegality

Session 4.

Informal and illegal economies.

Session 5.

Field trip to London

Session 6.

Moral economy of illegal practices.

Session 7.

Use of new technologies in illegal economies.

Session 8.

Social meaning of illegal money

Session 9.

Political economy of crime: States and state actors' interests in Illegal practices