This course will explore natural toxins and compounds in human physiology, culture, and history. This course will begin with the most commonly known natural toxins, such as caffeine, and will continue to explore the historical usage of other natural products prior to the expansion of Western medicine (i.e., modern medicine) by investigating the intersubjective perspective of nature and its medical power.

After establishing the historical background of traditional medicine, we will further diverge into the topic of modern medicine, analyzing the bio-applications and evolution of natural toxins—bioweapon and therapeutic usage. Additionally, we will discuss the environmental consequences of drug mass production and environmental policies.

As an introductory course, the instructors will provide a brief overview of selected natural toxins categorized into three modules: 1) Introduction to Natural Toxins, and Toxins in Our Everyday Life, 2) Natural Products in Ancient History, 3) Manufacturing and Bioapplication.