Is there an innate drive to alter consciousness and seek out intoxicating experiences? Did the consumption of drugs play a role in the evolution of human cultures, and the history of religions? How are psychoactive substances integrated into religious life, sacred values, and moral universes? We won’t answer these questions but hopefully they will lead us into a rich and dynamic conversation.

Part of a series of seminars by the title “Religion Matters” co-sponsored by the Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry and the Department of Religion at Emory.

To register for this CHIIRS Seminar, please email the Fox Center at foxcenter@emory.edu.

Gary Laderman is writing a book on drugs and religion. His publications have focused on death in America, popular culture and sacred matters, and religious cultures, health, and medicine.