

IR204 INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

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Course description:

This course offers an introduction to the field of International Political Economy (IPE), exploring the interaction of economics and politics in international relations, and the struggle for power and wealth within the global system. The main idea behind this course, and IPE in general, is that international politics and international economics cannot be understood in isolation. The course is concerned with a number of macro issues such as the role of states and other actors in the global economy; the relative positions of the state and the market; and the consequences of the increasing economic interdependence brought about by globalization. Within this framework the course will deal with topics like global trade, international monetary system, cross border financial flows, foreign direct investment and multinational corporations, state and development, regional integration, and financial crises. The course aims to equip the students with the essential concepts and theories employed in the study of IPE and enable them to employ these when analyzing empirical events.

Responsibilities:

- There will be one mid-term exam and one final exam, both of which will be closed-book exams to be held in the classroom.
- Each student will prepare a discussion paper on a subject decided by him/herself in consultation with the lecturer. The paper will have a length between 1,000 and 1,500 words. Papers are to be submitted electronically to the lecturer, with the deadline being the last day of the classes.
- Each student will hold a 15-minute presentation of his/her subject in the class.
- It is essential for the students to do the readings before coming to the class, and actively take part in class discussions. See the guidelines below.
- Extensions for paper submission will not be granted.

- Grading:

Mid-term exam:	25%
Discussion paper (and presentation):	30%
Final exam:	30%
Class participation:	15%

Academic honesty:

Students are required to strictly adhere to the rules and regulations regarding academic honesty.

- Copying work from others or giving and receiving answers/information during exams either in written or oral form constitutes cheating.
- Submitting take-home exams and papers of others as your own, using sentences or paragraphs from another author without the proper acknowledgement of the original author, insufficient acknowledgement of the consulted works in the bibliography, all constitute plagiarism.
- Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and will result in:
 - an automatic “F” for the assignment or the exam.
 - an oral explanation before the Ethics Committee.
 - losing the opportunity to request and receive any references from the entire faculty.

Textbooks:

There is no single textbook for this course. Materials from different books and other sources will be used throughout the semester. These materials will be available through the Blackboard. Consult the weekly plan for the reading assignments of each week.

Weekly plan and readings:

Week 1 : January 27, 2016

Introduction to International Political Economy

David N. Balaam and Bradford Dillman (2013) “Introduction to International Political Economy”, 6th edition, Routledge. **Read:** *Chapter 1: What is International Political Economy?*

Week 2: February 3, 2016

Globalization: Challenges and Opportunities

George Ritzer and Paul Dean (2015) “Globalization: A Basic Text”, 2nd edition, Wiley-Blackwell. **Read:** *Chapter 2: Globalization II: Some Basic Issues, Debates and Controversies.*

Week 3: February 10, 2016

Theoretical Perspectives on International Political Economy

Jeffrey Frieden, David Lake and Lawrence Broz (2010) "International Political Economy: Perspectives on Global Power and Wealth", 5th edition, W.W. Norton. **Read:** *Chapter 1: International Politics and International Economics.*

Week 4: February 17, 2016

State and Economic Development

Michael Todaro and Stephen Smith (2012) "Economic Development", 11th edition, Prentice Hall. **Read:** *Chapter 11: Development Policy Making and the Roles of Market, State and Civil Society.*

Week 5: February 24, 2016

International Trading System

Theodore Cohn (2012) "Global Political Economy", 6th edition, Longman. **Read:** *Chapter 7: Global Trade Relations.*

Week 6: March 2, 2016

International Monetary System

Thomas Oatley (2012) "International Political Economy", 5th edition, Longman. **Read:** *Chapter 10: The International Monetary System.*

Week 7: March 9, 2016

Foreign Direct Investment and Multinational Corporations

Robert Gilpin (2001) "Global Political Economy", Princeton University Press. **Read:** *Chapter 11: The State and the Multinationals.*

Week 8: March 16, 2016

MIDTERM EXAM

Week 9: March 23, 2016

Political Economy of Regional Integration

Theodore Cohn (2012) "Global Political Economy", 6th edition, Longman. **Read:** *Chapter 8: Regionalism and the Global Trade Regime.*

Week 10: March 30, 2016

International Financial System, Debt Problem and Financial Crises

Robert Gilpin (2001) "Global Political Economy", Princeton University Press. **Read:** *Chapter 11: The International Financial System.*

Week 11: April 6, 2016

The Economy-Security Nexus

Avery Goldstein and Edward Mansfield (2012) “The Nexus of Economics, Security and International Relations in East Asia”, Stanford University Press.

Read: *Chapter 1: The Political Economy of Regional Security in East Asia.*

Week 12: April 13, 2016

Resources and Environment

Ralph Pettman (2012) “Handbook on International Political Economy”, World Scientific Publishing. **Read:** *Chapter 20: The Global Environment: An Overview (Loren C. Cass).*

Week 13: April 20, 2016

Global Economic Governance in the 21st Century

Andrew Heywood (2011) “Global Politics”, Palgrave. **Read:** *Chapter 19: Global Governance and the Bretton Woods System.*

Week 14: April 27, 2016

Wrap-Up Session and Class Presentations

Discussion paper due!

FINAL EXAM

(date to be announced)

Guidelines on preparing for the class:

This course adheres to the philosophy of interactive learning. Being well prepared for the class and active participation in class discussions are therefore absolutely essential. Here are some guidelines that the students can consider:

- Read the week’s assigned reading before coming to the class. Try to summarize the main arguments made in the reading. You will surely have questions the subject; note them down and bring your questions to the class.
- Every week before the class the lecturer will post a case study on that week’s subject to Blackboard. These cases will refer to real-life events that relate to the subject that we will be discussing that week. Read the cases, conduct an internet search on the event that is depicted, and think of other similar cases from real life that are relevant for the week’s subject.
- If you have a particular interest in one (or more) of the subjects that we will be dealing with, ask the lecturer for additional readings.

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