

Global Political Economy

Poli Sci 372

Fall 2015

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Tues.,Thurs.: 2.30-4pm, Seigle 306

Office Hours: Mon.,Wed. 1-2pm and by appointment, Seigle 273

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the key theories of international political economy. This class will focus on the interaction between politics and global markets and will contribute to a more complete understanding of an increasingly complex global economy. We will discuss the impact of global and domestic politics on economic policy and economic outcomes as well as the role of economic factors in affecting political relations between and within countries. Students will develop their knowledge concerning the political and economic tradeoffs of globalization and will gain skills to think critically and analytically about global economic debates.

Discussion in the class will focus on theoretical attempts to describe and explain the nature of international political economy. We will examine theories of trade, monetary policy, development, foreign investment and international economic institutions. Throughout the course, we will strive to understand the interplay between economics and politics. This class will improve students' substantive knowledge of international economic relations and will provide the tools to think critically and analytically about foreign economic policies and international affairs. Using the theories learned in this class, by the end of the class students will gain a broad understanding of the key causes and effects of a wide range of global economic issues.

Required Text

Thomas Oatley. 2012. *International Political Economy*, New York: Pearson

Course Requirements

Grades in the course will be based on the following items:

1. Midterm: 40/50%
2. Class Participation: 10%
3. Final: 40/50%

Each student's lowest grade will account for 40% of the grade, while the highest grade will account for 50% of the grade. Exams will consist of a mix of multiple choice and short answer questions covering material from lecture and reading assignments.

Topics and Course Schedule

August 25: Introduction

What is Globalization?

August 27: States and Markets

Oatley, Chapter 1

September 1: Classical theories of international trade

Gilpin, “Global Political Economy”, Chapter 2

September 3: No Class

International Trade

September 8: International Trade Cooperation

Oatley, Chapter 3

September 10: Democracy and trade preferences

Oatley, Chapter 4

September 15: Trade and democracy continued

Kono, “Optimal Obfuscation”

Monetary Policies

September 17: Gold Standard, international monetary policies

Oatley, Chapter 12

September 22: Monetary policies, exchange rates

Oatley, Chapter 13

Development

September 24: Trade, development, income distribution

Oatley, Chapter 6

September 29: Development strategies

Oatley, Chapter 7

Foreign Direct Investment

October 1: Multinational Corporations in Global Economy

Oatley, Chapter 8

October 6: Foreign Direct Investment

Oatley, Chapter 9

Debt and Debt Crises

October 8: Sovereign lending

Oatley, Chapter 14

October 13: Midterm Review

October 15: Midterm

Financial Crises

October 20: Origins of the Great Recession

October 22: Panics, Bubbles and Financial Crises

Oatley, Chapter 11

International Economic Institutions

October 27: WTO, Global Trade System

Oatley, Chapter 2

October 29: IMF, Structural Adjustment

Williamson, "What Washington Means by Policy Reform"

<http://www.iie.com/publications/papers/paper.cfm?researchid=486>

November 3: Credit Rating Agencies

Tomashevskiy and Kono, “Extra Credit: Preferential Trade Arrangements and Credit Ratings”

Domestic Economic Systems

November 5: National Systems of Political Economy

Gilpin, “Global Political Economy”, Chapter 7

International Trade and Conflict

November 10: Interdependence and Conflict

Barbieri, “The Liberal Illusion: Does Trade Promote Peace?” Chapter 2

November 12: No Class

November 17: Migration, Remittances

Mosley and Singer, “Migration, Labor, and the International Political Economy”

International Economy and the Environment

November 19: Globalization and the Environment

Jasper and Falkner, “International Trade, the Environment, and Climate Change”

November 24: Domestic and International Inequality

Piketty and Saez, “The Evolution of Top Incomes”

November 26: No Class (Thanksgiving)

December 1: The Political Trilemma, Global Governance

Rodrik, “The Globalization Paradox”, Chapters 9-10

December 3: Final Review

December 16: Final Exam