COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the power relations between individuals, states and the global market. We examine the political foundations of the international economic order, how states and other actors seek to maximize their position and interests in the global economy, and what is at stake in current debates surrounding trade, currency movements, and development.

We begin with a review of the major theoretical approaches to international political economy: mercantilism, liberalism, and critical/structural approaches. Next we look at state/market relations through a comparative context, exploring variants in how capitalism and industrial policy are organized in various parts of the world. We then focus on embedded issues in the international monetary system, the trade regime, foreign investment, and economic development. Among the specific topics to be discussed are: trade and protectionism, the role and performance of the international financial institutions such as the WTO, IMF, and World Bank, Group and informal arrangements such as the G-7 (8, 20 etc), the role of non-governmental actors and multinational corporations, and the relationship of the world economy to the economic development of poor countries. Many of these issues will be examined against the backdrop of economic globalization and the global economic crisis of 2008-20??.

The only pre-requisite is PLSC 140, International Politics. While students will have an easier time with some of the terms and technical components of the course if they have completed some basic course-work in economics, this is not a pre-requisite to success in the course. We will review the basic economic concepts and applications necessary to understand the core political questions.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, students will be expected to demonstrate familiarity with the issues surrounding the theoretical and policy dimensions of IPE and the international institutions through which states arrive at policies to coordinate international economic transactions.

REQUIRED TEXTS & READINGS

The course will be a mixture of lectures and discussion. In order to succeed, you must come to class having carefully read and thought about the materials and be prepared to engage in discussion. Students who do not do well in classes that require active participation might consider a different course.

- Other required readings for each week are listed under each week’s assignments. All of these readings are REQUIRED, and unless otherwise noted, can be found on either on MyCourses, through various library databases, or are online in the public domain. Students should use the opportunity to locate these readings to also familiarize themselves with the Milne online databases, which will be important for researching your papers.

In addition, make it a point to follow international economic news. Two great sources include: The Economist and the Financial Times. Both are available in Milne Library or by subscription. I will periodically forward relevant articles and analysis via e-mail, these will constitute a part of the required readings for the course.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Mid-term exam: This could either be in-class, take-home, or a combination of both.

Paper: 15 – 20 pp. Requirements will be handed out separately. Papers due by e-mail by start of class, Tuesday, May 4. Late Papers are penalized 1 full letter grade (i.e. A to B etc.) for each day, including weekends and holidays, that they are late. **I will not accept your paper after five full days have passed from the due date.**

Final exam: There will be a cumulative final exam. Depending on perception of how closely students have been completing the readings, the exam could either be in class or take-home.

Class participation: I reward those who actively contribute to class discussion.

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<th>Grading Criteria</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Term</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>Class Participation</td>
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ACADEMIC HONESTY

When you use someone else’s words, you must place them in quotes and provide a reference. When you advance a novel idea that you gleaned from someone else, you must also provide credit to that person, even if you change the language. For more information, consult the university bulletin or schedule a meeting with the college Writing Center.

The PLSC department has a subscription to turnitin.com. This technology allows us to compare your work to: a) everything on the internet; b) publications and books that are not on the internet but are available through the service; and c) other undergraduate and graduate papers submitted throughout the country. **By remaining in the course, you agree that your work will be submitted to turnitin.com.**

I have zero tolerance for academic dishonesty. I will flunk the paper, flunk you for the course, and refer the matter to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. When you plagiarize, you are, in effect, treating me as if you think I am an idiot. I know how to use Google, and I know when the style and tone of an undergraduate paper suggest that some or all of the material is not original. You can imagine how I might respond to the realization that you feel I am an idiot.

ACCOMMODATIONS

SUNY Geneseo will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented physical, emotional or learning disabilities. Students should consult with the Director in the Office of Disability Services (Tabitha Buggie-Hunt, 105D Erwin, tbuggieh@geneseo.edu) and their individual faculty regarding any needed accommodations as early as possible in the semester.
COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1 (Jan 19/21): Introduction (T) and Realist/Mercantilist Approaches (H)

Tues  Introductions
Thurs Cohn, Ch 1, 2 (skim) & 3

Week 2 (Jan 26 only): Liberal Approaches

Tues  Cohn, 4

Week 3 (Feb 2/4): Variants of Liberalism and Critical Approaches

Tues  Cohn, 5
Dos Santos, “The Structure of Dependence.” American Economic Review, 60(2)

Week 4 (Feb 9/11): National Systems of Political Economy

Tues  Gilpin, “National Systems of Political Economy.” (MyCourses)

Week 5 (Feb 16/18): International Monetary Issues I: Technical Issues, Power and the IMF

Tues  Cohn, Ch. 6

Thurs  Eichengreen, “Hegemonic Stability Theories of the International Monetary System.” (MyCourses)
Oatley and Yackee, “American Interests and IMF Lending.” International Politics, 41(3)
Kapur, “The IMF: A Cure or a Curse?” Foreign Policy, Summer 1998

Week 6 (Feb 23/25): International Monetary Issues II: Financial Crises

Tues  Cohn, Ch. 11
Kindelberger, “Anatomy of a Typical Crisis.” (MyCourses)
Kindelberger, “Bubble Contagion: Tokyo to Bangkok to New York.” (MyCourses)


Week 7 (Mar 2/4): International Monetary Issues III: Subprime Implosion and Global Imbalances

Eichengreen, “The Dollar Dilemma.” Foreign Affairs, September/October 2009
Cohen, The Future of Reserve Currencies.” Finance and Development, 46(3), at:
http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/01/opinion/01krugman.html
Week 8 (Mar 9/11): Mid-Term & Paper Proposals Due

Tues Review

Thurs Mid-Term & Paper Proposals Due

Week 9 (Mar 23/25): Paper Meetings

➢ Individually scheduled meetings to discuss your paper topics

Week 10 (Mar 30/Apr 1): Global Trade Issues I: Principles and Institutions

Tues Cohn, Ch. 7
Rogowski, “Commerce and Coalitions: How Trade Affects Domestic Political Alignments.” (MyCourses)


Tues Drezner, Globalization and International Policy Convergence.” International Studies Review, 3(1)

Week 12 (Apr 13/15): Global Trade Issues III: The Doha Development Round

Bhagwati, “Don’t Cry for Cancún.” Foreign Affairs, Jan/Feb 2004
Mattoo, et al., “From Doha to the Next Bretton Woods: A New Multilateral Trade Agenda.” Foreign Affairs, Jan/Feb 2009

Week 13 (Apr 20/22): Poverty and Development

Tues Cohn, Ch. 10
Acemoglu, “Root Causes.” Finance & Development, 40(2)
Sachs, “Institutions Matter, but not for Everything.” Finance & Development, 40(2)

Week 14 (Apr 27/29): International Development Assistance & Debt Relief

Mallaby, ”Saving the World Bank.” Foreign Affairs. May/June 2005

Week 15: (May 4 only):

➢ PAPERS DUE: Tuesday, May 4
➢ FINAL EXAM: Weds, May 12 - 8:00 – 11:00