

INTL 4230: International Political Economy

Fall 2004

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Prerequisite: INTL 3200 or 3300.

This course explores the interaction between politics and economics in international affairs. It is designed to provide a broad theoretical understanding of key issues in the international political economy. Following the introductory lectures detailing the topic of the course, attention will be given to the three major intellectual contributions (realism/mercantilism, liberalism, and structuralism/Marxism) to the study of the international political economy. The third and fourth parts of the course deal with the issues facing the developed (e.g. monetary and financial relations, multi-national corporations) and developing (e.g. indebtedness, development) parts of the world. The final topic of the course is globalization.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Reading Materials

1. Cohn, Theodore H. 2005. *Global Political Economy: Theory and Practice*. 3rd ed. Longman.
2. Frieden, Jeffrey A. and David A. Lake. 2000. *International Political Economy: Perspectives on Global Power and Wealth*. 4th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's.
3. UGA Library Electronic Reserves. Link: <http://gil.uga.edu>
4. Students are asked to subscribe (for free) to the daily e-mail editions of the Christian Science Monitor at http://www.csmonitor.com/aboutus/e_subscribe.html (see "Headline News Service"). Please read international economic news from the "Page One," "World," and "News in Brief" sections of the paper.

Student Initiative

Students should be alerted to the obvious fact that it will not be easy to summarize the complexity of the international political economy in terms of a few concepts and theories. Students should acquire the habit of regularly reading news magazines, opinion journals, and national newspapers. It is important that students **read assigned materials thoughtfully and thoroughly** and that they **attend classes regularly**, since class time will be primarily devoted to the exploration and integration of assigned readings.

Examinations

There will be two exams based on lectures, assigned readings, and class discussions. The exams will require students to demonstrate a detailed grasp of the material covered. A description of the exam format will be given prior to the exam dates.

Term Paper

Guidelines, assignments, deadlines, and criteria of evaluation are outlined at the end of the syllabus.

Participation and Quizzes

Participation in the class is essential to the success of this course. Two aspects of participation are key. (1) Students must read the assigned class readings in advance critically and in depth, so that they are able to identify the key points of the argument as well as find within them weaknesses and controversies. During a typical class session, students will be expected to clarify the readings and answer questions about them. To help ensure that students are reading the assigned materials, there will be a series of short quizzes, some of which will be unannounced. (2) At the beginning of each class session, students should bring up current international economic events. Be prepared to summarize and explain the relevance of news stories to class materials. Frequent and thoughtful participation will be rewarded when determining the final grade at the instructor's discretion.

Attendance

Each student starts out with 100 attendance points. Unexcused class absences beyond the third one will decrease the point total by 15 points. Use the three "freebees" wisely, for family affairs, job interviews, minor health problems, etc. but not on the days when assignments are due; an absence on the due date does not mean that you can make the assignment up. Absences will be excused only in cases of serious health or family emergencies and appropriate documentation will be required. Please note that excessive excused or unexcused absences will also hurt your participation grade, because one cannot participate in class discussions if one is not present in class.

Extra Credit

Students may attend lectures that the instructor determines to be pertinent to the course. To receive the extra credit, please turn in one single-spaced, typewritten summary of the lecture. The instructor will announce the lectures and due dates in advance. Late assignments (up to one week) will count for ½ credit. There is a maximum of three extra credit assignments. A perfect extra credit score will boost the student's overall course grade by 3%; partial scores will be prorated.

COURSE RULES

Grading Policy

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| Midterm Exam | 25% |
| Final Exam | 30% |
| Term Paper | 25% |
| Participation / Quizzes | 10% |
| Attendance | 10% |

Class Policies

1. Students are expected to turn in assignments at the beginning of class and take exams on the dates specified. Failure to meet a paper deadline does not exempt a student from fulfilling this requirement. Every assignment must be turned in within one week of the due date in order to pass the course. It is the student's responsibility to assure that the instructor has received the assignment.
2. Exceptions to the above rules are granted at the instructor's discretion, only under circumstances of extreme personal emergency or serious illness. In all instances, appropriate evidentiary documentation will be requested. The excuses must be submitted within one week of the original absence.
3. All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Each student is responsible to inform themselves of these standards before conducting any academic work. My academic dishonesty policy is very simple: you will receive a failing grade for the class if you are found cheating on examinations, plagiarizing the work of others or attempting to turn in assignments used in previous classes, along with all other possible infractions noted in the University's policy on academic dishonesty.

Moreover, disciplinary proceedings to dismiss you from the University may be initiated against you. I **will not** tolerate academic dishonesty and assure you that you **will** face the harshest punishment possible if you attempt it.

4. Students may request that the instructor re-read exam answers or papers that they feel have been unfairly evaluated. Requests for re-evaluation must be submitted to the instructor in typewritten form, along with the assignment, within a week after it has been returned to the class. The written statement must provide the specific reasons for reconsidering the grade and the student's assessment of the particular grade the assignment deserves. The assignment will be re-graded and a new grade assigned. Please be aware that the new grade may be higher, the same, or lower than the original grade.

5. The syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class may be necessary.

6. All students are expected to complete assigned readings before coming to class and they are expected to discuss and respond to random questioning by the instructor.

TOPICAL OUTLINE

I. INTRODUCTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

A. Topics, Themes, and Issue Areas

- Cohn: Chapters 1 and 2

II. THE MAJOR APPROACHES AND ASSOCIATED THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES

A. Realism (Mercantilism/Economic Nationalism)

- Cohn: Chapter 3
- Reserve: Hamilton, "Report on the Manufacturers"

B. Liberalism (Neoclassical Economics)

- Cohn: Chapter 4
- Frieden and Lake: Chapter 3

C. Trade Theory

- Cohn: Chapter 8
- Frieden and Lake: Chapters 5, 19, 20, 23

D. Regimes and Hegemony

- Cohn: pp. 72-80 (pp. 76-83 in 2nd ed.)
- Frieden and Lake: Chapter 8

F. Structuralism (Marxism/Imperialism)

- Cohn: Chapter 5
- Reserve: Lenin, "Imperialism"
- Reserve: Caporaso, "Introduction to the Special Issue"

III. ISSUES OF THE DEVELOPED WORLD

A. Monetary and financial relations

- Cohn: Chapter 6
- Frieden and Lake: Chapters 14, 15, 16, 18

B. Regionalism

- Cohn: Chapter 9
- Frieden and Lake: Chapter 24

C. Multi-national corporations

- Cohn: Chapter 10
- Frieden and Lake: Chapters 4, 9, 12

IV. ISSUES OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD

A. Debt

- Cohn: Chapter 7

B. Development

- Cohn: pp. 80-83, 104-107, 121-127 (pp. 84-87, 108-111, 125-131 in 2nd ed), Chapter 11
- Frieden and Lake: Chapters 7, 25, 26, 27, 28
- Reserve: Cardoso and Faletto, "Dependency and Development"

C. Trade and multi-national corporations

- Cohn: pp. 241-248 (pp. 246-252 in 2nd ed.), Chapter 10 (LDC portions)
- Frieden and Lake: Chapters 10, 11

V. GLOBALIZATION

A. Globalization

- Frieden and Lake: Chapters 30, 31

Midterm Exam: Around the midterm date (October 12), exact date TBA.

Final Exam: Monday, December 13, 12 noon

TERM PAPER ASSIGNMENT

Overview

Students are required to complete two interlocking writing assignments over the course of the semester. The assignments build upon one another, and successful completion of the second assignment depends, in large part, on competent performance on the first assignment. To complete the assignments, students will need to conduct library research; a bibliography should be included with each assignment and is not counted in the page lengths of the assignments. Please use a parenthetical referencing style such as MLA to reference all facts and ideas.

Selecting an Appropriate Topic

Choose an international economic event that does not deal with North American countries (ask the instructor if you are uncertain whether your event qualifies). The event must be international, that is it concerns more than one country or involves an international organization dealing with economic/financial affairs (e.g. IMF, WB, WTO, etc.). The event must be of economic nature; examples include signing of a trade pact, financing of a development project, bailout of a collapsed economy, nationalization of a foreign-owned industry, etc. Finally, the event must have occurred since 1945.

Rules

(1) Each assignment must receive a passing grade in order for the student to receive a passing grade on the term paper project. (2) The previously graded first assignment must be turned in along with the second assignment; failure to do so will result in a 10% penalty. (3) Please note that all due dates are known well in advance, so you need to plan accordingly. Failure to turn in a copy of the assignment by the beginning of class time on the due date results in a 10% a day penalty. (4) Work on this project will take place within a group consisting of about four students. Individual grades will be determined based on the quality of the assignments and on your group-mates' confidential assessment of your efforts within the group. (5) Students should note all other rules pertaining to the writing assignments noted on the syllabus.

Assignment #1: Topic

1-2 pages, 20% of the term paper grade, **due Friday, September 24**

(1) In about a page, identify your chosen event, briefly describe it, and identify when it occurred. (2) Note what countries and/or organizations are involved, and identify two primary actors on opposing sides of the issue; your second assignment will focus on these two actors. (3) Reference all facts/ideas and include a bibliography with at least two sources.

Assignment #2: Analysis

6-8 pages, 80% of the term paper grade, **due Friday, December 3**

(1) Chose one of the three major schools of thought we have encountered in the course (i.e. realism, liberalism, structuralism/Marxism). To analyze the event, explain (a) whether the event is regarded as favorable or unfavorable by the school of thought, to which of the actors involved, and why? (b) Explain the causes of the event, that is why did each of the main actors pursue the policy that lead to the event. (2) Repeat the previous step using a different school of thought. (3) In lieu of a conclusion, provide a paragraph-long evaluation explaining which theory better explains the event and why. (4) Reference all facts/ideas and include a bibliography with at least four academic sources other than the assigned readings. (5) Include the graded Assignment #1.

Grading criteria for the assignments:

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|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. objectivity | 4. organization |
| 2. quality of research | 5. writing style and clarity |
| 3. quality of analysis | 6. mechanics and grammar |

Students who have difficulties with rhetoric are encouraged to use the University's resources to help them improve their writing and purchase a writer's manual such as Strunk and White's *Elements of Style*.