

INTL 4230: International Political Economy

Fall 2007

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Office: Candler B02

Office hours: MW 10:00-11:00

& by appointment

Section #: 97-193

MWF 11:15-12:05

SLC 245

Course description

This course is designed to introduce students to the study of international political economy (IPE). Emerging as a distinct sub-field of international relations in the 1970s, IPE examines the interaction of states and markets, or the intersection of politics and economics, at the international level. It is essentially the study of how countries pursue power and wealth within the international system, and how these two objectives interact with, and impose upon, each other.

During the course of the semester, we will examine international economic relations among the developed countries (DCs) of the global North (i.e., North America, Western Europe, Japan) as well as between these countries and the less developed countries (LDCs) of the global South (i.e., Latin America, Africa, Asia). We will also examine the reintegration of the so-called "Second World" (i.e., the countries of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union) into the international political economy since the 1990s. Temporally, our focus will be on international economic relations since the end of World War II.

The course will introduce students to the politics of international economic relations in several distinct, but ultimately inter-related issue areas, including money and finance, trade, and investment. We will also look at a number of important IPE-related phenomena such as globalization and regionalism.

Course objectives include (1) acquainting students with the institutional infrastructure which states have created to help them manage their economic relations in the post-World War II era (e.g., the IMF, World Bank, and GATT/WTO); (2) exposing students to competing theoretical perspectives that have been used to explain and understand IPE (e.g., realism, liberalism, dependency theory); and (3) demonstrating the links between domestic politics and international economic relations (i.e., how domestic politics affects outcomes at the international level and vice-versa).

Policies

Attendance

Attendance will not constitute a formal component of the grade you receive for this course. In other words, you will not be required to attend class sessions. You are all adults. I leave it to you to decide how you spend your time and, perhaps more importantly, the money (or HOPE scholarship credits) which you (or your parents) have spent on the tuition for this course. That being said, I encourage you to attend as many class sessions as possible since doing so will be an essential ingredient for performing well in this course. Indeed, a majority of the material which you will be tested on will come directly from class lectures.

While attendance is not mandatory, I will be keeping an attendance record. I have two reasons for this. First, taking attendance each class session will help me to learn students' names. Second, I will use attendance records as an informal measure of a student's performance in determining border-line grades at the end of the semester.

Reading

You will also be expected to keep up with the assigned readings. This will be a relatively reading intensive course. The readings and lectures are designed to reinforce each other. You will get more out of each lecture if you have done the required reading before coming to class. Lectures will put specific readings in perspective, helping you to see "the big picture." **Attending lectures and keeping up with assigned readings are indispensable if you wish to succeed in this course.**

Participation

In-class participation will not constitute a formal component of the grade you receive for this course. However, I encourage and expect each of you to participate and contribute to class discussions. I will use your record of participation as another informal measure of performance in determining border-line grades at the end of the semester. Your participation will be judged in terms of the *quality*, not the *quantity*, of your contributions.

Quizzes

There will be at least three unannounced quizzes. These quizzes are intended to function as a device for encouraging attendance and checking to see whether you are keeping up with assigned readings as well as giving you an informal indicator of your performance in the course. Your top two quiz grades will be factored into your final course grade.

Exams

Three exams will be given—two midterms and a final. Exams will consist of a certain amount of objective questions (e.g., multiple choice, true-false, fill-in-the-blank, and short-answer questions) along with one or two essay questions. All exams will be cumulative. You will only have two hours (out of the three allotted) to complete the final exam.

Paper

I will also require you to write a brief research paper that attempts to explain some kind of IPE-related event or outcome using the theoretical tools provided by the course. I will provide you with more detailed guidelines for the paper at a later date. Late submissions of paper assignments will be penalized one half of a full letter grade each day that the assignment is late.

Grading

Your final grade for the entire course will be determined according to the following distribution:

Quizzes	10%
Term paper	15%
First exam	20%
Second exam	25 %
Final exam	30 %

Absences

No make-up quizzes or exams will be administered except under the gravest of circumstances and only with proper documentation (i.e., proof). Only the following types of situations will be deemed grave enough to warrant a make-up exam: (1) a *serious* illness (as documented by a visit to a physician; common colds, allergies, etc., don't count), (2) the hospitalization of a member of your immediate family (i.e., your mom, dad, brother, or sister), (3) a death in the family. Make-up exams will be administered during the last hour of the three hour time period allotted for the final exam. You must notify me of your intent to take a make-up exam on the day of, or within a few days of, the exam you missed. You must also provide the necessary documentation explaining your absence at the same time as you give notice of your intent to take a make-up exam.

Academic honesty

All students are expected to be thoroughly familiar with the University's academic honesty policy. This policy, titled "A Culture of Honesty," can be accessed at the following website: <http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/ah.pdf>. Any and all instances of suspected cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academically objectionable behavior will be referred to the appropriate University authorities for immediate disciplinary action.

Communication

I encourage all of you to come see me during my office hours, especially if you are having any difficulty grasping the material or coming up with a paper topic. You can also communicate with me by e-mail.

- Week 5 (Sept 10, 12, 14):** **Historical-structuralism**
- Cohn, chapter 5
 - Hymer, “The Multinational Corporation and the Law of Uneven Development” (BJP)

- Week 6 (Sept 17, 19, 21):** **Money & finance**
- Cohn, chapter 6
 - F&L, chapters 13-15

- Week 7 (Sept 24, 26, 28):** **Money & finance (continued)**
- F&L, chapters 16-18

- Week 8 (Oct 1, 3, 5):** **Debt & financial crises**
- Cohn, chapter 7
 - Movie: The Crash

First exam—Wednesday, Oct 3

- Week 9 (Oct 8, 10, 12):** **Trade**
- Cohn, chapter 8
 - F&L, chapter 19
 - Milner “Resisting the Protectionist Temptation” (BJP)

- Week 10 (Oct 15, 17, 19):** **Trade (continued)**
- F&L, chapters 20-23

- Week 11 (Oct 22 & 24):** **Trade & Regionalism**
- Cohn, chapter 9
 - F&L, chapter 24

- Week 12 (Oct 29, 31, Nov 2):** **Foreign direct investment & multinationals**
- Cohn, chapter 10
 - F&L, chapter 9

- Week 13 (Nov 5, 7, 9):** **FDI & MNCs (continued)**
- F&L, chapters 10-12
 - Movie: Trading Democracy

- Week 14 (Nov 12, 14, 16):** **Development**
- Cohn, chapter 11
 - F&L, chapters 25-28

Second exam—Monday, Nov 12

- Week 15 (Nov 19):** **Thanksgiving break**

Week 16 (Nov 26, 28, 30): Globalization

- Cohn, chapter 12
- F&L, chapters 29 & 31
- Vogel, “Trade and the Environment” (BJP)
 - Movie: Social Genocide

Week 17 (Dec. 3, 4, 5): Course wrap-up & review

Final exam—Monday, Dec 10, 12:00-3:00 PM