
POLI 144

Spring 2010

Special Topics in International Political Economy

9.00-9.50am

<http://www.polisci.ucsd.edu/~cjschneider/courses/poli144/poli144.html>

WLH

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DESCRIPTION: The financial crisis of 2007-2009 which has been one of the worst financial crises since the end of the second World War has sparked renewed debate about the pros and cons of economic globalization. Why do governments adopt the economic policies they do? Why do they manage to cooperate economically in some cases but not others? And why do governments promote or oppose globalization under different circumstances?

This course serves as an introduction to the study of international political economy (IPE). We will examine the evolution of international economic relations discuss different explanations for its likely causes and consequences. The course is divided in several sections. After an introduction to the main analytical approaches we will explore political economy explanations to policy outcomes in different issue areas: trade, finance, monetary relations, development, and the consequences of globalization. We will make extensive use of the insights from economics and political science to understand how international economic interactions affect the incentives faced by political actors (voters, interest groups, parties, and politicians), and how the behavior of those political actors under different political institutions shape political and economic outcomes.

PREREQUISITES: This is an advanced undergraduate course and correspondingly the reading load is not light. Students should have taken at least the introduction course to international relations.

TEACHING ASSISTANTS:

Nicole Bonoff

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Daniel Maliniak

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REQUIREMENTS: The course requirements consist of a midterm exam (30%), a final exam (45%), and an essay (25%).

Exams. The exams will consist of identification, short-answer, and essay questions, and will be administered in class. The final will be comprehensive. You must take both exams to receive a passing grade for the course. The format for both exams will be the same.

Written Essay. The essay topic will be given in class on May 8th, and the essays will be **due at**

the beginning of class on May 22nd. Grading will be based on the clarity of the position taken, concise writing, well reasoned support of the argument, and inclusion of concepts from the relevant literature covered in the course. Late essays will incur a 20% grade penalty for each day after the deadline. The essay should be typed, with at least 1-inched margins all around, typeface of at least 11 point, and between 5-8 pages in length.

Missed Exams. Essay extensions and make-up exams will only be given under valid, documented, and extreme circumstances. If you know you will miss an exam for a legitimate reason, notify me at least a week in advance. E-mail is perfectly acceptable. If you are not able to contact me in advance, you must do so as soon as possible. I am a reasonable person and will work with you to resolve reasonable problems. It is your responsibility to arrange with me to take a make-up exam.

Attendance. Class attendance will be important for your performance on the exams. Much of the material that we shall cover may not be in the readings. Taking notes will help you structure the substance.

Academic Dishonesty. You are expected to do your own work. Students caught cheating on exams or plagiarizing their essays will receive a failing grade for the course and will be turned over to the dean of their college for administrative sanctions.

Grade Appeals. You can expect to be graded solely on your academic performance. This includes clarity of thought, knowledge of the material, composition, spelling, and grammar. Students who believe to have received an incorrect grade or a grade based on non-academic criteria should formally appeal it to me. The appeal will consist of a single typed page that identifies the problem and presents a reasoned argument that the grade fits the appeal criteria listed above.

READINGS: The course readings will be drawn from a number of books and articles. I recommend you to purchase the following books which are available for purchase at the bookstore (the first one is required):

- Thomas Oatley, 2010: International Political Economy (4th edition), New York: Longman.
- Jeffrey Frieden and David A. Lake, 2010: International Political Economy. Perspectives on Global Power and Wealth, Boston: Bedford/St.Martin's.

The two books will also be on reserve at the SSH library. **All other readings will be available from the course website.**

SCHEDULE: This is only the topic outline. The complete and frequently updated schedule of readings is on the course website.

TOPIC 1: INTERNATIONAL TRADE

TOPIC 2: INTERNATIONAL TRADE INSTITUTIONS

TOPIC 3: INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT

TOPIC 4: INTERNATIONAL FINANCE

TOPIC 5: INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

TOPIC 6: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT