The economic and political consequences of economic globalization are hotly debated. Does international trade and foreign investment cause inequality, instability, unemployment, and environmental degradation? Or is it an engine of prosperity and wealth for the vast majority of the world's citizens? Does globalization pose a fundamental challenge to the policymaking autonomy of the nation-state? Or is there a useful role for national governments, individually and collectively?

This seminar explores the global integration of national economies from a political economy perspective. That is, we identify the winners and losers of globalization and analyze the politics of foreign economic policymaking. Substantive topics include: the history of global economic integration, determinants of trade and exchange-rate policies, multinational corporations, currency crises of the 1990s, the Global Financial Crisis of 2008-09, the Eurozone Crisis, the role of the IMF and World Bank, and the ongoing populist backlash against globalization.

Prerequisites: This is an advanced undergraduate course with a relatively heavy reading load. Students should have taken at least the introduction course to international relations.

Requirements:

1) Midterm examination (30% of total grade).
2) Take-Home Essay (25%).
3) Final examination (45%).

Exams: The exams will consist of short-answer identifications and essay questions and will be administered in class. The final exam is comprehensive.

Take-Home Essay: The essay topic will be distributed on Tuesday, April 30 and completed essays will be due at the beginning of class on Tuesday May 28. Grading will be based on the clarity of the thesis statement, reasoned support of the argument, and inclusion of material from course readings and lectures. The essay must be typed, double-spaced, 1-inch margins, 12 point font size, and between 5-8 pages in length. Late essays will incur a 20% grade penalty for each day after the deadline.

Academic Integrity: Integrity of scholarship is essential for an academic community. The University expects that both faculty and students will honor this principle and in so doing protect the validity of University intellectual work. For students, this means that all academic work will be done by the individual to whom it is assigned, without unauthorized aid of any kind. Your cell phone must be off your person and out of reach during exams. Any suspicion of academic misconduct will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office according to university policy.
Plagiarism: Students agree that by taking this course all written work will be subject to submission to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the terms of use agreement posted on the Turnitin.com site.

Grade Appeals: If you feel an error was made in the grading of your work, you must follow this procedure:

1. Prepare a written statement detailing the reasons why you think you received the wrong grade
2. Submit the statement to your teaching assistant and schedule an appointment to discuss your exam
3. If you are still unsatisfied with your grade after meeting with your teaching assistant, bring your exam to the professor
4. The professor will read your exam and give it a new grade, which might be higher or lower than your original grade. This is the grade you will receive on the exam.

Policy on electronic devices: No electronic devices can be used during lecture. This includes smart phones, tablets and laptops. Research has shown that students that use these devices score lower on tests and distract other nearby students, who also score lower. Research has also established that students that take notes on paper learn more, as measured by test results, than those that use laptops.

Books: The following required books are available for purchase at the bookstore:


Articles: Additional article-length readings, marked with an asterisk below, are available on the course’s TritonED website.

Learning objectives:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Explain why economists think that free trade is the best policy while the average citizen is much more skeptical about free trade using the Theory of Comparative Advantage.
- Explain why some people and some countries are more protectionist (opposed to free trade) than others using the Heckscher-Ohlin Theorem and the Stolper-Samuelson Theorem.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the determinants of exchange rates, their effects on trade and foreign investment, and the policy Trilemma to explain why exchange-rate policy is so important to nations and to the global economy.
• Demonstrate knowledge of the Societal Model, the Partisan Model, and the Electoral Model to explain why exchange-rate policy is so important to nations and to the global economy.
• Explain why economists are far more skeptical about the benefits of unregulated international capital flows than they are about free trade.
• Demonstrate knowledge and relevance of above concepts and theories by applying them to historical case studies on a midterm exam, a take-home essay, and a final exam.

WEEK 1
• Lecture 1: Course goals and description, trends in the world economy
  o Oatley, Preface, Chapter 1
• Lecture 2: Understanding International Trade
  o Oatley, Chapter 3

WEEK 2
• Lecture 3: Trade Politics I – Factors and Sectors
  o Oatley, Chapter 4, pp. 70-82.
• Lecture 4: Trade Politics II – Consumers and Producers
  o Oatley, Chapter 4, pp. 82-92.

WEEK 3
• Lecture 5: Trade Policymaking Institutions
  o Oatley, Chapter 2
• Lecture 6: Globalization, Inequality, and Development

WEEK 4
• Lecture 7: Failures of Globalization
• Lecture 8: Trade and Development – Import Substitution
  o Oatley, Chapter 6

WEEK 5
• Lecture 9: Trade and Development – The East Asian Model
  o Oatley, Chapter 7
• MIDTERM EXAM (bring blue books)

WEEK 6
• Lecture 10: Understanding Multinational Corporations
  o Oatley, Chapter 8
• Lecture 11: The Politics of Multinational Corporations
  o Oatley, Chapter 9

WEEK 7
• Lecture 12: Understanding Exchange Rates
  o Oatley, Chapter 10
• Lecture 13: The International Monetary System
  o Oatley, Chapter 11

WEEK 8
• Lecture 14: The Political Economy of Exchange Rates
  o Oatley, Chapter 12
  o Frieden, Introduction and Chapter 1
• Lecture 15: The Politics of the Gold Standard
  o Frieden Chapters 2 and 3

WEEK 9
• Lecture 16: The Politics of the Latin American Debt Crisis
  o Oatley Chapter 14
  o Frieden, Chapter 5
• Lecture 17: The Politics of Currency Crises
  o Oatley, Chapter 15
  o Frieden, Chapter 6

WEEK 10
• Lecture 18: European Monetary Integration
  o Frieden, Chapter 4
  o Oatley, pp. 247-254 (review)
• Lecture 19: Current Controversies in Trade and Finance
  o Oatley, Chapter 16
  o Frieden, Chapter 7