

RPOS 395: International Political Economy

Class Number: 8718
Spring 2008
MWF 9:20-10:15
LC 5

Prof. Paul Gumper
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Office Hours: MW
10:20-11:20
Humanities B16
442-3112

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of international political economy. You should gain from this course a better understanding of the interaction between political and economic phenomena on an international and global scale and learn useful tools for analyzing and assessing both current policy and historical developments. We examine the role of states, international and domestic institutions, and other factors in creating and/or managing conflicts and facilitating cooperation in the international political economy. We focus on the politics of trade and the politics of money and finance, but also look at development, regional integration and environmental issues in IPE. We focus on the U.S. in the world economy, but also consider other advanced industrialized countries as well as developing countries. We do so using economics, political science, and occasionally other social science perspectives.

Required Texts

Gilpin, Robert. *Global Political Economy: Understanding the International Economic Order*, Princeton University Press, 2001.

Cohn, Theodore. *Global Political Economy: Theory and Practice*, 4th ed. Longman 2008.

Course Requirements

Hypothesis Assignment 1	10%
Hypothesis Assignment 2	10%
Research Paper	20%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	35%

Class Schedule

Week 1

Wednesday, January 23: Introduction, Discussion of Syllabus and course requirements.

Friday, January 25: Cohn chapter 1: Introduction Pg. 3-14

Week 2

Monday, January 28: Managing the Global Economy, Cohn Chapter 2

Wednesday, January 30: Methodology and the Nature of Political economy, Gilpin Ch 2

Friday, February 1: Realism, Cohn Chapter 3

Week 3

Monday, February 4: Liberalism, Cohn Chapter 4, Gilpin Chapter 3

Wednesday, February 6: Historical Structuralist, Cohn Chapter 5

Friday, February 8: New Economic Theories I, Gilpin Chapter 5

Week 4

Monday, February 11: New Economic Theories II, Gilpin Chapter 6

Wednesday, February 13: Comparative National Systems, Gilpin Chapter 7

Friday, February 15: Domestic Politics

G. John Ikenberry, David A. Lake and Michael Mastanduno, "Introduction: Approaches to Explaining American Foreign Economic Policy," *International Organization*, vol. 42, n 1 (Winter 1988), pp. 1-14. **Available from JSTOR**

Week 5

Monday, February 18: NO CLASS

Wednesday, February 20: International Regimes

Stephen Krasner, "Structural Causes and Regime Consequences," *International Regimes*, vol. 36, no. 2 (Spring 1982), pp. 185-205. **Available from JSTOR**

Friday, February 22: Discussion

Hypothesis Assignment Due

Week 6

Monday, February 25: International Monetary Issues I, Cohn Chapter 6

Wednesday, February 27: International Monetary Issues II, Gilpin Chapter 9

Friday, February 29: International Finance I, Gilpin Chapter 10

Week 7

Monday, March 3: International Finance II, Cohn Chapter 7

Wednesday, March 5: International Trade I, Gilpin Chapter 8

Friday, March 7: International Trade II, Cohn Chapter 8

Week 8

Monday, March 10: International Trade III, Cohn Chapter 9

Wednesday, March 12: Free Trade vs. Fair Trade

Friday, March 14: Midterm Review

Week 9

Monday, March 17: MIDTERM EXAM

Wednesday, March 19: International Development I, Gilpin Chapter 12

Friday, March 21: NO CLASS

Week 10

Monday, March 24: NO CLASS

Wednesday, March 26: NO CLASS

Friday, March 28: NO CLASS

Week 11

Monday, March 31: International Development II, Cohn Chapter 11

Wednesday, April 2: Microfinance I

*Morduch, Jonathan. "The Microfinance Promise," *Journal of Economic Literature*, Dec 1999

Friday, April 4: Microfinance II, Measuring Impact

Week 12

Monday, April 7: Discussion

Hypothesis Assignment Due

Wednesday, April 9: Foreign Aid I, Gilpin Chapter 12

Friday, April 11: Foreign Aid II,

*Easterly, William, "Can Foreign Aid Buy Growth?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Summer 2003

Week 13

Monday, April 14: Natural Resources and Economic Growth I

*Friedman, Thomas, "The First Law of Petropolitics" *Foreign Policy* May/June 2006

Wednesday, April 16: The Economics of Environmentalism

*Browne, John, "Beyond Kyoto," *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2004

Friday, April 18: Institutional Reform I: World Bank

*Einhorn, Jessica. "Reforming the World Bank" *Foreign Affairs* Jan/Feb 2006

Week 14

Monday, April 21: NO CLASS

Wednesday, April 23: Institutional Reform II: IMF

Stiglitz, Democratizing the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank: Governance and Accountability. **Available from EBSCO Host**

Friday, April 25: Institutional Reform III: WTO

Week 15

Monday, April 28: The Anti-Globalization Movement I

*Klein, Naomi "Reclaiming the Commons" *New Left Review* May/June 2001

Wednesday, April 30: The Anti-Globalization Movement II

"Winners and Losers: Perspectives on Globalization from the Emerging Market Economies" *Brooking Institution Working Paper*

Available Online through Brookings

Friday, May 2: Discussion

Papers Due

Week 16

Monday, May 5: Final Exam Review

Wednesday, May 7: NO CLASS, Reading Day

Wednesday May 14: FINAL EXAM 1-3 PM

***Available Electronically Through the Library**