

Brock University
POLI 3P21: Introduction to Political Economy
Fall-Winter 2017/18

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Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to acquaint students with the international political economy. Students will be introduced to traditional theoretical perspectives which will enable them to understand the interaction of political and economic dynamics within the global community. Theoretical alternatives to, and debates within, these perspectives will also be discussed and applied to enduring and emerging issues of international political and economic interest. Course content will include, among other topics: resource scarcity, persistent gender inequality, international economic governance and other issues central to global interdependence. Students will also study issues pertaining to developing countries, including concepts of global inequality and sustainable development. Recent developments in IPE, including variable commitments to global trade, fluctuating commodity prices, the illicit economy and "Brexit" will be addressed, including speculation on possible trends in the future of international relations within the global political economy.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes:

Students will come away with a heightened comprehension of the key issues and components which drive the political and economic considerations in our modern international community. Integral to this will be the development of analytical skills and the critical assessment of trends within the global political economy; these skills, and the content within the course, will be applicable to a broader understanding of other sub-fields within political science such as comparative politics and development.

Required Text:

Ravenhill, John, ed. Global Political Economy, 5th edition. Oxford University Press, 2017.

Course Assignments:

Please note: students are to submit assignments to turnitin on SAKAI as well as handing in a hard copy.

SEMINAR LEADERSHIP: 5%

Each student will be responsible for leading one seminar discussion. Students will be required to make a **brief** introductory presentation which will include a relevant outside resource thus providing clarification for their seminar topic – this outside source may be a newspaper article, journal article, internet source,

etc.. Students will then be required to lead the discussion, providing questions or thoughts arising from the assigned reading. Emphasis will be on facilitating participation within the class.

SEMINAR PARTICIPATION: 20%

Attendance and participation in seminars are mandatory. Each student will be assigned a grade at the conclusion of each seminar. Grading criteria are attached to the seminar topics included within this course outline.

DEBATE ANALYSIS BRIEF: 15%

Students are required to complete a 5-7 page debate analysis brief. Topics for this brief will be chosen from the questions associated with each seminar week. Students will briefly outline the respective arguments associated the "Core Debate" question and proceed to explain which is more convincing. Further details will be provided in lecture. This brief is due: **October 16, 2017 in lecture and on SAKAI**.

RESEARCH ESSAY 30%

Students are required to complete a 10-12 page research essay. Topics and further instructions will be distributed during the second week of class. Students must consult outside sources while completing the research for this essay.

This essay is due: **November 27, 2017 . Essays are to be handed in to the Professor, in lecture and on SAKAI, on that date.**

FINAL EXAM: 30%

The final exam for this course: date TBA. The exam will cover all readings, discussions and lectures within the course. NOTE: Lecture content forms the majority of the questions on the final exam.

LECTURE TOPICS AND READINGS

A. FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

Week of :

September 11:

- Introduction to the Course: What is International Political Economy?

Readings:

Ravenhill, John, "The Study of Global Political Economy", (Ravenhill, Chapter 1)

September 18:

- Traditional Theoretical Approaches to IPE: Mercantilism and Liberalism

- Theoretical Approaches to IPE: Structuralism (Critical Perspectives)

Readings:

Watson, Matthew, "The Historical Roots of Theoretical Traditions in Global Political Economy", (Ravenhill, Chapter 2)

September 25:

- Historical Foundations of the Global Economy
- Imperialism and the "Rise of the West"
- The 20th Century: World Wars and the Post-1945 World Order

Readings:

No readings this week.

B. THE POLITICS OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCE AND TRADE

October 2:

- International Trade and The Global Financial System
- Transnational Production and Monetary Relations

Readings:

Capling, Ann and Trommer, Silke, "The Evolution of the Global Trade Regime", (Ravenhill, Chapter 5)
Thun, Eric, "The Globalization of Production", (Ravenhill, Chapter 7)

FALL READING WEEK: OCTOBER 9-13

October 16:

- Financial Crises and the Role of the State
- Global Security and Governance

Readings:

Pauly, Louis, "The Political Economy of Global Financial Crises", (Ravenhill, Chapter 9)

C. THE WEST AND THE REST: TRANSCENDING THE TRADITIONAL IPE PARADIGM

October 23:

- The Rising Powers and Levels of Global Governance
- Gender and the World Economy

Readings:

Aggarwal, Vinod K. and Dupont, Cedric, "Cooperation and Conflict in the Global Political Economy", (Ravenhill, Chapter 3)

October 30:

- Gender and the World Economy II
- Introduction to Development: A Comprehensive Approach

Readings:

Phillips, Nicola, "The Political Economy of Development", (Ravenhill, Chapter 13)

November 6:

- Economic Development: Critiquing the Models

Readings:

Hunter Wade, Robert, "Global Growth, Inequality and Poverty: The Globalization Argument and the 'Political' Science of Economics", (Ravenhill, Chapter 12)

November 13:

- Democracy and Development
- Market Injustice and Food Scarcity

Readings:

Hay, Colin, "Globalization's Impact on States", (Ravenhill, Chapter 11)

D. TRANSNATIONAL ISSUES AND DILEMMAS**November 20:**

- The Illicit Global Economy
- The Human Cost of Globalization

Readings:

"Narcotics in Africa: An Emerging Drug Market", *The Economist*. April 16, 2016, pg. 39

November 27:

- Technology and IPE
- Resources: The Environmental and Ecological Approaches

Readings:

Wolf, Martin, "Same As It Ever Was: Why the Techno-Optimists Are Wrong", *Foreign Affairs*. July/August 2015.

Dauvergne, Peter, "The Political Economy of Development", (Ravenhill, Chapter 14)

December 4:

- The Future of IPW
- Conclusion and Exam Review

SEMINAR TOPICS AND READINGS

WEEK OF:

September 11: Introduction and Seminar Selection

September 18: IPE and the Liberal Order

Readings:

Hu, Fred and Spence, Michael, "Why Globalization Stalled and How to Restart It", *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2017.

"America's Lost Oomph", (July 19, 2014) *The Economist*, www.economist.com/news/leaders/21607809

"Free Exchange: The Consensus Crumbles", (June 30, 2016) *The Economist*.

Core Debate: Policies of economic liberalism are currently under assault around the world, which is undermining globalization in the 21st century.

September 25: Trade, Development and Prosperity

Readings:

Dadush, Uri, "Trade Development and Inequality" *Current History*, November 2015, pg 298.

Irwin, Douglas A., "The Truth About Trade: what the Critics Get Wrong About the Global Economy", *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2016.

"Can TPP Go Ahead Without America?", *The Economist*, May 4, 2017.

Core Debate: Trade agreements are effective in promoting economic development and prosperity worldwide. Yes or No? (or Maybe...with qualifiers!)

October 2: Global Security and International Organizations

Readings:

"Islamic State: Where Does Jihadist Group Get Its Support?", BBC News: Middle East, 02/09/2014.

Ashford, Emma, "Not-So-Smart Sanctions: The Failure of Western Restrictions Against Russia", *Foreign Affairs*, January/February, 2016.

"UN Treaty is First Aimed at Regulating Global Arms Sales", Neil MacFarquhar, NY Times, April 2, 2013.

Core Debate: International initiatives, such as sanctions and global legislation, are effective in mitigating security threats and maintaining a stable international security structure in the 21st century. Yes or No?

FALL STUDY WEEK: OCTOBER 9-13

October 16: Financial Crises in the Global Economy

Readings:

Atkinson, Anthony B., "How to Spread the Wealth: Practical Policies for Reducing Inequality", *Foreign Affairs*, January/February, 2016.

"Sighing for Paradise to Come", *The Economist*, June 14, 2016, pp 21-24

"Fiscal Multipliers: Where Does the Buck Stop?" *The Economist*, August 11, 2016.

Suggested:

Blyth, Mark and Lonergan, Eric, "Print Less but Transfer More: Why Central Banks Should Give Money Directly to the People", *Foreign Affairs*, September/October 2014.

Core Debate: Basic income policies, or similar schemes, are an effective way to address the inequality arising from financial crises (or simply from the effects of the capitalist model). Yes or No?

OR

Balancing free market capitalism and social protection is a tenuous proposition at best and an impossible one at worst.

October 23: Gender and IPE

Readings:

"The Women's Crusade", Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, NY Times Magazine, August 23, 2009.

Coleman, Isobel, "The Global Glass Ceiling: Why Empowering Women is Good for Business", *Foreign Affairs*, May 15, 2010

"Men Adrift: Badly Educated Men in Rich Countries Have Not Adapted Well to Trade, Technology or Feminism", *The Economist*, May 10-June 5 edition, 2015, pages 21-26

Core Debate: Women continue to be marginalized in the 21st century global political economy. Yes or No?

October 30: The Quest for Development and Democracy

Readings:

"Jihad versus McWorld", Benjamin R. Barber, *The Atlantic*, 1992.

www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1992/03/jihad-vs-mcworld/303882

Shantayanan, Devarajan and Fengler, Wolfgang, "Africa's Economic Boom: Why the Pessimists and Optimists Are Both Right", *Foreign Affairs*, May/June 2013.

Bourguignon, Francois, "Inequality and Globalization: How the Rich Got Richer as the Poor Catch Up", *Foreign Affairs*, January/February, 2016

Core Debate: Regions within the developing world are successfully integrating themselves into the global economy and moving towards a sustainable future. Yes or No? (*You may consider this debate in terms of the developing world IN GENERAL, OR with respect to a particular region/country.*)

November 6: Migrant Workers: Development Strategy or Global Exploitation?

Readings:

"Revealed: Qatar's World Cup 'Slaves'", Pete Pattison, *The Guardian*, September 25, 2013.

"The Necessary Hypocrisy of America's Migrant Workers", Neil Macdonald, *CBC News*, December 4, 2014.

Bhagwati, Jagdish and Rivera-Batiz, Francisco, "Kinder, Gentler Immigration Policy: Forget Comprehensive Reform - Let the States Compete", *Foreign Affairs*, November/December 2013

SUGGESTED:

"Remittances to developing countries to stay robust this year, despite increased deportations of migrant workers, says WB", *The World Bank*, April 11, 2014. (www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2014/04/11/remittances-developing-countries-deportations-migrant-workers-wb)

Core Debate: Patterns of temporary international migration are an effective development strategy as they provide migrants with opportunities and resources which are not accessible within their own countries. Yes or No?

November 13: The Illicit Global Economy

Readings:

"Vietnam's Lost Children in Labyrinth of Slave Labour", Marianne Brown, *BBC News*, August 24, 2013. www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-23631923.

"It's the Illicit Economy, Stupid", Moises Naim, *Foreign Policy*, October 21, 2009.

Andreas, Peter, "Gangster's Paradise: the Untold History of the U.S. and International Crime", *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2013.

Core Debate: Growing trends of economic interdependence empower the illicit global economy, and create an environment which is increasingly difficult to police. Yes or No?

November 20: Technology and the International Political Economy

Readings:

Brynjolfsson, Erik and McAfee, Andrew, "Will Humans Go to the Way of Horses? Labour in the Second Machine Age", *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2015.

Kendall, Jake and Voorhies, Roger, "The Mobile Finance Revolution: How Cell Phones Can Spur Development", *Foreign Affairs*, March/April, 2014.

Farcell, Henry and Newman, Abraham, "The Transatlantic Data War: Europe Fights Back Against the NSA", *Foreign Affairs*, January/February 2016

Core Debate:

Technological innovation is the panacea for chronic underdevelopment, and necessary for continuing economic advancement. Yes or No?

November 27: Climate Change and Global Disaster

Reading:

"Why Delhi is Losing Its Clean Air War", Jay Mazoomdaar, BBC News, February 3, 2014.
www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-26012671.

"Don't Just Drill, Baby – Drill Carefully: How to Make Fracking Safer for the Environment", Fred Krupp, *Foreign Affairs*, May/June 2014.

"Follow the Sun", *The Economist*, April 16, 2016

"No-So-Big Oil", *The Economist*, May 7, 2016

Core Debate: Adopting "green" IPE strategies will sacrifice economic development and growth among the lesser developed countries of the world. Yes or No?

Seminar Grading Criteria:

- Complete all readings - each piece is quite brief so don't be turned off by the number of articles!
- Ensure that you have a clear understanding of the main arguments; be prepared to offer relevant and informed analysis.
- Ensure that your arguments are well-supported.
- If you do not attend a seminar, you will receive a grade of zero for that seminar.
- If you attend a seminar and do not participate you will not receive a passing grade for that seminar.
- You will be evaluated on quality rather than the quantity of your participation.
- Talk to your seminar instructor if you have any concerns about your participation

POLICY ON LATE ESSAYS

The policy of the Department is that essays received by the instructor or deposited in the Political Science department essay box after 4:00 p.m. or at a time designated by the instructor, of the date on which they were due will be penalized **two percent** for each day late, including weekends, and that no paper will be accepted two weeks after the due date.

NOTE: Medical and other personal issues do periodically arise - extensions will be provided if the professor is provided with appropriate documentation.

Academic Policies

Academic Integrity:

Academic misconduct is a serious offence. The principle of academic integrity, particularly of doing one's own work, documenting properly (including use of quotation marks, appropriate paraphrasing and referencing/citation), collaborating appropriately, and avoiding misrepresentation, is a core principle in university study. Students should consult Section VII, "Academic Misconduct", in the "Academic Regulations and University Policies" entry in the Undergraduate Calendar, available at <http://brocku.ca/webcal> to view a fuller description of prohibited actions, and the procedures and penalties.

Plagiarism software:

This course may use Turnitin.com, phrase-matching software. If you object to uploading your assignments to Turnitin.com for any reason, please notify the instructor to discuss alternative submissions.

Intellectual Property Notice:

All slides, presentations, handouts, tests, exams, and other course materials created by the instructor in this course are the intellectual property of the instructor. A student who publicly posts or sells an instructor's work, without the instructor's express consent, may be charged with misconduct under Brock's Academic Integrity Policy and/or Code of Conduct, and may also face adverse legal consequences for infringement of intellectual property rights.

Academic Accommodation:

As part of Brock University's commitment to a respectful work and learning environment, the University will make every reasonable effort to accommodate all members of the university community with disabilities. If you require academic accommodations related to a documented disability to participate in this course, you are encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services in the Student Development

Centre (4th floor Schmon Tower, ex. 3240). You are also encouraged to discuss any accommodations with the instructor well in advance of due dates and scheduled assessments.

Academic Accommodation due to Religious Obligations:

Brock University acknowledges the pluralistic nature of the undergraduate and graduate communities such that accommodations will be made for students who, by reason of religious obligation, must miss an examination, test, assignment deadline, laboratory or other compulsory academic event. Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious obligation should make a formal, written request to their instructor(s) for alternative dates and/or means of satisfying requirements.

Medical Exemption Policy:

The University requires that a student be medically examined in Health Services, or by an off-campus physician prior to an absence due to medical reasons from an exam, lab, test, quiz, seminar, assignment, etc. The Medical Certificate can be found at: <http://www.brocku.ca/health-services/policies/exemption>

Mental Health Support Services

Confidential Personal Counselling on Campus

- To make an appointment to see a counsellor call 905-688-5550 extension 4750 during regular
- office hours (8:30 - 12:00, 1:00 - 4:30) or visit the Student Development Centre (ST400)
- during office hours.
- <https://brocku.ca/personal-counselling>

Student Justice Centre

A space safe on campus that provides listening, support, and referral services. Services are available Monday through Friday 9:00-5:00 (TH252A) by appointment or drop in.

www.brocksjc.ca

I.M. Well App

The I.M. Well app aims to address the stigma surrounding mental wellness by connecting students to the appropriate services on campus and within the community. This is an educational tool that covers a wide variety of topics such as anxiety, depression, transition and addiction. This app also offers a 24/7 live chat with mental health professionals.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.eapexpert.iamwell&hl=en>

<https://itunes.apple.com/ca/app/im-well/id1150435727?mt=8>