

INTL 4230

International Political Economy

University of Georgia

Fall 2018, M,W,F 11:15am-12:05pm

Instructor:	Jeff Auerbach
Email:	jca73106@uga.edu
Office:	106 Baldwin
Office Hours:	Tuesday 9:30am - 11:30am
Classroom:	Benson 115

Welcome!

The focus of this course is international political economy, a subject that lies at the intersection of politics and economics. The goal of this course is to better understand economics, international politics, and the effect that they have on each other. By understanding these forces you will be able to better understand the world around you and place events within a historical and factual context.

How will you be graded?

Table 1: Components of final grade

Component	Prop. of grade
Midterm	30%
Paper	30%
Position Papers (4)	20%
Participation	20%

Required Materials

- Lairson, Thomas & David Skidmore. *International Political Economy: The Struggle for Power and Wealth in a Globalizing World*. Routledge. 2017.
- The News: NY Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Christian Science Monitor, NPR, The Economist, the evening news, AP, Reuters

Make-up policy: It is your responsibility to attend all scheduled class meetings, including the times when exams are offered. I will offer make-up exams only in extreme cases

Ground rules

You are responsible for being self-motivated, self-directed, active learners. I expect you to comply with university policy and use common sense. You should complete all of the course assignments and participate fully in all of our activities. In this class we will be discussing politics which can be a sensitive topic. Offensive language, personal attacks, and harassment **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**.

Goals and teaching philosophy

When this course is finished, you should:

- Understand the basic workings of the international economy
- Understand how politics and the economy interact on the international level
- Understand how the economy is shaped by the international system

As your professor, it is my responsibility to create an environment that fosters your learning. This includes keeping materials up to date on the course etc, and otherwise providing a well-organized course. You are responsible for taking advantage of that environment. If any aspect of the course is impeding your learning, please communicate that to me in whatever way you feel most comfortable.¹

¹A note about my name: Feel free to call me Jeff or Mr. Auerbach, whatever you are more comfortable with.

Final Paper

A paper will be due at the end of the semester on a political economy topic of your choice. These papers should cover a topic discussed in class and bring in the relevant research from scholars in the field and take and defend a position where necessary. The recommended length is five to seven pages and should not exceed 10. You will be asked to submit a topic no later than Thanksgiving. The paper should be 12pt, Times New Roman, and have normal margins **NO FUNNY BUSINESS!**

Position Papers

The goal of this project is to help you develop a real world skill. In your future careers you will as some point be asked to brief a superior and tell them why that person, company, agency, or organization should take a particular position on a particular issue. The position papers are single page, single spaced (again no funny business) papers where you summarize an issue relevant to the week's readings and take a position on that issue. The papers must pick a side on a issue that has two reasonable sides, lay out a strong and concise case, and advocate that the paper's reader advocate for this position. While these papers can be done any week where you feel inspired, the first two must be completed before the midterm with a maximum of one per week.

Course Schedule

Part I: Politics and Economics

Week 1

- August 13: Introduction and Syllabus
- August 15: Foundations of Economics
- August 17: Friday Discussion

Week 2

- August 20: L&S Chapter 1
- August 22: How We Measure Wealth and Wellbeing
- August 24: Friday Discussion

Week 3

- August 27: L&S Chapter 2
- August 29: L&S A Few Extra Models
- August 31: Friday Discussion

Week 4

- September 3: L&S Chapter 3 - Part I
- September 5: L&S Chapter 3 - Part II
- September 7: Friday Discussion

Week 5

- September 10: L&S Chapter 4 - Part I
- September 12: L&S Chapter 4 - Part II
- September 14: Friday Discussion

Part II: Contemporary Globalization

Week 6

- September 17: L&S Chapter 5 - Part I
- September 19: L&S Chapter 5 - Part II
- September 21: Friday Discussion

Week 7

- September 24: L&S Chapter 6 - Part I
- September 26: Last Week for First 2 Position Papers
- September 28: Friday Discussion

Week 8

- October 1: Midterm Prep
- October 3: Midterm Exam
- October 5: Post-Midterm

Week 9

- October 8: L&S Chapter 7 - Part I
- October 10: L&S Chapter 7 - Part II
- October 12: Friday Discussion

Week 10

- October 15: Jeff's Baby- No Class
- October 17: Jeff's Baby- No Class
- October 19: Jeff's Baby- No Class

Week 11

- October 22: L&S Chapter 8 - Part I
- October 24: Final Paper Topic Due
- October 26: Fall Break - No Class

Week 12

- October 29: L&S Chapter 9 - Part I
- October 31: L&S Chapter 9 - Part II
- November 2: Friday Discussion

Part III: Sustainability

Week 13

- November 5: L&S Chapter 10 - Part I
- November 7: L&S Chapter 10 - Part II
- November 9: Friday Discussion

Week 14

- November 12: L&S Chapter 11 - Part I
- November 14: L&S Chapter 11 - Part II
- November 16: Friday Discussion

Thanksgiving

Week 15

- November 26: L&S Chapter 12 - Part I
- November 28: Last Day to Turn in Final Position Paper
- November 30: Friday Discussion