

INTL 4230: International Political Economy

University of Georgia

Spring 2019, MWF 10:10-11:00

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| Instructor: | Jeff Auerbach |
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| Office: | Hunter Holmes 320C |
| Office Hours: | TBD |
| Classroom: | Caldwell Hall 102 |

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.

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.

How will you be graded?

Table 1: Components of Final Grade

| Component | Prop. of grade |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Midterm | 25% |
| Position Papers (4) | 20% |
| Participation | 20% |
| Final Exam | 35% |

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. On a technical note, close of business is 5pm; when something is due by close of business, that is what is expected.

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

My goal in this class is to foster an environment where learning and discussion can be carried out. ¹

¹A note about my name: Feel free to call me Jeff or Mr. Auerbach.

Position Papers

The goal of this project is to help you develop a real world skill. In your future careers you will at 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 International Political Economy and take a position on that issue. The papers must pick a side on an 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.

Examples of papers that received good grades are posted on ELC.

Course Schedule

All readings are from Lairson & Skidmore, unless otherwise specified.

1 Part I: Politics and Economics

Week 1

Week of January 9:

- Syllabus

Week 2

Week of January 14:

- Monday: Chapter 1
- Wednesday: Readings on ELC

Week 3

Week of January 21:

- Monday: No Class MLK day
- Chapter 2

Week 4

Week of January 28:

- Chapter 3

Week 5

Week of February 4:

- Chapter 4

Part II: Contemporary Globalization

Week 6

Week of February 11:

- Chapter 5

Week 7

Week of February 18:

- Chapter 6

Week 8

Week of February 25:

- Monday: Midterm Prep
- Wednesday: Midterm Exam
- Friday: No Class

Week 9

Week of March 4:

- Chapter 7

SPRING BREAK!!!! WOOOOOO!!!!

Week 10

Week of March 18:

- Chapter 8

Week 11

Week of March 25:

- Chapter 9

Week 12

Week of April 1:

- Chapter 10

Part III: Sustainability

Week 13

Week of April 8:

- Chapter 11

Week 14

Week of April 15:

- Chapter 12

Week 15

Week of April 22:

- Final Exam Review Week
- Friday: Last Position Papers Due

Week 16ish

- Monday April 29: Final Exam