

INTL 4230 (CRN: 40147) / Spring 2020

# International Political Economy

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Office: Room 310, Department of International Affairs (202 Herty Drive)

Office hours: By appointment (<https://ryanpowers.youcanbook.me/>).

Class meetings: 12:30 p.m.–1:45 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday in Caldwell Hall 0102.

## Course Description

This course is an advanced undergraduate-level survey of the politics of the global economy. The course is designed with two objectives in mind. First, this course will provide a survey of the history of international trade, finance, and migration over the last 150 years. Second, this course will introduce students to the *study* of international political economy. We will review and critique the dominant explanations for the behavior of individuals, firms, and states in the global economy. By the end of this course, students will have practice identifying the strengths and weaknesses of both theoretical arguments and empirical applications in international political economy scholarship.

## Course Materials

There are two required textbooks for this course:

- *Principles of International Political Economy* by Bumba Mukherjee, Mark Hallerberg, and Jeffrey Kucik. 2020.
- *Global Capitalism: Its Fall and Rise in the Twentieth Century* by Jeffrey Frieden. 2007.

## Grading and Expectations

### Grades

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

- Class attendance and participation: 20%
- Divide and Conquer Posts: 20%
- Midterm 1: 20%
- Midterm 2: 20 %
- Final exam: 20%

## Attendance and Participation

Attendance and participation in class discussions is vital to our success this semester. I will take attendance at each class meeting and note whether or not you have actively participated in class. Active participation requires that you ask questions, contribute to class discussions, and take part in our group activities. Failing to actively participate in class discussions will result in a participation grade penalty for the day. You may miss *one* class meeting without a grade penalty. After that, you must let me know of absences in advance and provide documentation excusing your absence to avoid a grade penalty.

You should come to class having read the assigned work closely enough to actively participate in a detailed and critical discussion of the arguments and evidence presented by the authors. I also expect you to come to class already familiar with the major international news stories of the day. You get access to both *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal* as part of your student activities fees. Other great international affairs coverage is available from *The Economist*, *The Financial Times*, and *BBC World News*.

Note that brown M&M's are strictly prohibited from all class meetings. Send me an email by January 16, 2020 explaining why both Van Halen and myself have such particular tastes when it comes to M&M's and you will receive a 5 point bonus on your participation grade (Hint: [goo.gl/ThqEAm](http://goo.gl/ThqEAm)).

The use of electronic devices during our class meetings is not prohibited, but is *strongly* discouraged. All noise-making electronics should be silenced and, where possible, set to "Do Not Disturb" for the duration of our class meetings. There is substantial evidence that the use of electronic devices during instruction negatively affects educational outcomes in the classroom.

## Assignments

Assignments should be submitted online to the eLearning Commons. Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of one-half letter grade per day.

- **Divide and Conquer Posts.** At various points in the semester, we will be covering a lot of ground in the Frieden volume. While I encourage you to read as much of it as you can on your own, you will have some assistance from your colleagues. You will be assigned some portion of the reading to complete on your own. You summarize that portion of the reading in your own words, and post that summary to ELC. These posts are due prior to the start of the class meeting for which they are assigned. Your summary should be on the order of 500-1,000 words and should identify the key events and actors discussed. In discussing each actor, you should identify their interests *and* the sources of those interests (what they want and why they want it). We will discuss during our first meeting how to divide the readings, but we may need to make adjustments over the course of the semester.
- **Midterm exams.** There will be two midterm exams. They will be closed book and administered during our normal class meetings on **February 6** and on **March 19**. I expect them to take the entire class meeting. The exams will be comprised of

a number of multiple choice questions, several short answer questions, and one short essay. The first exam will cover all material between the first class meeting and the first exam, while the second exam will cover all material covered since the first exam. I will grade the first exam and return it to you prior to the withdrawal deadline.

- **Final exam.** The final exam will be cumulative, but will emphasize material covered since the second midterm. It will be administered during our university-assigned final exam period: **April 30, 12:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.** It will *most likely* take place in our normal meeting room, but there is a chance we will be assigned a different room. I will confirm the final exam location via email and on eLC later in the semester.

### Grading Scale

Your final grade will be calculated on the following scale:

- 94–100: A
- 90–93: A-
- 87–89: B+
- 84–87: B
- 80–83: B-
- 77–79: C+
- 74–77: C
- 70–73: C-
- 67–69: D+
- 64–67: D
- 60–63: D-
- Less than 59: F

### Accommodations

In accordance with UGA policy, “[s]tudents with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor or designate during regular office hours or by appointment.” More information about accommodations that are available to students with disabilities is available from the [Disability Resource Center](#).

## Academic Integrity and Professional Conduct

I expect you to do your own work and to abide by all university policies on academic integrity and professional conduct. In part, these policies state:

As a University of Georgia student, you have agreed to abide by the University's academic honesty policy, "A Culture of Honesty," and the Student Honor Code. All academic work must meet the standards described in "A Culture of Honesty" found at: <https://honesty.uga.edu/Academic-Honesty-Policy/>. Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Questions related to course assignments and the academic honesty policy should be directed to the instructor.

## Course Outline

Required reading is listed in parentheses. PIPE = Principles of International Political Economy. The UGA Course Syllabus Policy states: "The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviation announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary."

### 1. Preliminaries

- Tuesday, January 7: Introduction and Summary of Expectations
  - No required reading.
- Thursday, January 9: Globalization Trends and Causes
  - PIPE, Chapter 1
  - Frieden, Prologue (pp. 1–10)
- Tuesday, January 14: What is International Political Economy?
  - Reading on ELC

### 2. The Political Economy of Globalization

- Thursday, January 16: The Political Economy of International Trade, Part I
  - PIPE, Chapter 2
- Tuesday, January 21: The Political Economy of International Trade, Part II
  - PIPE, Chapter 3
- Thursday, January 23: Politics of Globalization I: Domestic Politics and Institutions
  - Reading on ELC
- Tuesday, January 28: Politics of Globalization II: International Politics and Institutions
  - PIPE, Chapter 4

- Thursday, January 30: The Political Economy of Money and Finance, Part I
  - PIPE, Chapter 6
- Tuesday, February 4: The Political Economy of Money and Finance, Part II
  - Reading on ELC
- Thursday, February 6: **Midterm I**

### 3. A Political History of the Global Economy

- Tuesday, February 11: Origins of the modern global economy
  - Reading on ELC
- Thursday, February 13: The Golden Age
  - Divide and conquer: Frieden, Chapters 1–4, (pp. 13–79)
- Tuesday, February 18: Patterns of Development
  - Frieden, Chapter 4 (pp 70–92)
- Thursday, February 20: Problems of the Global Economy
  - Reading on ELC
- Tuesday, February 25: Things Fall Apart, Part I
  - Divide and conquer: Frieden, Chapters 6–8 (pp. 127–194)
- Thursday, February 27: Things Fall Apart, Part II
  - Divide and conquer: Frieden, Chapters 9–10 (pp. 195–252)
- Tuesday, March 3: Settlement and Reconstruction
  - Frieden, Chapter 11 (pp. 253–277)
- Thursday, March 5: Decolonization and Development
  - Divide and Conquer: Frieden, Chapters 13 and 14 (pp. 301–336)
- Tuesday, March 10: **SPRING BREAK — NO CLASS**
- Thursday, March 12: **SPRING BREAK — NO CLASS**
- Tuesday, March 17: Bretton Woods and beyond, 1973–2000
  - Divide and Conquer: Frieden, Chapters 12 and 15 (pp. 278–300 and 339–362)
- Thursday, March 19: **Midterm II**

### 4. The Politics of the Global Economy Today

- Tuesday, March 24: Governing the Global Economy Today
  - Reading on ELC.
  - PIPE, Chapter 11.
- Thursday, March 26: Multinational Corporations and Foreign Direct Investment

- Reading on ELC
  - PIPE, Chapter 5
- Tuesday, March 31: Capital Flows and Financial Crises: Developing Countries
  - PIPE, Chapter 7
- Thursday, April 2: Capital Flows and Financial Crises: The Great Recession
  - Reading on ELC
- Tuesday, April 7: The Eurozone Crisis
  - Reading on ELC
- Thursday, April 9: The Global Environment
  - PIPE, Chapter 8
- Tuesday, April 14: Foreign Aid
  - PIPE, Chapter 9
- Thursday, April 16: Aid or Trade? Development and Human Rights Today
  - PIPE, Chapter 10
  - Reading on ELC
- Tuesday, April 21: Migration in the Modern Global Economy
  - Reading on ELC
- Thursday, April 23: Wrap up and final exam review session.
- Tuesday, April 28: **MONDAY CLASS SCHEDULE IN EFFECT — NO CLASS**
- Thursday, April 30: **FINAL EXAM (12:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.)**