

INTL 4230: International Political Economy

University of Georgia

Fall 2020, T-TH 9:30-10:45

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Office Hours:	TBD
Classroom:	Park 113

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.

COVID-19 Accommodations

This class will be split in half with half of you showing up for each of the class periods. One half will show up on Tuesday and the other on Thursday. The half that does not show up on a given day will join through Zoom and try to discuss as best as we can. We may have to figure this out a little, but if we are all patient with each other, this will go great.

If you are not able to make it to class, then it is important for you to join us on Zoom. A zoom link will be posted on eLC.

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)	40%
Participation	10%
Final Exam	25%

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. Also, if you are a parent and your childcare falls through and you need to bring your kid, you can.

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

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 International Political Economy 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.

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

Exams

The first exam will take the format of a standard midterm test and we will discuss the format at length later. The final will be a take home test that is purely essay and which you will be given a full week to complete. You can use books, the internet, everything except each other.

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

Course Schedule

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

1 Part I: Politics and Economics

Week 1

Week of August 20:

- Syllabus

Week 2

Week of August 24:

- Chapter 1

Week 3

Week of August 31:

- Chapter 2

Week 4

Week of September 7:

- Chapter 3

Week 5

Week of September 14:

- Chapter 4

Part II: Contemporary Globalization

Week 6

Week of September 21:

- Chapter 5

Week 7

Week of September 28:

- Chapter 6

Week 8

Week of October 5:

- Tuesday: Midterm Prep
- Wednesday: Open Office Hours
- Thursday: Midterm

Week 9

Week of October 12:

- Chapter 7

Week 10

Week of October 19:

- Chapter 8

Week 11

Week of October 26:

- Chapter 9

Week 12

Week of November 2:

- Chapter 10

Part III: Sustainability

Week 13

Week of November 9:

- Chapter 11

Week 14

Week of November 16:

- Take some time for yourself

Week Whatever

Week of November 23:

- Thanksgiving Break

Week 15

- Zoom chapter 12 at normal class times

Week 15.5

- Tuesday @5: Take home final exam is due

Mental Health and Wellness Resources:

- If you or someone you know needs assistance, you are encouraged to contact Student Care and Outreach in the Division of Student Affairs at 706-542-7774 or visit <https://sco.uga.edu>. They will help you navigate any difficult circumstances you may be facing by connecting you with the appropriate resources or services.
- UGA has several resources for a student seeking mental health services (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/bewelluga/bewelluga>) or crisis support (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/info/emergencies>).
- If you need help managing stress anxiety, relationships, etc., please visit BeWellUGA (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/bewelluga/bewelluga>) for a list of FREE workshops, classes, mentoring, and health coaching led by licensed clinicians and health educators in the University Health Center.
- Additional resources can be accessed through the UGA App.