

INTL 4230 (CRN: 59937 / SPRING 2022)

# International Political Economy

Ryan Powers

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Tu/Thur 9:05 a.m.–10:50 a.m.

Caldwell Hall, Room 0107.

Office hours: On Zoom by appointment (<https://ryanpowers.youcanbook.me/>).

## Course Description

This course is an advanced undergraduate-level survey of the politics of the global economy. This course will provide a survey of the history of international trade, finance, and migration over the last 150 years. In addition, 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.

## COVID-19 Considerations

### Vaccine

**I strongly encourage you to get vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19 if you have not already done so.** The vaccine is safe, effective, and free. I was vaccinated and boosted as soon as I was eligible. You can learn more about the vaccine and make an appointment on the [University Health Center website](#).

### Mask policy

**I will be wearing a mask during our meetings. I strongly encourage you to do the same.** On July 30, 2021, the University System of Georgia, which sets the COVID-19

policies for UGA, issued new guidance on masks: “[E]veryone is encouraged to wear a mask or face covering while inside campus facilities.” This is consistent with current CDC recommendations to wear masks indoors even if vaccinated in areas of “substantial or high transmission.” The entire state of Georgia is considered to be an area of “**high transmission**” as of this writing (January 6, 2022).

Given how transmissible Omicron is, I urge you to upgrade your mask if you have not already. Cloth masks help, but surgical masks are better and tightly fitting KN95/N95 masks are best.

### **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:

- IPE Playlist Assignment: 20%
- Divide and Conquer Posts: 20%
- Midterm 1: 20%
- Midterm 2: 20 %
- Final exam: 20%

#### **Expectations**

There is no attendance requirement for this course. I expect you to 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 keep up 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, 2022 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)).

All noise-making electronics should be silenced and, where possible, set to “Do Not Disturb” for the duration of our class meetings.

## Assignments

Assignments should be submitted online to the eLearning Commons. Work submitted late without an explanation will be penalized one-half letter grade per day. The pandemic has made life more stressful and unpredictable than usual; let me know if you need extra time to complete your work.

- **IPE Playlist Assignment.** You will write a three-page, double spaced paper in which you pick two popular songs from any era and relate them to two concepts we have discussed in class. The response is paper is due **March 15, 2022**.
- **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 will 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 around 500 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).
- **Midterm exams.** There will be two midterm exams. The first will be open book/open note and administered via ELC on **February 10, 2022**. The second exam will be in person on **March 24, 2022**. 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: **8:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m. on May 5, 2022**. 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 11, 2022: Introduction and Summary of Expectations
  - Reading on ELC
- Thursday, January 13, 2022: Globalization Trends and Causes

- PIPE, Chapter 1
- Frieden, Prologue (pp. 1–10)
- Tuesday, January 18, 2022: What is International Political Economy?
  - Reading on ELC

## 2. The Political Economy of Globalization

- Thursday, January 20, 2022: The Political Economy of International Trade, Part I
  - PIPE, Chapter 2
- Tuesday, January 25, 2022: The Political Economy of International Trade, Part II
  - PIPE, Chapter 3
- Thursday, January 27, 2022: Politics of Globalization I: Domestic Politics and Institutions
  - Reading on ELC
- Tuesday, February 01, 2022: Politics of Globalization II: International Politics and Institutions
  - PIPE, Chapter 4
- Thursday, February 03, 2022: The Political Economy of Money and Finance, Part I
  - PIPE, Chapter 6
- Tuesday, February 08, 2022: The Political Economy of Money and Finance, Part II
  - Reading on ELC
- Thursday, February 10, 2022: **Midterm I**

## 3. A Political History of the Global Economy

- Tuesday, February 15, 2022: Origins of the modern global economy
  - Reading on ELC
- Thursday, February 17, 2022: The Golden Age
  - Divide and conquer: Frieden, Chapters 1–3 (pp. 13-79)
- Tuesday, February 22, 2022: Patterns of Development
  - Frieden, Chapter 4 (pp 70-92)
- Thursday, February 24, 2022: Problems of the Global Economy
  - Frieden, Chapter 5 (pp 105–126)
- Tuesday, March 01, 2022: Things Fall Apart, Part I
  - Divide and conquer: Frieden, Chapters 6–8 (pp. 127–194)
- Thursday, March 03, 2022: Things Fall Apart, Part II

- Divide and conquer: Frieden, Chapters 9–10 (pp. 195–252)
- Tuesday, March 08, 2022: **SPRING BREAK — NO CLASS**
- Thursday, March 10, 2022: **SPRING BREAK — NO CLASS**
- Tuesday, March 15, 2022: Settlement and Reconstruction
  - **IPE Playlist Paper Due**
  - Frieden, Chapter 11 (pp. 253–277)
- Thursday, March 17, 2022: Decolonization and Development
  - Divide and Conquer: Frieden, Chapters 13 and 14 (pp. 301–336)
- Tuesday, March 22, 2022: Bretton Woods and beyond, 1973–2000
  - Divide and Conquer: Frieden, Chapters 12 and 15 (pp. 278–300 and 339–362)
- Thursday, March 24, 2022: **Midterm II**

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

- Tuesday, March 29, 2022: Governing the Global Economy Today
  - PIPE, Chapter 11.
- Thursday, March 31, 2022: Multinational Corporations and Foreign Direct Investment
  - PIPE, Chapter 5
- Tuesday, April 05, 2022: Capital Flows and Financial Crises: Developing Countries
  - PIPE, Chapter 7
  - Divide and Conquer: Frieden, Chapters 16–17 (pp. 363–434)
- Thursday, April 07, 2022: Capital Flows and Financial Crises: The Great Recession
  - Reading on ELC
- Tuesday, April 12, 2022: The Eurozone Crisis
  - Reading on ELC
- Thursday, April 14, 2022: The Global Environment
  - PIPE, Chapter 8
- Tuesday, April 19, 2022: Foreign Aid
  - PIPE, Chapter 9
- Thursday, April 21, 2022: Aid or Trade? Development and Human Rights Today
  - PIPE, Chapter 10
  - Reading on ELC
- Tuesday, April 26, 2022: Migration in the Modern Global Economy
  - Reading on ELC
- Thursday, April 28, 2022: Wrap up and concluding discussions
- Tuesday, May 03, 2022: Final exam review session
- Thursday, May 5: **FINAL EXAM (8:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.)**