

INTL 4230 (CRN: 70547 / SPRING 2025)

International Political Economy

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Tu/Thur 3:55 p.m.–5:10 p.m. in Miller Learning Center 0275.

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.

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:

- Attendance and Participation: 20%

- IPE Playlist Assignment: 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, 2025 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).

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.
- **Midterm exams.** There will be two midterm exams. They will be in person and closed-book. 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: **3:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m. on May 6, 2025**. 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 07, 2025: Introduction and Summary of Expectations
- Thursday, January 09, 2025: **No Class Meeting – Alternative assignment due**
- Tuesday, January 14, 2025: Globalization Trends and Causes
 - PIPE, Chapter 1
 - Frieden, Prologue (pp. 1–10)
- Thursday, January 16, 2025: What is International Political Economy?
 - Reading on ELC

2. The Political Economy of Globalization

- Tuesday, January 21, 2025: The Political Economy of International Trade, Part I
 - PIPE, Chapter 2
- Thursday, January 23, 2025: The Political Economy of International Trade, Part II
 - PIPE, Chapter 3
- Tuesday, January 28, 2025: Politics of Globalization I: Domestic Politics and Institutions
 - Reading on ELC
- Thursday, January 30, 2025: Politics of Globalization II: International Politics and Institutions
 - PIPE, Chapter 4
- Tuesday, February 04, 2025: The Political Economy of Money and Finance, Part I
 - PIPE, Chapter 6
- Thursday, February 06, 2025: The Political Economy of Money and Finance, Part II
 - Reading on ELC
- Tuesday, February 11, 2025: **Midterm I**

3. A Political History of the Global Economy

- Thursday, February 13, 2025: Origins of the modern global economy
 - Reading on ELC

- Tuesday, February 18, 2025: The Golden Age
 - Frieden, Chapters 1–3 (pp. 13-79)
- Thursday, February 20, 2025: Patterns of Development
 - Frieden, Chapter 4 (pp 70-92)
- Tuesday, February 25, 2025: Problems of the Global Economy
 - Frieden, Chapter 5 (pp 105–126)
- Thursday, February 27, 2025: **No Class – Alternative assignment due.**
- Tuesday, March 04, 2025: **SPRING BREAK — NO CLASS**
- Thursday, March 06, 2025: **SPRING BREAK — NO CLASS**
- Tuesday, March 11, 2025: Things Fall Apart, Part I
 - Frieden, Chapters 6–8 (pp. 127–194)
- Thursday, March 13, 2025: Things Fall Apart, Part II
 - Frieden, Chapters 9–10 (pp. 195–252)
- Tuesday, March 18, 2025: Settlement and Reconstruction
 - **IPE Playlist Paper Due**
 - Frieden, Chapter 11 (pp. 253–277)
- Thursday, March 20, 2025: Decolonization and Development
 - Frieden, Chapters 13 and 14 (pp. 301–336)
- Tuesday, March 25, 2025: Bretton Woods and beyond, 1973–2000
 - Frieden, Chapters 12 and 15 (pp. 278–300 and 339–362)
- Thursday, March 27, 2025: **Midterm II**

4. The Politics of the Global Economy Today

- Tuesday, April 01, 2025: Governing the Global Economy Today
 - PIPE, Chapter 11.
- Thursday, April 03, 2025: Multinational Corporations and Foreign Direct Investment
 - PIPE, Chapter 5
- Tuesday, April 08, 2025: Capital Flows and Financial Crises: Developing Countries
 - PIPE, Chapter 7
 - Frieden, Chapters 16–17 (pp. 363–434)
- Thursday, April 10, 2025: Capital Flows and Financial Crises: The Great Recession
 - Reading on ELC
- Tuesday, April 15, 2025: The Eurozone Crisis

- Reading on ELC
- Thursday, April 17, 2025: The Global Environment
 - PIPE, Chapter 8
- Tuesday, April 22, 2025: Foreign Aid
 - PIPE, Chapter 9
- Thursday, April 24, 2025: Migration in the Modern Global Economy
 - Reading on ELC
- Tuesday, April 29, 2025: Wrap up and concluding discussions
- Thursday, May 01, 2025: Final exam review session
- Thursday, May 06: **FINAL EXAM (3:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.)**