

International Political Economy – PSC 461 – 1D

Dr. Claire Greenstein

Course Information:

Course Description:

This course is intended to introduce you to the study of International Political Economy (IPE), which examines the interplay between political actors and the global economic marketplace. You will learn how to use multiple different theories to understand and critically assess global economic processes. We will use scholarly articles and current events as a lens through which to analyze various aspects of IPE, including the evolving theoretical approaches to the discipline and the problems and opportunities created by global political and economic forces (such as financial crises, globalization, and development). Ultimately, this class aims to help you develop the tools you need to understand how states, domestic actors, international organizations, and multinational corporations try to shape politics and economics to their own benefit.

Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Understand current global economic events and analyze them using the theories presented to you in class
- Compare and contrast theoretical frameworks for studying IPE
- Assess the advantages and disadvantages to using a particular theoretical framework for understanding the global economy
- Formulate your own ideas about how to address global economic challenges

Required Text and Course Materials:

Balaam, David N., and Bradford Dillman. 2019. *Introduction to International Political Economy*, 7th edition.

Graded Assignments & Activities Overview:

Assignments & Activities	Percentage
Participation	10
Homework (5 of 8 options)	15
Guest Lecture Responses (5 total)	15
Quizzes	10
In-Class News Presentation	10
Participation on News Fridays	10
Feedback on Classmates' Practice Presentation	10
Final Presentation	20
	100

Weekly Course Schedule:

Introduction to Comparative Political Analysis and IPE

January 20—Go over syllabus, introductions

At some point before January 29: Please have filled out the pre-class survey on Canvas asking you to introduce yourself, tell me your preferred name, share your pronouns with me, etc. The survey is not mandatory, but it will help me get to know you, and it will give me a better sense of how to ensure that your educational needs are being met.

January 22—Introduction

Have read:

Marlin-Bennett, Renée. 2010. "International Political Economy: Overview and Conceptualization." *International Studies Association and Oxford University Press*, 1 March. Available at:

<https://oxfordre.com/internationalstudies/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780190846626.001.0001/acrefore-9780190846626-e-239#acrefore-9780190846626-e-239-div1-0001> (Also on Canvas) (18 pages)

Liberalism and Neoliberalism

January 25—Economic Liberalism

Have read: Balaam & Dillman, Chapter 2 (24pp)

January 27—Neoliberalism in Chile

Have watched and listened to (54 minutes) (transcripts for the Planet Money episodes are on the linked pages; let me know if you can't find them):

1. "Pros and Cons of Neoliberalism," 2018. *HarvardX*, 16 July. YouTube Video Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t41rFqVpB1I> (3 minutes)
2. King, Noel, and Jasmine Garsd. 2019. "Episode 905: The Chicago Boys, Part I." *NPR's Planet Money*, 10 April. Available at: <https://www.npr.org/sections/money/2019/04/10/711918772/episode-905-the-chicago-boys-part-i> (24 minutes)
3. King, Noel, and Jasmine Garsd. 2019. "Episode 906: The Chicago Boys, Part II." *NPR's Planet Money*, 12 April. Available at: <https://www.npr.org/sections/money/2019/04/12/712817739/episode-906-the-chicago-boys-part-ii> (27 minutes)

January 29—News Presentation Day

Have read: News articles that deal with economic liberalism and neoliberalism. Be ready to discuss them in class.

*****Syllabus Quiz Due—Canvas submission window closes at 11:59pm Central Time*****

Mercantilism

February 1

Have read: Balaam & Dillman, Chapter 3 (22pp)

*****Finding Sources Quiz Due—Canvas submission window closes at 11:59pm Central Time*****

February 3

Have read:

Lind, Jennifer, and Press, Daryl G. 2018. "Markets or Mercantilism?: How China Secures Its Energy Supplies." *International Security*, 42(4): 170-204. (Available on Canvas and through the UAB Library.) (35 pages)

February 5—News Presentation Day

Have read: News articles that deal with mercantilism in some way. Be ready to discuss them in class. Even if today is not your presentation day, you may be asked to summarize and discuss what you read.

Structuralism

February 8

Have read: Balaam & Dillman, Chapter 4 (26pp)

February 10

Have listened to and read:

1. Garcia, Cardiff, and Stacey Vanek Smith. 2020. "Timecard Capitalists." *The Indicator from Planet Money*, 20 February. Available at: <https://www.npr.org/2020/02/20/807828611/timecard-capitalists> (9 minutes) (Transcript available on that page; let me know if you can't find it)
2. Irwin, Neil. 2017. "To Understand Rising Inequality, Consider the Janitors at Two Top Companies, Then and Now." *New York Times*, 3 September. Available at: <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/03/upshot/to-understand-rising-inequality-consider-the-janitors-at-two-top-companies-then-and-now.html> (7 pages)

February 12—News Presentation Day

Have read: News articles that relate to structuralism. Be ready to discuss them in class. Even if today is not your presentation day, you may be asked to summarize and discuss what you read.

Constructivism

February 15

Guest lecture from Dr. Chelsea Estancona, Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of South Carolina

February 17

Have read: Balaam & Dillman, Chapter 5 (29pp)

February 19— News Presentation Day

Have read: News articles that you can relate to constructivism. Be ready to discuss them in class. Even if today is not your presentation day, you may be asked to summarize and discuss what you read.

Feminist IPE

February 22

Have read:

Bedford, Kate, and Shirin M. Rai. 2010. "Feminists Theorize International Political Economy." *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, 36(1): 1-18. (Available on Canvas, also through the UAB library. 12 pages of reading.)

February 24

Have read:

1. Gupta, Alisha Haridasani. 2020. "Women, Burdened with Unpaid Labor, Bear Brunt of Global Inequality." *New York Times*, 23 January. Available at: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/23/us/unpaid-work-economy-davos.html?searchResultPosition=5> (Also on Canvas) (2pp)
2. McCarthy, Lauren. 2018. "'There Is No Time for Rest': Gendered CSR, Sustainable Development and the Unpaid Care Work Governance Gap." *Business Ethics: A European Review*, 27: 337-349. (Also on Canvas) (11pp)
3. Emma. 2017. "You Should Have Asked." 20 May. *Emmaclit.com*. Available at: <https://english.emmaclit.com/2017/05/20/you-shouldve-asked/> (Also on Canvas)

February 26—News Presentation Day

Have read: News articles that deal with feminist IPE in some way. Be ready to discuss them in class. Even if today is not your presentation day, you may be asked to summarize and discuss what you read.

Postcolonial IPE

March 1

Have read:

Bhambra, Gurminder K. 2020. "Colonial Global Economy: Towards a Theoretical Reorientation of Political Economy." *Review of International Political Economy*, forthcoming (published online October 20). Available at: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/09692290.2020.1830831> (Also on Canvas) (14pp)

March 3—No class, work on your presentations

I will hold drop-in hours at our usual class time

March 5—News Presentation Day

Have read: News articles that deal with postcolonial IPE in some way. Be ready to discuss them in class. Even if today is not your presentation day, you may be asked to summarize and discuss what you read.

Global Production Structure

March 8—Guest Lecture from Dr. Leslie Marshall, Associate Director of the Center for Sustainable Business Katz Graduate School of Business & College of Business Administration at the University of Pittsburgh

March 10

Have read: Balaam & Dillman, Chapter 6 (31pp)

March 12—News Presentation Day

Have read: News articles that deal with the global production structure. Be ready to discuss them in class. Even if today is not your presentation day, you may be asked to summarize and discuss what you read.

International Trade Structure

March 15

Have read: Balaam & Dillman, Chapter 7 (33pp)

March 17—Guest Lecture from Dr. Bilyana Petrova, Postdoctoral Scholar at the Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality, City University of New York

March 19—News Presentation Day

Have read: News articles that deal with the international trade structure. Be ready to discuss them in class. Even if today is not your presentation day, you may be asked to summarize and discuss what you read.

International Finance and Monetary Structure

March 22

Have read: Balaam & Dillman, Chapter 8 (27pp)

March 24

Have watched and listened to (36.5 minutes):

1. “How Do Tariffs Work? | CNBC Explains.” 2018. *CNBC International*, 17 August. YouTube Video Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LKCMnCZyxiQ> (5 minutes)
2. Jarvis, Jonathan. 2014. “The European Debt Crisis Visualized.” *Bloomberg*. Available at: <https://vimeo.com/91098314> (also available on YouTube if you want to use their auto-generated captions: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbcvdKwmCtq>) (12.5 minutes)
3. “Globalization at Davos: What Happened?” 2019. *NPR’s The Indicator from Planet Money*. Available at: <https://www.npr.org/2019/01/28/689516546/globalization-at-davos-what-happened> (Transcript available on that page; let me know if you can’t find it) (9 minutes)
4. Garcia, Cardiff, and Stacey Vanek Smith. 2019. “Weaponized Interdependence: The End of Globalization?” *NPR’s The Indicator from Planet Money*, 3 June. Available at: <https://www.npr.org/2019/06/03/729401275/weaponized-interdependence-the-end-of-globalization> (Transcript available on that page; let me know if you can’t find it) (10 minutes)

March 26—News Presentation Day

Have read: News articles that deal with international finance and monetary structure. Be ready to discuss them in class. Even if today is not your presentation day, you may be asked to summarize and discuss what you read.

Development

March 29

Have read: Balaam & Dillman, Chapter 11 (30pp)

March 31—No class, work on your presentations

I will hold drop-in hours at our usual class time

April 2—Guest Lecture from Prof. Bailee Donahue, PhD Candidate at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

April 5

Have read: Balaam & Dillman, Chapter 13 (31pp)

April 7

Have listened to:

1. "Episode 497: Love, Betrayal And the Planet Money T-Shirt." 2013. *NPR's Planet Money*, 20 November. Available at: <https://www.npr.org/sections/money/2013/11/20/246395456/episode-497-love-betrayal-and-the-planet-money-t-shirt> (22 minutes)
2. "Episode 498: The Last T-Shirt in Colombia." 2013. *NPR's Planet Money*, 22 November. Available at: <https://www.npr.org/sections/money/2013/11/22/246776421/episode-498-the-last-t-shirt-in-colombia> (24 minutes) (Transcript available on that page; let me know if you can't find it)
3. "Episode 599: The Invisible Wall." 2015. *NPR's Planet Money*, 28 January. Available at: <https://www.npr.org/sections/money/2015/01/28/381652827/episode-599-the-invisible-wall> (18 minutes) (Transcript available on that page; let me know if you can't find it)

April 9—News Presentation Day

Have read: News articles that deal with global economic development. Be ready to discuss them in class. Even if today is not your presentation day, you may be asked to summarize and discuss what you read.

Student Presentations: Week 1

April 12

Come ready to present and/or ready to pay attention and ask questions

April 14—Wellness Day. Work on your presentations. I will hold drop-in hours at our usual class meeting time.

April 16

Come ready to present and/or ready to pay attention and ask questions

Student Presentations: Week 2

April 19-23

Come ready to present and/or ready to pay attention and ask questions