

**POLS/INST 283**  
**International Political Economy**

Fall 2009  
BSB Room 367  
Tuesday and Thursday 12:30 - 1:45

**Professor Yoram Z. Haftel**

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**Course Description**

This course introduces students to the politics of international economic relations. Its goal is to equip students with the necessary tools to evaluate the interaction between politics and markets at the global level. Our discussion will cover the major theoretical approaches to international political economy as well as the interaction between domestic and international interests and institutions. We will then delve into many of the historical and contemporary empirical issues that make the international political economy. We will explore the recent political history of trade liberalization, the economic rationale for international trade, and the politics of economic protectionism. We will also examine problems of economic development and the role of multinational corporations in the global economy. Finally, we will investigate the politics of the international monetary system and the sources and consequences of national and regional financial crises.

**Required Readings**

Oatley, Thomas. 2010. *International Political Economy: Interests and Institutions in the Global Economy*. 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, New York: Pearson Longman (henceforth: IPE).

Oatley, Thomas. 2010. *Debates in International Political Economy*. New York: Pearson Longman (henceforth: Debates).

- The two books are available as a package for a reduced price (ISBN-10: 0205763537 | ISBN-13: 9780205763535)
- Additional readings may be handed out in class or posted on Blackboard.

## Course Requirements

Students are expected to do the assigned readings by the date listed and participate in class discussions. Class participation will be evaluated according to the quality and frequency with which students engage in class discussion. If you miss class, you are responsible for getting the information covered in class from another student, not the instructor.

**Exams:** there will be two exams given during the semester: a mid-term and a final. These exams will test your knowledge of course readings, class lectures, and class discussions. There will be absolutely **NO** make-up exams given without **documented** instances of emergencies.

**Class Memo:** each week (starting September 3<sup>rd</sup>) three students will prepare a one-page memo (typed, double-spaced) that includes a summary and analysis of one or both pieces from the week's assigned *Debates in International Political Economy* chapter. Students should *briefly* capture the basic argument made by the author(s) and point to issues raised by the reading(s). The memo may draw on the Points to Ponder offered at the beginning of the selected chapter. The memo writers will be expected to lead a 15 minutes class discussion of the readings and submit their memos by the end of class. The grade on this assignment will reflect the quality of the discussion and the written summary.

**The schedule of the memo assignments will be determined in the first week of classes. Students may not alter dates without my approval. Failure to submit the memo at one's appointed time will result in a grade of zero except in cases of satisfactory documentation.**

**Research Paper:** each student will write a research paper that analyses a topic related to the current international political economy. The paper will pose a specific "why?" question and make an argument that answers the question, using either a society-centered or a state-centered approach. The argument will be assessed in light of empirical evidence. The paper should be about 12-15 pages-long (typed, double-spaced) and is due on Tuesday, December 1 at noon. A one-page research proposal is due on Tuesday, November 3 at noon. More information and guidelines on both the paper and the proposal will be provided separately.

## Course Evaluation

Mid-Term (October 13)	25%
Class Memo	10%
Final (December 11)	25%
Research proposal (November 3)	5%
Paper (December 1)	25%
Class Participation	10%
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Total	100%

The grading scale is as follows: A (90-100); B (80-90); C (70-80); D (60-70); F (<60)

### **Academic Integrity**

The university expects students to fulfill their academic obligations through honest and independent effort. Any of the work you do in this course is expected to be your own and according to university and class rules. Any attempt to gain an advantage not given to all students is considered dishonest whether or not it is successful. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious offense subject to strong disciplinary actions, included but are not limited to failing this course. For additional information, see the Student Code of Conduct at: [http://www.vcsa.uic.edu/MainSite/departments/dean\\_of\\_students/Links/UIC+Discipline+Code.htm#3](http://www.vcsa.uic.edu/MainSite/departments/dean_of_students/Links/UIC+Discipline+Code.htm#3)

### **Special Accommodations**

Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access and participation in this course must be registered with the Office of Disability Services (ODS). Please contact ODS at 312-413-2183 (voice) or 312-413-0123 (TTY).

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### **COURSE OUTLINE\***

August 25, 27	<b>Introduction: What is IPE and why should you Care</b> Read: IPE, Chapter 1
September 1, 3	<b>the Multilateral Trading System I</b> Read: IPE, Chapter 2 Debates, Chapter 5
September 8, 10	<b>the Multilateral Trading System II</b> Read: IPE, Chapter 3 Debates, Chapters 4
September 15, 17	<b>the Domestic Politics of Trade Policy I</b> Read: IPE, Chapter 4 Debates, Chapter 1
September 22, 24	<b>the Domestic Politics of Trade Policy II</b> Read: IPE, Chapter 5 Debates, Chapter 2
September 29, October 1	<b>International Trade and the Developing World I</b> Read: IPE, Chapter 6 Debates, Chapter 11
October 6, 8	<b>International Trade and the Developing World II</b> Read: IPE, Chapter 7 Debates, Chapter 3
October 13	<b>Midterm Exam</b>

- October 15, 20      **Multinational Corporations and Foreign Direct Investment I**  
 Read: IPE, Chapter 8  
           Debates, Chapter 6
- October 22, 27      **Multinational Corporations and Foreign Direct Investment II**  
 Read: IPE, Chapter 9  
           Debates, Chapter 7
- October 29,  
 November 3      **the International Monetary System**  
 Read: IPE, Chapters 10&11  
           Debates, Chapter 10
- \* **Research proposal is due November 3**
- November 5, 10      **Domestic Politics and Exchange Rate Policy**  
 Read: IPE, Chapters 12  
           Debates, Chapter 9
- November 12, 17      **Developing Countries and the International Financial System I**  
 Read: IPE, Chapter 14  
           Debates, Chapter 13
- November 19, 24      **Developing Countries and the International Financial System II**  
 Read: IPE, Chapter 15  
           Debates, Chapter 12
- December 1      **Globalization**  
 Read: IPE, Chapter 16  
           Debates, Chapter 16
- \* **Paper is due December 1**
- December 3      **Wrap Up and Review**
- December 11      Final Exam (Friday 8:00am-10:00am)**

\* **Note that the course outline may be altered. Any Changes will be announced in class.**