INTRODUCTION TO
INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY
Fall 2015
Tuesday, Thursday 2:15 – 3:30
McGannon Hall, Room 121

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Office Hours: T,TH 1:00 – 2:00
(please email in advance if possible)
and by appointment

Description

This course is an introduction to the field of International Political Economy (IPE). It explores the interaction of economics and politics in global affairs - the struggle for power and wealth within the international system. The main theme of the class is that neither international politics nor international economics can be understood in isolation.

The course begins by examining contending IPE approaches including, Mercantilism, Liberalism, and Marxism. These theories are then evaluated in terms of their relevance in interpreting past and contemporary issues in international political economy, with special emphasis placed on the political and economic dimensions of the post-war international monetary, financial, and trading systems. Other topics include, globalization, foreign debt, multinationals, international development, and regional economic organizations.

This course fulfills the College of Arts and Sciences core requirement for Global Citizenship. It also serves as an elective for the International Studies Major, the Global and Local Justice Minor, and the Foreign Service Minor.

Course Requirements

Two Policy Papers 40%
Mid-term Examination 20%
Class Participation 15%
Final Examination (Take-home) 25%

Students are also required to complete a course evaluation at the end of the semester.

Class attendance is mandatory! Together with class participation it constitutes an important part of your grade. A record of attendance will be maintained, and it is the students’ responsibility to sign the
class roster at each session. I also expect all students to actively participate in class discussions. Students should come to class having read and prepared to discuss the assigned readings.

The mid-term and final examinations are also mandatory, and the scheduled dates are firm. No make-up exams will be administered. There will be opportunities for extra credit lectures throughout the semester.

We will go over the Policy Paper Assignments in class. Each paper should be approximately 10-12 pages in length. The due dates are October 29 and November 17. These dates are firm, since additional time has already been allotted – I am serious! If you e-mail me assignment, please, please, include your last name in the title of the saved file that you send.

Midterm Exam – Thursday, October 8 (in class)

Final Examination – Take-home – due Friday, December 11 no later than noon.

I assign points for all of your assignments. To determine your grade, just add up the points. The grading scale for the course is as follows:

- 100 - 93 = A (4.0 GPA)
- 92 - 90 = A- (3.7 GPA)
- 89 - 88 = B+ (3.3 GPA)
- 87 - 83 = B (3.0 GPA)
- 82 - 80 = B- (2.7 GPA)
- 79 - 78 = C+ (2.3 GPA)
- 77 - 73 = C (2.0 GPA)
- 72 - 70 = C- (1.7 GPA)
- 69 - 60 = D (1.0 GPA)
- 59 and below = F (0.0 GPA)

Required Text


The password for resources placed on e-reserves in IPE2015. I reserve the right to assign additional readings throughout the semester.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is honest, truthful, and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors. The mission of Saint Louis University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity." Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care, and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.
The governing University-level Academic Integrity Policy was adopted in Spring 2015, and can be accessed on the Provost's Office website at:

Additionally, each SLU College, School, and Center has adopted its own academic integrity policies, available on their respective websites. All SLU students are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions, and appeals. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to your faculty, the chair of the department of your academic program, or the Dean/Director of the College, School or Center in which your program is housed.

Title IX

Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU’s Title IX coordinator, Anna R. Kratky (DuBourg Hall; room 36; akratky@slu.edu; 314-977-3886) and share the basic fact of your experience with her. The Title IX coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the University Counseling Center at 314-977-TALK. To view SLU’s sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the following web address: http://www.slu.edu/general-counsel-home/office-of-institutional-equity-and-diversity/sexual-misconduct-policy www.slu.edu/here4you.

Student Success Center

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. The Student Success Center, a one-stop shop, which assists students with academic and career related services, is located in the Busch Student Center (Suite, 331) and the School of Nursing (Suite, 114). Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

- Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.
- University-level support (e.g., tutoring services, university writing services, disability services, academic coaching, career services, and/or facets of curriculum planning) by visiting the Student Success Center or by going to www.slu.edu/success.
Disability Services Academic Accommodations

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Please contact Disability Services, located within the Student Success Center, at Disability_services@slu.edu or 314.977.3484 to schedule an appointment. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services and viewed within Banner via the instructor’s course roster.

COURSE SCHEDULE

I. APPROACHES TO THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

A.) INTRODUCTION:

1.) Tuesday, August 25 - Power, Wealth, and the International Political Economy
   - No readings

2.) Thursday, August 27 - Key Terms and Concepts in IPE
   - Please read over and familiarize yourself with the terms on the handout
     (this can also be found on e-reserves)

3.) Tuesday, September 1 - Key Terms and Concepts in IPE
   - Cohn, chapter 1, p. 2-14

B.) THE LIBERAL PERSPECTIVE:

4.) Thursday, September 3 - The Basic Tenets of Liberalism and the Evolution of Liberalism
   - Cohn, p. 77-84 and p. 90-96

5.) Tuesday, September 8 - Institutions, Interdependence, & Cooperation
   - Cohn, p. 84-90

C.) THE REALIST PERSPECTIVE:

6.) Thursday, September 10 – The Basic Tenets of Realism and the Evolution from Mercantilism
   - Cohn, p. 56-62 and p. 69-71

7.) Tuesday, September 15 – Hegemonic Stability Theory
   - Cohn, p. 62-68
D.) THE HISTORICAL STRUCTURALIST PERSPECTIVE:

8.) Thursday, September 17 - Basic Tenets of Marxism and Leninism
   - Cohn, p. 103-107, 122-123

9.) Tuesday, September 22 – The Evolution of Historical Structuralism & Dependency Theory
   - Cohn, p. 108-110

II. CORE ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

A.) THE DESIGN OF THE POSTWAR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

10.) Thursday, September 24 - Lessons from the Interwar Years and the Switch
     from Orthodox to Embedded Liberalism
     - Cohn, p. 18-45

B.) THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SYSTEM

11.) Tuesday, September 29- The Gold Exchange Standard
     - Cohn, p. 132-141

12.) Thursday, October 1 - The Bretton Woods System and the IMF
     - Cohn, p. 141-144

13.) Tuesday, October 6 - The Breakdown of the Bretton Woods System and
     the Move to Flexible Exchange Rates
     - Cohn, p. 144-151 and p. 155-161
       utm_source=RSS_Feed&utm_medium=RSS

14.) Thursday, October 8 – MID-TERM EXAMINATION

15.) Tuesday, October 13 – The European Monetary Union (EMU)
     - Cohn, p. 222-227 and 152-155
       http://www.nber.org/feldstein/optimacurrencyareas.html
16.) Thursday, October 15 – The EMU Crisis and the Future of the Eurozone


C.) INTERNATIONAL TRADE RELATIONS

17.) Tuesday, October 20 - **NO CLASS – FALL BREAK**

18.) Thursday, October 22 – The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the World Trade Organization (WTO)

- Cohn, p. 168-190

19.) Tuesday, October 27 - The WTO and Global Trade Relations Today

- Cohn, p. 190-201

D.) INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

20.) Thursday, October 29 - Development Strategies - Import-Substitution vs. Export-Led Growth

- Cohn, p. 306-317

** Policy Paper #1 Due in Class**

21.) Tuesday, November 3 - The World Bank and Development

- Cohn, p. 294-306 and 322-330

E.) INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FLOWS AND FOREIGN DEBT

22.) Thursday, November 5 - The Latin American Debt Crisis

- Cohn, p. 339-352

23.) Tuesday, November 10 - Resolving the Crisis and the Role of the IMF

- Cohn, p. 353-364
24.) Thursday, November 12 - The Asian Financial Crisis
   - Cohn, p. 364-367

25.) Tuesday, November 17 – The 1997 Financial Crisis and the Role of the IMF

   ** Policy Paper #2 Due in Class**

III. CURRENT TRENDS IN THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

A.) REGIONALISM

26.) Thursday, November 19 - The Growing Trend Toward Regionalism in Trade
   The EU, NAFTA, and ASEAN
   - Cohn, p. 209-222 and p. 229-234

27.) Tuesday, November 24 – NO CLASS

28.) Thursday, November 26 – NO CLASS – HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

B.) GLOBALIZATION

29.) Tuesday, December 1 - What is Globalization?
   - Cohn, p. 382-405

30.) Thursday, December 3- Globalization and the Current Global Economic Downturn
   - Cohn, p. 367-372
   ________globalisation-has-paused-financial-crisis-giving-way

FINAL EXAM – Due Friday, December 11 no later than noon

(If in class, scheduled on Tuesday, December 15 from 2:00 – 3:50- p.m. – the last day of final exams)