



# Saint Louis University

Madrid Campus

## 'PRELIMINARY' POLS-260 INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

SPRING 2013 – Mon. & Wed., 12:00-13:15

*Mon. 14<sup>th</sup> January – Mon. 29<sup>th</sup> April (Examination Wed. 8<sup>th</sup> May)*

Office hours: Mon. & Wed. 10:00-12:00; Tue. & Thu. 11:00-13:00 (by app)

*Instructor: Knut Roder, PhD ([kroder@slu.edu](mailto:kroder@slu.edu))*



**Prerequisite:** ECON 190 or equivalent (recommended)

### Course Objective

This course is an introduction to the field of International Political Economy. 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 examines contending IPE approaches, and evaluates them 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. The course will also contain a healthy dose of study and analysis of both the causes and effects of the current, post-2008 economic and financial crisis. Other topics include globalization, liberal democracy and economic decision-making, multinationals, international development, the New Green Deal, and regional economic organizations.

### Student Learning Outcomes

This course aims at helping students to gain a better understanding of the interplay of the political and economic factors, the nature, scope and main issues in the field of international political economy, and to understand the main theories and approaches that ultimately determine the makeup of our 21st-century IPE. At the end of the course, students will have greater insight into the relationship between international politics and economics. Students will be better able to evaluate current events and others' arguments critically from both historical and theoretical stances. Additionally, via writing assignments and in-class discussion, students will produce better political and economic arguments, complete with supporting evidence.

At the end of the semester the students are expected to be able to use IPE concepts and approaches in explaining international relations, and to explain the role of economics on politics and politics on economics at the global level.

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*Last Day to Drop a Class Without a Grade of "W" and/or to Add a Class: Wed. 23<sup>rd</sup> January*

*Last Day to Choose Audit (AU) or Pass/No Pass (P/NP) Options: Thu. 7<sup>th</sup> February*

*Last Day to Drop a Class and Receive a Grade of "W": Mon., 11<sup>th</sup> March*

| <b>Grade Scale:</b> | <b>Grade Components:</b>              | <b>Course Credits: 3</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| A 93%-100%          | 25% First mid-term Exam               |                          |
| A- 90%-92%          | 30% Written Paper & Oral Presentation |                          |
| B+ 87%-89%          | 35% Final                             |                          |
| B 83%-86%           | 10% Participation                     |                          |
| B- 80%-82%          |                                       |                          |
| C+ 73%-79%          |                                       |                          |
| C 67%-72%           |                                       |                          |
| C- 60%-66%          |                                       |                          |
| D 50%-59%           |                                       |                          |
| F 0%-49%            |                                       |                          |

Fulfills the A&S Global Citizenship requirement.

### **Requirements**

Students should complete the readings before the date for which they are listed in the course outline. Students will be graded on the basis of a mid-term exam, an oral presentation (which will be accompanied by a short one-page briefing on the presentation), and a final exam.

### **Academic Integrity and Honesty**

The University is a community of learning, whose effectiveness requires an environment of mutual trust and integrity. Academic integrity is violated by any dishonesty such as soliciting, receiving, or providing any unauthorized assistance in the completion of work submitted toward academic credit. While not all forms of academic dishonesty can be listed here, examples include copying from another student, copying from a book or class notes during a closed book exam, submitting materials authored by or revised by another person as the student's own work, copying a passage or text directly from a published source without appropriately citing or recognizing that source, taking a test or doing an assignment or other academic work for another student, securing or supplying in advance a copy of an examination without the knowledge or consent of the instructor, and colluding with another student or students to engage in academic dishonesty.

Any clear violation of academic integrity will be met with appropriate sanctions. Possible sanctions for violation of academic integrity may include, but are not limited to, assignment of a failing grade in a course, disciplinary probation, suspension, and dismissal from the University. Students should review the College of Arts and Sciences policy on Academic Honesty, which can be accessed on-line at <http://www.slu.edu/colleges/AS/> under "Quicklinks for Students" or in hard copy form in the Arts and Sciences Policy Binder in each departmental or College office.

### **Students with Special Needs - Disability Services**

Students with Disabilities: Any student who qualifies for special accommodations, due to presence of a disability, and feels it necessary to utilize them in order to meet the requirements of this course-as outlined in the syllabus, should contact Counselling/Disability Services. Please phone the office at (Tel.) 91.554.58.58, ext. 204

(For counseling emergencies, please call 609.269.323), or send an e-mail to [counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu](mailto:counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu). Students may also stop by the Counselling/Disabilities Services office in the Manresa building. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries.

### **Classroom Philosophy**

You are required to attend each class session prepared to participate and think critically during lecture and discussion sessions.

I trust you will be able to sustain a mutually respectful classroom atmosphere by treating all classmates as equals.

All required assignments are to be submitted on time (daily drop of 5% in grade).

You are expected to read up on issues covered during class in the course book.

Essay's that are handed in late will be marked down by 5% a day. With regard to matters pertaining to academic honesty and plagiarism, you are reminded that cheating is a deplorable behaviour, which leads to an "F" grade and possible expulsion from the University.

Tardiness is at best a rude disruption to your fellow classmates who are punctual, and except for legitimate reasons (doctor's letter certifying illness for example), you are expected to attend all class session. Lateness and absence (more than 3 times) will be reflected in your final overall course grades (dropping 10% for every three absences).

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*Instructor: **Knut Roder, PhD** ([kroder@slu.edu](mailto:kroder@slu.edu))*

**Reading:**

Ravenhill, John,  
Global Political Economy,  
Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.

Course Reader / Handouts

Mon. 14<sup>th</sup> January

**Introduction to class**

Reading: Rachman, Gideon, 'Prologue Davos 2009', from Zero-Sum World, London: Atlantic Book, 2011

**PART I – Theoretical Approaches to Global Political Economy**

Wed. 16<sup>th</sup> January

**Prologue: The Great Recession of 2008-09” or “Capitalism in crisis?”**

Reading: Handout

Mon. 21<sup>th</sup> January

**The Study of Global Political Economy – Part I**

Reading: Ravenhill, 3-26

Wed. 23<sup>rd</sup> January

**This World: The Great Spanish Crash**

Reading: Handout

Mon. 28<sup>th</sup> January

**No class**

Wed. 30<sup>th</sup> January

**The Study of Global Political Economy - (The Debt Overdose – Sub-Prime Lending and Securitization) - Part II**

Mon. 4<sup>th</sup> February

**The Study of Global Political Economy – (Phases of development-World Economy) – Part III**

Reading: Ravenhill 3-26

Wed. 6<sup>th</sup> February

**Theoretical Traditions in Global Political Economy – Part I**

Reading: Ravenhill 29-47

Mon. 11<sup>th</sup> February

**Theoretical Traditions in Global Political Economy – Part II**

Reading: Ravenhill 29-47

Wed. 13<sup>th</sup> February

**(New?!) Theoretical Tradition: Behavioral Economics – Part III**

Reading: Handout

**PART II – Global Trade**

**The Evolution of the Global Trade Regime – Part I**

Reading: Ravenhill 137-170

**The Evolution of the Global Trade Regime – Part II**

Reading: Ravenhill 137-170

Mon. 18<sup>th</sup> February

**Regionalism**

Reading: Ravenhill 173-209

Wed. 20<sup>th</sup> February

**First Mid-Term Exam (11:00-12:15)**

Mon. 25<sup>th</sup> February

**The Political Economy of the European Union – Part I**

Reading : Handout

**The Political Economy of the European Union – Part II**

Reading: Handout

**PART III – Global Finance**

Wed. 27<sup>th</sup> February

**The Evolution of the International Monetary and Financial System**

Reading: Ravenhill 211-240

Mon. 4<sup>th</sup> March

**The Political Economy of Global Financial Crisis**

Reading: Ravenhill 241-274

Wed. 6<sup>th</sup> March

**The European Sovereign Debt Crisis and the sustainability of the Euro – Part 1**

Reading: Handout

Mon. 11<sup>th</sup> March

**The European Sovereign Debt Crisis and the sustainability of the Euro – Part 2**

Reading: Handout

#### **PART IV – Globalization and its Consequences**

Wed. 13<sup>th</sup> March

**The Logics of Economic Globalization – “Globalization is good”**

Reading: Ravenhill 275-310

Mon. 18<sup>th</sup> March

**No class**

Wed. 20<sup>th</sup> March

**Globalization’s Impact on States, and Production - “Globalization is good” vs. “Life and Debt”**

Reading: Ravenhill 312-343; 345-370

Mon. 25<sup>st</sup> March

**Easter Break**

Wed. 27<sup>th</sup> March

**Easter Break**

Mon. 1<sup>st</sup> April

**Globalization, Growth, Poverty, Inequality, Resentment, and Imperialism - “Life and Debt”**

Reading: Ravenhill 373-413 / Handout

Wed. 3<sup>rd</sup> April

**Innovative Approaches to IPE: The idea of “Basic Income”**

Reading: Handout

Mon. 8<sup>th</sup> April

**Oral Presentations I**

Paper due (and ready to present) on this day at the beginning of class.

Wed. 10<sup>th</sup> April

**Oral Presentations II**

Mon. 15<sup>th</sup> April

**Globalization and Development in the South – Part I**

Reading: Ravenhill 416-447 / Handout

Wed. 17<sup>th</sup> April

**Globalization and Development – “The Four Horsemen”**

Reading: Ravenhill 416-447

Mon. 22<sup>st</sup> April

**Globalization, Green Politics, the New Green Deal and the Environment**

Reading: Ravenhill 450-479

Wed. 24<sup>th</sup> April

**Green Politics and the Political Economy approach**

Reading: Handout

Mon. 29<sup>th</sup> April

**Conclusions and Revision**

Reading: Handout

Wed. 1<sup>st</sup> April

**No Class**

Wed. 8<sup>th</sup> May

**Final Exam** (12:00-14:00)

**Required Reading:**

Ravenhill, John,  
Global Political Economy,  
Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.

Handouts / Course Reader

**Other Readings:**

It is also strongly recommended that you **follow current Political Economy and Financial Crisis affairs, policy developments, arguments etc. dealing with the world economy, EU's sovereign debt and Euro crises (to be discussed and analyzed in class) in the daily press !!!**

**Make sure you know what's going on!!!**

**Online**, for example:

Financial Times      FT.com (or even better hard copy in the library)  
The Guardian      <http://www.guardian.co.uk/> (entire paper free online)  
BBC                    <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business/> (check regularly "Business" &  
                              "Economics" sections)  
EU Observer         <http://euobserver.com/>  
Euro Intelligence   <http://www.eurointelligence.com/>  
Your favourite "quality" news-sight, paper...

**Library Books:**

Cohn, Theodore H. 2007. *Global Political Economy: Theory and Practice*, fourth edition.  
New York: Addison Wesley Longman, Inc.

Wilkinson, Richard and Kate Pickett, *The Spirit Level*, 2009

Gamble, Andrew, *The Spectre at the Feast*, London: Palgrave MacMillan, 2009

King, Stephen D., *Losing Control: The Emerging threats to Western Prosperity*, New Haven: Yale, University Press, 2010

Stiglitz, Joseph, *Globalization and its discontents*, 2004

Stiglitz, Joseph, *Freefall*, London: Allen Lane - Penguin, 2010

Held, D. and A. McGrew, *Globalization / Anti-Globalization*, Cambridge, Polity, 2002



Alberts, Detlev (eds), *Social Europe*, London: Metropolitan University, 2006

Jabko, Nicolas, *Playing the Market*, Cornell University Press, 2006

Marsh, David, *The Euro: The Politics of the New Global Currency*, New Haven, Yale University Press, 2009

Crouch, Colin, *Post-Democracy*, Cambridge: Policy, 2005

Harvey, David, *A Brief History of Neo-Liberalism*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007

De Reiviero, Oswaldo, *The Myth of Development: The Non-Viable Economies of the 21<sup>st</sup> Centruy*, London, Zed Books, 2003

Krugmann, Paul, *The Return of Depression Economics and the Crisis of 2008*, London: Penguin, 2008

Spyros Economides, *The Economic Factor in International Relations: A Brief Introduction (Library of International Relations)*