

POL 377 – International Political Economy
Spring Semester 2019
Classroom LAC 3 – Tuesday/Friday 10:00 – 11:15



I. Course Information

Instructor: Armando Zanecchia, Ph.D.

E-mail: azanecchia@fus.edu

Office hours: Tuesday/Friday 13:00 – 14:30 and by appointment (Wednesday late morning is best)

Office: Lowerre Academic Center (LAC) Office # 16

Phone: 091.985.2263 / Cell +41 76 497 4482

II. Course description:

The interplay between political and economic issues has become central to the study of international relations in the modern world. This course will examine the traditional theoretical foundations of International Political Economy (the views of the liberals, the Marxists, the nationalists, etc.) and their applicability to today's world. Using an interdisciplinary approach, the course will look at both historical background and present-day issues and conditions. The problems of development and North-South relations will be investigated in the field. International trade issues, post-colonial dependency theory, environmental and human rights concerns, and the role of institutions such as the WTO, the IMF and Multinational Corporations (MNCs) will be studied. Finally, the course considers issues of global governance, the global financial and energy crisis, geopolitics, regime change, and issues and methods of maintaining national security. Please note: Formerly POL 277. Students cannot earn credit for both POL 277 and POL 377.

III. Rationale: This course fulfils a requirement in the International Relations major, Political Science Combined Major and Minor. It may also be used as a general elective requirement.

IV. The goals of this course include the following:

- to develop critical thinking and analytical skills;
- to practice synthesizing information from classroom discussions and reading;
- to present this information in a variety of formats, including class discussion, oral presentation, and short essays and exams;
- to demonstrate the ability to work collaboratively and use information technology effectively in group work.
- to enhance writing competency.
- to develop an enhanced awareness of the historical foundations of modern political economy.

V. Student Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this class, students should:

- be acquainted with some of the classic literature in international political economy;
- be able to compare these readings with contemporary literature in the field;
- read and write about these readings critically and analytically;
- be able to articulate a formal individual position on the issues related to the field of political economy.

VI. Principle Texts (All posted on Moodle Site)

Robert O'Brien and Marc Williams, *Global Political Economy – Evolution and Dynamics*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.

Robert Gilpin, *Global Political Economy: Understanding the International Economic Order*, 2001.

Stephen Kinzer, *Overthrow*, Times Books, 2006.

Matthew Watson, *Foundations of International Political Economy*, 2005.

Tuathail, Dalby and Routledge, *The Geopolitics Reader* (paperback), Routledge Press, Second Edition.

Moodle electronic readings as assigned in the course syllabus.

VII. Assessment Overview.

Class Requirements:

1. Participation, maturity, and assigned exercises (10%). The class is comprised of a combination of lectures, case discussions, exercises, and videos. You are expected to participate in class discussions and all exercises, as they are the central component of the course. Your participation is evaluated on the basis of discussion and contributions to the class, and while on travel, your maturity and cooperation. You are expected to read the assignments before each class session and it is fair game for me to ask you personally about them during class. Evaluations of this part of your participation will be based on your ability to contribute comments that are insightful, relevant, and progressive (move the discussion along). Please pay careful attention to all extra readings that are posted on the course Moodle site, as these aspects of the course will find their way onto the midterm and final exams.

2. Periodic Quizzes (10%). Several short quizzes will be given as noted in the course syllabus.

3. Exams (50%). There will be a midterm (25%) and a final exam (25%). The tests will be objective (multiple choice, etc.) and short answer/essay in format. Information from the readings, lectures, and class discussions will be covered on the exams. There will be no make-up exams (unless for extenuating reasons) nor will exams be given early.

4. Team Project (10%). The purpose of this project is to give you the opportunity to apply course materials to an actual international political economy issue. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to experience the processes and problems involved in working with other group members to reach a specific objective. You will work on the project with two other classmates (three total in a group). The goal of the team project is to increase your understanding of political economy. The teams may also be asked to present from time to time on an informal basis during the course on a subject related to the syllabus. All students are responsible for the team presentations' content.

5. Essays (20%). Students will be required to write *two research-based essays* related to the course. Student essays (2000 words of narrative exclusive of bibliography and question prompt) will serve as a basis for and reinforcement of class discussions. Each essay should include a general review of what you have read as well as a *critical reflection* on the readings. These are due as noted in the class syllabus. Please use the MLA, APA or Chicago Handbook as a reference guide for usage and format.

Format for written work: To ensure fairness for all, please use 1-inch margins, double space and 12 point Times New Roman font. Please indicate your word count at the end of your essay. The question prompt that should be indicated on page one only.

Late Paper Policy: All papers are due electronically to my email address no later than 11 PM on the due date. Late essays will receive a one letter grade penalty per day late. Please plan accordingly.

Review of Grading Criteria:

Participation, maturity	10%
Team Presentation (individual grade)	10%
Quizzes	10%
Two Essays	20%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

VIII. Assessment Details.

Rubric Employed for Assessing Reflective Essays

- An essay that is a good summary of the reading, but where the author provides no real insights of his or her own, or which has grammatical or referencing errors, or which is shorter than specified is a: C- to C+.
- An essay that is well-written, well referenced, and moves beyond merely summarizing to providing insights is a B- to B+.

- An outstanding essay with innovative insights and criticism, which is very well written and referenced, is an A- to A.

Rubric Employed for Assessment of Student Team Presentations

During the semester, student teams will present on their topics. Assessment will be according to the following rubric:

- **Clarity:** The ability to synthesize and structure information on a given topic and to present it so that it is understood by others, and imparts new knowledge to the audience.
- **Delivery:** The ability to express yourself succinctly within a given time frame in a way that allows your audience to understand your topic, to grasp your central argument, and to distinguish between the material you are referencing and your original insights.
- **Appropriate materials:** Appropriate use of technology such as overhead projector, videos, power point presentation, and of other visual aids, such as hand-outs or use of the whiteboard.
- **Lasting impressions:** The ability to end the presentation with questions which will fuel class-room discussion

Evaluation of presentation

- A presentation that is a good summary of internet or other sources without offering new insights and appropriate visual help, such as power point, overhead or hand-outs with high dependency on written notes is a C- to a C+.
- A presentation which is well delivered and minimally dependent on notes, and provides insights beyond the summary stage while using some visual aids is a B- to a B+
- An outstanding presentation is one which imparts new original insight in a manner which makes it easy to assimilate by the audience by using interesting and crisp visual aids and by posing interesting questions at the end is an A- to an A.

IX. Grading Policies and Expectations.

Rubric Employed for Final Grade (in percentages)

A: 94 - 100	A-: 90 - 93	
B+: 87 - 89	B: 84 - 86	B-: 80 - 83
C+: 77 - 79	C: 74 - 76	C-: 70 - 73
D+: 67 - 69	D: 64 - 66	D-: 60 - 63
F: below 60		

X. Attendance and Make-Up Policy:

Attendance is essential to perform well in the course. Hence, students are responsible for any missed information. A maximum of four absences (including absences due to illness) will be tolerated before absences begin to affect a student's final course grade. Extended absences will result in the student being dropped from the class roll.

Further, unacceptable class behavior (including excessive tardiness, chatting with classmates, cell phone texting, leaving while class is in session, and displaying obvious signs of inattentiveness) will result in a loss of points. If you have needs that require special accommodation, please let the instructor know. The due dates for papers and oral reports are binding.

Laptop Policy and Moodle

Students who wish to use their laptops to take notes during class may do so as long as computers are used exclusively for note taking. Surfing the web, Facebook and other social media, checking email, etc. is prohibited.

XI. Academic Dishonesty:

Please refer to Franklin's Statement on Cheating and Plagiarism in the Academic Catalog (p. 199). See also https://www.fus.edu/images/pdf/FUS_ACADEMIC_CATALOG_2018_2020_web.pdf. To summarize, you are to do your own work. Behaviors such as copying the work of others, using third-party services, or any other circumvention of doing your own work are dishonest and not acceptable in this class or at Franklin. A student who is suspected of submitting a paper written by someone else must demonstrate their authorship by a suitable means of assessment (e.g., drafts, research notes, personal discussion). For papers and presentations, this includes proper use of references and citations. Copying text without the use of quotations or paraphrasing the ideas of others without proper citations are both examples of plagiarism and thus unacceptable. For testing situations, this includes the use of notes, cell phones, talking to others, or copying off of the exam of others. The first case of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic grade of a zero on the assignment and a report to the Dean. The second case will result in expulsion from the university.

XII. Resources Available.

Please freely utilize the resources of the Writing and Learning Center, Information Technology, the Franklin Grace Library and the USI Library.

XIII. Course Schedule

	CLASS SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS	
	Part I: An introduction to the history and scope of international political economy	
January 22 Tuesday	Course outline and introduction to the field of international political economy. Class introductions.	-
January 25 Friday	Zanecchia , <i>Crack in the Citadel</i> , Chapter 5 O'Brien and Williams , <i>Global Political Economy</i> , Understanding IPE	Moodle Posting Intro, Ch. 1 & 2
January 29 Tuesday	O'Brien and Williams , <i>Global Political Economy</i> , Forging a World Economy, Pax Britannica and Imperialism	Read Ch. 3 & 4
February 1 Friday	O'Brien and Williams , <i>Global Political Economy</i> , World Wars and the Post-1945 Order	Ch. 5
February 5 Tuesday	O'Brien and Williams , <i>Global Political Economy</i> , Transnational Production, The Global Financial System and Economic Development	Class Notes on Rostow Quiz 1
February 8 Friday	Geopolitics Readings	See Moodle Postings
February 12 Tuesday	Kinzer , <i>Overthrow</i> . A History of Regime Change.	pp. 1-108
February 15 Friday	Kinzer , <i>Overthrow</i> . Further case studies: Vietnam, Latin America.	pp. 111-194
February 19 Tuesday	Kinzer , <i>Overthrow</i> . Invasions from Grenada to Afghanistan.	pp. 195 - 322 Quiz 2
February 22 Friday	February Break – No Class	
February 26 Tuesday	Video , <i>The Fog of War: Eleven Lessons from the Life of Robert S. McNamara</i> See https://vimeo.com/149799416	
March 1 Friday	Conference Attendance – No Class	

March 5 Tuesday	Matthew Watson , Selections on the theoretical framework of IPE Chapters 7 and 8, Understanding the Market and State Within Modern Society	Essay 1 Due Moodle Postings
March 8 Friday	Midterm Test	See Moodle Review Sheet
	ACADEMIC TRAVEL MARCH 9 - 23	
March 26 Tuesday	Michael Klare , <i>Rising Powers, Shrinking Planet</i> . Rare Earths, Commodities and Africa's Essential Resources. The Case of the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Moodle Readings
March 29 Friday	Noam Chomsky , <i>Hegemony or Survival: America's Quest for Global Dominance</i>	Moodle Reading
April 2 Tuesday	Robert Gilpin , <i>Global Political Economy: Understanding the International Economic Order</i> – The State and the Multinationals	Moodle Posting
April 5 Friday	Robert Gilpin , <i>Global Political Economy: Understanding the International Economic Order</i> – The State and Economic Development	Moodle Posting
April 9 Tuesday	Robert Gilpin , <i>Global Political Economy: Understanding the International Economic Order</i> – The Nation State in the Global Economy	Moodle Posting
April 12 Friday	The Political Economy of Sustainable Development – Rwanda, Malawi, Botswana Case Studies See also Amartya Sen , <i>Development as Freedom</i>	Moodle Postings Quiz 3
April 16 Tuesday	The Political Economy of Sustainable Development – The Role of Women in Africa	Moodle Posting
April 19 Friday	The Political Economy of Sustainable Development – Selected Postcolonial Discourses	Moodle Postings
April 23 Tuesday	No Class	Essay 2 Due
April 26 Friday	Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson , <i>Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty</i> – Barriers to Development, Reversing Development, and the Diffusion of Prosperity (Guest Lecture)	Moodle Posting Chapters 8-10
April 30 Tuesday	Further Development Readings: William Easterly, Dambisa Moyo, Paul Collier, Jeffry Sachs, Ernesto Sirolli	Moodle Postings
May 3 Friday	Team Presentations on Comparative Regimes	Countries to be confirmed
May 14 Tuesday	Final Examination – 0830 - 1030	

NOTES