

Poli 265.01  
Fall 2015 MWF (11-11.-50)  
Maybank 111

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Office Hours: 9-10 am Monday  
2.00-3.00 pm Wednesday  
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## International Political Economy (IPE)

### Course Description

The study of International Political Economy (IPE) introduces students to the integral relationship between politics and economics; how politics influences economics and vice versa. While it is commonly agreed upon among IPE scholars that both political and economic forces shape the global economy, as political scientist, we are foremost focused on the political foundation upon which the global economy is constructed. As such this course seeks to explore the rules governing global exchange - where do they emerge from? Why are some societal groups winners and others losers when it comes to the rules? How are ideas and interests translated in the political process? What role do rules play in the creation of global institutions- IMF, WB, WTO? Overall this course is concerned with the overarching question "How does politics shape the resource allocation decisions of governments which have implications not just for national, but also global economic exchange?"

This course has been approved to satisfy Category 2 of the Foreign Language Alternative program. Upon the completion of this course, students will use models and theories to analyze a cross-cultural issue (program learning outcome 2).

### Program Learning Outcome 2:

1. Students will use models and theories to analyze a cross-cultural issue.
2. **FOREIGN LANGUAGE ALTERNATIVE:** This course has been approved to satisfy Category 2 of the Foreign Language Alternative program. Upon completion of this course, students will use models and theories to analyze a cross-cultural issue (program learning outcome 2)

### Course Objectives and Skills

This course is designed with three primary objectives in mind:

- First to introduce students to the dynamic relationship between politics and economic;
- Secondly to make students aware of the direct and indirect connections between IPE processes and their daily lives- what it means to live in a globalized world;
- Thirdly, to develop and enhance the following skills:
  - \*\* reading and critical comprehension (through timely reading of texts, articles and short in Class reading reaction exercises)
  - \*\* oral communication and presentation abilities (through class discussion, seminar presentations, project research summary and case studies)
  - \*\* effective writing and development of arguments (through essay exams, final Research Blog project and case studies )
  - \*\* comprehension of other's views and capacity to formulate, defend one's own position (through readings, class discussions, extra-credit exercises, essay exams, case studies and research blog project)
  - \*\* library research and locating relevant sources (through preparing for seminar presentations, and research project blog post )

- \*\* time management and personal responsibility (through set-up of entire course)
- \*\* Critical analysis and thinking (through readings, discussion, final research project, lectures of course material, in class group exercises)

**Required Texts : Available online and at the College bookstore**

Thomas Oatley, International Political Economy 5<sup>th</sup> ed (New York: Pearson/Longman 2012)

Rivoli, Piertra, The Travels of A T-Shirt in the Global Economy: An Economist Examines the Market, Power and Politics of World Trade. New Preface and Epilogue with Updates on Economic Issues and Main Characters, 2nd Edition :ISBN: 978-1-118-95014-2 (New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 2014)

**Case Studies : Available at Harvard Business Publishing** (each case study cost \$4.25)  
<http://cb.hbsp.harvard.edu/cbmp/access/51463978>

**(Additionally, extra material, such as assignment information and reading materials, will be available on OAKS)**

Course Requirements

1. **Class Participation counts for 30% of your final grade:**
  - 10% (on-line and in class quizzes)
  - 10 %counts towards case study discussion questions due the day of case study analysis in class;
  - 10% counts towards your participation in case study analysis in class
2. **There will be a Mid-Term exam which will count for 20 % of your final grade. (Friday October14th)**
- 3.**Each student will engage in a Blog Post Research Project (My Political Economy of Globalization: Commodity Chain) which accounts for 30% of your final grade.** The main purpose of the research project is for each student to examine the relationship between production and consumption in the global economy. Students will present each of their findings twice during seminar (*history and politics of your commodity*) sessions, this will culminate in a final presentation during the last two weeks of class where a synopsis of your entire Blog Post Research Project will take place. Further detailed information on what is expected at each step of this research project can be found on OAKS. (15% --- Blog Post part of research; 10%--- final presentation; 5% -- seminar presentation in class)
4. **There will be a final take home exam which will count for 20% of your final grade. This is due Sunday December 11<sup>th</sup> via OAKS by 3 pm.**

Summary of Final Grade Calculation

Class Participation	30 percent: (10% online and in-class quizzes) (10% case study questions) (10% case study participation)
Mid –Term	20 percent

Blog Post Page Commodity Chain Research Project ( <i>My Political Economy of Globalization</i> )	30 percent (15 % blog post page research project ) 10 % final presentation of blog post) 5% (seminar presentation)
Final Exam	20 percent

Grading Scale : A: 100-94, A- : 93-90, B+: 89-87, B: 86- 83, B-: 82-80, C+: 79- 78, C: 77- 73, C-: 70-72, D+: 69-68, D: 67- 63, D-: 62-67, F: 59 + Below

**Class Attendance and Responsibilities**

**\*\* Note: Class begins on time. Students entering class 5mins after class has begun will not be allowed to participate in in-class writing responses to the assigned reading material. There will be no opportunities to make up missed in-class writing responses.**

**\*\* Note: I will take roll each class period. Three unexcused absences will result in you being dropped one letter grade for each absence thereafter. If you also develop a pattern of showing up to class late (5 mins after class has started) you will also be dropped one letter grade for each late attendance thereafter.**

**\*\*Note: Failure to show up to class on the assigned day for your mid-term exam, without a valid excuse (which is entirely at the discretion of the instructor), will automatically result in an F. Also failure to notify the instructor within 24 hours of your absence from the exam will also result in an F.**

**\*\*Note: Please ensure that all Laptops, Cell phones, hand-held electronic devices, and alarms are turned off before entering the class room. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in you being reported to the Honor Board and the possibility of suspension from the College.**

**\*\*Note: If you have a disability of any kind- learning, physical, psychological- which requires accommodation, please let me know early so that your learning needs can be appropriately met.**

**\*\* Note: You are expected to keep abreast of “current events and issues”; reading the New York Times, USA Today and the Post and Courier (all available in your dorms) should help. I also recommend listening to All Things Considered (4- 6.30 pm), Market Place (6.30-7 pm) and The World (8-9pm) on National Public Radio (WJWJ -FM 89.9) These programs are also available on line at NPR.com**

**\*\*Note: There will be a series of extra-credit opportunities on campus this semester. You are allowed to attend 2 of them for extra credit. Should you be inclined to attend I will grade you based on the following criteria (1) summarize briefly what happened or what you did, what you heard or saw or experienced; (2) relate the ideas discussed or portrayed at the event to a class discussion (s), concepts and or articles read in class; (3) finally you are expected to react to the event by relating what your overall impressions, position, and or strengths and weaknesses of the ideas presented/ how they challenged and or reinforced the ideas/concepts learnt in class. No less than 2 pages no more than 3 pages typed double spaced (with 1 inch margins) will be accepted. For each extra credit assignment you can receive a maximum of 3 points (providing of course you meet all of the requirements). Hence you stand the chance of receiving 6 extra points which will be added on to your final grade at the end of the semester. You may submit extra credit assignment through-out the semester at anytime. However, all extra credit submissions must be made by the last day of class. ( Events, times and locations will be announced later) If there are events that you think fit this requirement please feel free to pass them by me for my approval.)**

**Course Outline (the instructor reserves the right to make changes to this outline)**

## August

Wednesday  
– 24<sup>th</sup>

**Introduction** (nuts and bolts/expectations for the course)

Friday  
– 26<sup>th</sup>

**What is International Political Economy- Why study it?**

Assignment: - Oatley, “Preface & Chapter 1  
Rivoli, “Preface & Prologue”  
(Take Quiz 1 on OAKS)

Monday  
-- 29<sup>th</sup>

**T-shirt Journey into Global Economy begins**

Assignment:- Rivoli, “ Part 1 King Cotton” Chaps 1 &2 and Chapter 1 of NPR’s Planet money (watch video clip and scroll down to read <http://apps.npr.org/tshirt/#/cotton>)

(Check for questions on OAKS)

Wednesday  
-- 31<sup>st</sup>

Assignment:- Rivoli, “ Part 1 King Cotton” Chaps 3 & 4 and  
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/realspin/2014/10/16/obama-administration-cuts-expensive-deal-with-brazil-over-cotton-subsidies/>  
<http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2014/01/17/263101422/why-u-s-taxpayers-started-and-stopped-paying-brazilian-cotton-farmers>

(Check for questions on OAKS)

## September

Friday  
-- 2<sup>nd</sup>

Open Session – Brainstorming for Commodity Chain project

Monday  
– 5<sup>th</sup>

**The Political Economy of the World Trade System**

Assignment:- Labor Day – no formal class. In lieu of class you are requested to attend the College’s Annual Labor Day Celebration- Alumni Center (86 Wentworth Street) from 3-4.30 PM (Extra Credit opportunity)

Wednesday  
-- 7<sup>th</sup>

Assignment: -- Oatley Chapter 2  
(Take Quiz on OAKS)

Friday  
-- 9<sup>th</sup>

Assignment:- Oatley Chapter 3  
(Take Quiz on OAKS)

**Monday**  
--12<sup>th</sup>

Assignment:- **Case Study Analysis: Chiquita Brands International (A)**

(Available at: <http://cb.hbsp.harvard.edu/cbmp/access/51463978>)

*Questions Available on OAKS*

Wednesday  
– 14<sup>th</sup>

**T-shirt Journey into Global Economy cont/d**

Assignment:- Rivoli, “Part II Made in China” pp Chaps 5 & 6 and Chapter 3 of NPR’s Planet money (watch video clip and scroll down to read <http://apps.npr.org/tshirt/#/people>)

(Check for questions on OAKS)

Friday  
– 16<sup>th</sup>

**T-shirt Journey into Global Economy cont/d**

Assignment:- Rivoli, “Part II Made in China” pp Chaps 7 & 8  
(Check for questions on OAKS)

Monday  
– 19<sup>th</sup>

**Society and State centered Approaches to Trade Politics**

Assignment:- Oatley Chapter 4  
(Take Quiz on OAKS)

Wednesday  
– 21<sup>st</sup>

**Society and State centered Approaches to Trade Politics**

Assignment:- Oatley Chapter 5  
(Take Quiz on OAKS)

Friday  
-- 23<sup>rd</sup>

Assignment:- **Case Study Analysis: Shaping the Future of Solar Power: Climate Change, Industrial Policy and Free Trade**

(Available at: <http://cb.hbsp.harvard.edu/cbmp/access/51463978>)

*Questions Available on OAKS*

Monday  
– 26<sup>th</sup>

**T-shirt Journey into Global Economy cont/d**

Assignment:- Rivoli, “ Part III Trouble at the Border” Chaps 9 & 10 and <http://mobile.nytimes.com/2015/08/03/business/chinese-textile-mills-are-now-hiring-in-places-where-cotton-was-king.html?referrer=>

(Check for discussion questions on OAKS)

Wednesday  
– 28<sup>th</sup>

**T-shirt Journey into Global Economy cont/d**

Assignment:- Rivoli, “ Part III Trouble at the Border” Chaps 11 & 12 and Chapter 4 of NPR’s Planet money (watch video clip and scroll down to read <http://apps.npr.org/tshirt/#/boxes>

(Check for discussion questions on OAKS)

Friday  
--30<sup>th</sup>

**Seminar – (Commodity chain) - Historical Presentation**

**October**

Monday  
--3<sup>rd</sup>

**Seminar – (Commodity chain) - Historical Presentation**

Wednesday  
--5<sup>th</sup>

Film: Argentina’s ISI Experience

Friday  
– 7<sup>th</sup>

**Trade and Development: ISI & Economic Reform**

Assignment:- Oatley, Chapter 6  
(Take Quiz on OAKS)

Monday  
– 10<sup>th</sup>

**Trade and Development: ISI & Economic Reform**

Assignment:- Oatley, Chapter 7  
(Take Quiz on OAKS)

Wednesday  
– 12<sup>th</sup>

**Assignment:-** Case Study Analysis: *The IMF: The Washington Consensus, the critics, and the new challenges as China Rises*

(Available at: <http://cb.hbsp.harvard.edu/cbmp/access/51463978>)

*Questions Available on OAKS*

Supplemental source: <http://www.businessinsider.com/the-brics-countries-just-launched-a-rival-to-the-imf-and-world-bank-2015-7>

Friday  
– 14<sup>th</sup>

## **Mid-Term**

Monday  
-- 17<sup>th</sup>

### **The Politics of MNC's in the Global Economy**

**Assignment:-**

Oatley Chapter 8  
(Take Quiz on OAKS)

Wednesday  
--- 19<sup>th</sup>  
Assignment:-

### **The Politics of MNC's in the Global Economy**

Oatley Chapter 9  
(Take Quiz on OAKS)

Friday  
-- 21<sup>st</sup>

**Case Study Analysis : *IKEA's Global Sourcing Challenge: Indian Rugs and Child Labor (A)***

(Available at: <http://cb.hbsp.harvard.edu/cbmp/access/51463978>)

*Questions Available on OAKS*

Monday  
--24<sup>th</sup>

**Case Study Analysis : *IKEA's Global Sourcing Challenge: Indian Rugs and Child Labor (A)***  
CONT/D

Wednesday  
– 26<sup>th</sup>

Seminar--- (commodity chain) Political Pres

Friday  
– 28<sup>th</sup>

Seminar--- (commodity chain) Political Pres

Monday  
31<sup>st</sup>

**Developing Countries and International Finance**

Assignment:-

Oatley Chapter 14  
(Take Quiz on OAKS)

**November**

Wednesday  
--2<sup>nd</sup>

**Developing Countries and International Finance**

Assignment:-

Oatley Chapter 15  
(Take Quiz on OAKS)

Friday  
--4<sup>th</sup>

**The Political Economy of Global Monetary System**

Assignment:-

Anatomy of 2008 global financial crisis

Monday  
--7<sup>th</sup>

**No Class –Fall Break**

Wednesday  
– 9<sup>th</sup>

Assignment:-

**Case Study Analysis: *Uber and the Sharing Economy: Global Market Expansion and Reception***

(Available at: <http://cb.hbsp.harvard.edu/cbmp/access/51463978>)

*Questions Available on OAKS*

Friday  
-- 11<sup>th</sup>

Assignment:-

**T-shirt Journey into Global Economy cont/d**

Rivoli, “Part IV My T-Shirt Finally Encounters a Free Market.” Chap 13 & 14  
(Check for questions on OAKS)

Monday  
– 14<sup>th</sup>

**T-shirt Journey into Global Economy cont/d Chap 15 & Conclusion**

Assignment:-

Rivoli, “Part IV My T-Shirt Finally Encounters a Free Market.” And Chapter 5 of NPR’s Planet money (watch video clip and scroll down to read <http://apps.npr.org/tshirt/#/you>)

(Check for questions on OAKS )

In class online evaluations

Wednesday  
– 16<sup>th</sup>

Open Session



Friday  
-- 18<sup>th</sup>                      Research Presentations

Monday  
--21<sup>st</sup>                         Research Presentations

Monday  
--28<sup>th</sup>                         Research Presentations

Wednesday  
--30<sup>th</sup>                         Research Presentations

**December**

Friday  
--2<sup>nd</sup>                             Research Presentations