COURSE SYLLABUS

INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY
IFSA-Butler London Flagship

US semester credit hours: 3 credits
Contact Hours: 45
Course Code: PO381-01 or EC381-01
Course length: Semester
Delivery method: Face to face
Language of Instruction: English
Departmental cross-listings: International Relations, Economics

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Political and economic development are increasingly intertwined with international and global integration. In this course, students will explore theoretical issues and illustrative case studies related to international political economy. Students will read about and discuss the ways domestic and international politics affect relations between states by examining the role of government in the production, distribution and consumption of resources. Trade policy, exchange rate policy, foreign investment policy, and migration are points of focus in this course which positions economics and politics as inextricable concepts.

COURSE DELIVERY

Students are expected to read or view assigned resources in advance and be prepared to actively discuss them in class. In most meetings, the instructor will overview the topic and then facilitate a group discussion, drawing out relevant themes, following up on specific lines of inquiry, and prompting students’ thoughtful engagement with the topic.

Students are encouraged to bring their prior learning experiences into class discussions (based on experiential learning theory) and to make cognitive connections between this course and others in the IFSA-Butler London Flagship whenever possible (based on the philosophy of integrative learning).

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The class will introduce students to core concepts and theories in international political economy as well as how to apply them to analyses of case material. Part of class will be devoted to learning how to design and carry out research. Each student will carry out an original research project on a subject of his/her choice, with the approval of the professor.

Students who successfully complete this course will:
● Learn to orally present analyses, reflections on others’ works, and listen to others
● Learn to design and conduct independent research
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- Understand theories and concepts related to international political economy
- Be able to apply theories and concepts related to international political economy to case material
- Become familiar with resources available for further research on international political economy
- Make cognitive connections between learning in this course and other learning experiences in the IFSA-Butler London Flagship

CORE CONCEPTS AND THEORIES

This course addresses a number of important concepts and theories relevant to the study of politics. By the end of the course, students should develop a significant understanding of these concepts and theories and should be able to apply them to analyze political action, institutions, and organizations. This course will touch upon the following concepts and theories:

- (Neo)Mercantilism
- Structural Theory
- (Neo) Liberalism
- Dependency Theory
- Trade
- International Monetary System
- Currency Trading
- Multinational Corporations
- Hegemonic Leadership
- State Interests
- Factors of Production
- Global Governance
- Import-Substitution Industrialization
- Export-Led Industrialization
- International institutions (e.g. World Bank, WTO, GATT, and IMF)

COURSE OUTLINE

I. Theoretical and Conceptual Issues
   Introduction and Main Themes of the Course
   No Reading Assigned

   Globalization – Its Promise and Prospects
   Reading: Stiglitz, Making Globalization Work, pp. 3-59; and Jagdish Bhagwati, In Defense of Globalization, pp. 3-27

   Liberal and Mercantilist Approaches to Political Economy
   Reading: Balaam and Dillman, Introduction to International Political Economy, pp. 28-78

   Structuralist and Alternative Approaches to IPE
   Reading: Balaam and Dillman, Introduction to International Political Economy, pp. 81-125

II. Types of Economic Integration

   A. Trade
   Arguments for (and against) Free Trade
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Politics of Free Trade

B. Monetary Relations
Monetary Integration and Exchange Rates
Reading: Balaam and Dillman, Introduction to International Political Economy, pp. 151-177.

Currency Management and State Power

C. Foreign Capital Flows
The International Financial System
Reading: Balaam and Dillman, Introduction to International Political Economy, pp. 436-460.

Foreign Direct Investment

Contemporary Financial System and State Autonomy

D. International Debt and Financial Crises (Week 6)
Reading: Balaam and Dillman, Introduction to International Political Economy, pp. 178-206; and Joseph Stiglitz, Making Globalization Work, pp. 211-244.

***Mid-term Exam***

E. Immigration
Overview of the Flow of People

***Submit research paper topics to instructor***

European Migration and Welfare States
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III. State and Production
Dependency Theory and (Neo)Liberalism

Latin American Experience with ISI

East Asian Development – A Neoliberal Model?

States and Welfare

IV. International Institutions and Global Governance
Postwar Governance

Regional Integration: The EU
Reading: Balaam and Dillman, Introduction to International Political Economy, pp. 292-318.
http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/politicsandpolicy/personal-values-brexit-vote/

Regional Integration: NAFTA

Global Governance: Is More Inclusion the Answer?
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V. Evaluating Globalization
Globalization and the Environment
Readings: Balaam and Dillman, Introduction to International Political Economy, pp. 511-537.

Globalization and Food Security

Globalization and Inequality

***Research Papers Due***

Conclusions: Directions for Globalization

***Final Exam***

RESOURCES

The following books are required for the course:

Joseph E. Stiglitz, Making Globalization Work

The remaining required readings will be available electronically.

EVALUATION METHODS

The course instructor will provide specific requirements and grading rubrics for individual assignments for the course. Your final grade in the course will be comprised of the following course requirements:

The course has five graded components: an in-class mid-term exam, a final exam, one short paper, a research paper, and participation (beyond attendance) throughout the semester. Students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the material assigned for that day. Written work for the course must be completed by the end of the day on the date due, as indicated on the syllabus and assignment. Excused absences do not relieve students of obligations to submit work on time. Submission of late papers must be approved by the professor 24 hours prior to the time of submission. Unauthorized late submissions may (at his discretion) be graded by the professor but will lose 3 points per day past the deadline. The last day of classes is also the
last day for submitting written work. No exceptions can be made to that university guideline. The final grades will be determined by the following formula:

- Participation: 25%
- Mid-term Exam: 25%
- Research Paper (8-10 pages): 25%
- Final Exam: 25%

Timely Submissions
Assignments submitted after the deadline will be accepted at the discretion of the course instructor and generally only in the event of a documented illness or emergency.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Any academic endeavor must be based upon a foundation of honesty and integrity. Students are expected to abide by principles of academic integrity and must be willing to bear individual responsibility for their work while studying abroad. Any academic work (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill an academic requirement must represent a student’s original work. Any act of academic misconduct, such as cheating, fabrication, forgery, plagiarism, or facilitating academic dishonesty, will subject a student to disciplinary action.

IFSA-Butler takes academic integrity very seriously. Students must not accept outside assistance without permission from the instructor. Additionally, students must document all sources according to the instructions of the professor. Should your instructor suspect you of plagiarism, cheating, or other forms of academic dishonesty, you may receive a failing grade for the course and disciplinary action may result. The incident will be reported to the IFSA-Butler resident director as well as your home institution.