

Spring 2016
Time: TUTH 3:30-4:50pm
Location: CSB 001
Office hours: TU 1:15-3:00pm

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POLI 144F: POLITICS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND FINANCE

The economic and political consequences of economic globalization are hotly debated. Does international trade and foreign investment cause inequality, instability, unemployment, and environmental degradation? Or is it an engine of prosperity and wealth for the vast majority of the world's citizens? Does globalization pose a fundamental challenge to the policymaking autonomy of the nation-state? Or is there a useful role for national governments, individually and collectively?

This seminar explores the global integration of national economies from a political economy perspective. That is, we identify the winners and losers of globalization and analyze the *politics* of foreign economic policymaking. Substantive topics include: the history of globalization, determinants of trade and exchange-rate policies, currency crises of the 1990s, the Global Financial Crisis, the Eurozone Crisis, the role of international institutions like the IMF and World Bank.

Prerequisites: This is an advanced undergraduate course with a relatively heavy reading load. Students should have taken at least the introduction course to international relations.

Requirements:

- 1) Midterm examination (30% of total grade).
- 2) Take-Home Essay (25%).
- 3) Final examination (45%).

Exams: The exams will consist of short-answer identifications and essay questions and will be administered in class. The final exam is comprehensive.

Take-Home Essay: The essay topic will be distributed on **Tuesday, May 3** and completed essays will be due at the beginning of class on **Tuesday May 31**. Grading will be based on the clarity of the thesis statement, reasoned support of the argument, and inclusion of material from course readings and lectures. The essay must be typed, double-spaced, 1-inch margins, 12 point font size, and between 5-8 pages in length. Late essays will incur a 20% grade penalty for each day after the deadline.

Academic Integrity: Integrity of scholarship is essential for an academic community. The University expects that both faculty and students will honor this principle and in so doing protect the validity of University intellectual work. For students, this means that all academic work will be done by the individual to whom it is assigned, without unauthorized aid of any kind. Smart phones must be off your person and out of reach during exams. All suspicions of academic misconduct will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office according to university policy.

Plagiarism: Students agree that by taking this course all written work will be subject to submission to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the terms of use agreement posted on the Turnitin.com site.

Grade Appeals: If you feel an error was made in the grading of your work, you must follow this procedure:

- (1) Prepare a written statement detailing the reasons why you think you received the wrong grade
- (2) Submit the statement to your teaching assistant and schedule an appointment to discuss your exam
- (3) If you are still unsatisfied with your grade after meeting with your teaching assistant, bring your exam to the professor
- (4) The professor will read your exam and give it a new grade, which might be higher or lower than your original grade. This is the grade you will receive on the exam.

Policy on electronic devices: No electronic devices can be used during lecture. This includes smart phones, tablets and laptops. Research has shown that students that use these devices score lower on tests *and* distract other nearby students, who also score lower. Research has also established that students that take notes on paper learn more, as measured by test results, than those that use laptops.

Books: The following required books are available for purchase at the bookstore:

- Oatley, Thomas. 2011. *International Political Economy*. 5th edition. New York: Longman (a cheaper e-version is also available from the publisher.)
- Frieden, Jeffrey A. 2015. *Currency Politics: The Political Economy of Exchange Rate Policy*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Articles: Additional article-length readings, marked with an asterisk below, are available on the course's TED website

WEEK 1

- **Lecture 1: Course goals and description, trends in the world economy**
 - *Jeffrey Frankel, "Globalization of the Economy." In Nye, Joseph and John Donahue (eds.) *Governance in a Globalizing World, Visions of Governance Project*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press, 2000 p. 45-71
 - *Ben Bernanke, "Global Economic Integration: What's New and What's Not?" Speech at the 30th Annual Economic Symposium, Jackson Hole, WY, 2006.
 - Oatley, Preface, Chapter 1
- **Lecture 2: Understanding International Trade**
 - Oatley, Chapter 3

WEEK 2

- **Lecture 3: Trade Politics I – Factors and Sectors**
 - Oatley, Chapter 4, pp. 69-78
 - *Cheryl Schonhardt-Bailey. “Free Trade: Repeal of the Corn Laws.” In Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake and J. Lawrence Broz (eds.), *International Political Economy*. 5th Edition. New York: Norton, 2009, pp. 87-97.
- **Lecture 4: Trade Politics II – Consumers and Producers**
 - Oatley, Chapter 4, pp. 79-88.
 - *Kimberly Elliott. “Big Sugar and the Political Economy of US Agricultural Policy.” Center for Global Development Brief, April 2005, pp. 1-8.

WEEK 3

- **Lecture 5: Trade Policymaking Institutions**
 - *Michael Bailey, Judith Goldstein, and Barry R. Weingast. “The Institutional Roots of American Trade Policy: Politics, Coalitions, and International Trade.” *World Politics* 49, 3 (April 1997), pp. 309-338.
 - Oatley, Chapter 2
- **Lecture 6: Globalization, Inequality, and Development**
 - *Jeffrey G. Williamson. “Globalization and Inequality: Past and Present.” *World Bank Research Observer* 12, 2 (August, 1997), pp. 117-135.
 - *David Dollar. “Globalization, Poverty, and Inequality since 1980.” *World Bank Research Observer* 20, 2 (Fall 2005), pp. 145-175.

WEEK 4

- **Lecture 7: Failures of Globalization**
 - *Kenneth L. Sokoloff and Stanley L. Engerman. “History Lessons: Institutions, Factor Endowments, and Paths of Development in the New World.” *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 14, 3 (Summer 2000), pp. 217-232.
- **Lecture 8: Trade and Development – Import Substitution**
 - Oatley, Chapter 6

WEEK 5

- **Lecture 9: Trade and Development – The East Asian Model**
 - Oatley, Chapter 7
- **MIDTERM EXAM (bring blue books)**

WEEK 6

- **Lecture 10: Understanding Multinational Corporations**
 - Oatley, Chapter 8
- **Lecture 11: The Politics of Multinational Corporations**
 - Oatley, Chapter 9

WEEK 7

- **Lecture 12: Understanding Exchange Rates**
 - Oatley, Chapter 10
- **Lecture 13: Exchange Rates and the Policy Trilemma**
 - Oatley, Chapter 11

WEEK 8

- **Lecture 14: The Political Economy of Exchange Rates**
 - Oatley, Chapter 12
 - Frieden, Introduction and Chapter 1
- **Lecture 15: Politics of the Gold Standard**
 - Frieden Chapters 2 and 3

WEEK 9

- **Lecture 16: The Politics of the Latin American Debt Crisis**
 - Oatley Chapter 14
 - Frieden, Chapter 5
- **Lecture 17: The Politics of Currency Crises**
 - Oatley, Chapter 15
 - Frieden, Chapter 6

WEEK 10

- **Lecture 18: European Monetary Integration**
 - Oatley, pp. 241-248 (review)
 - Frieden, Chapter 4
- **Lecture 19: Current Controversies in Trade and Finance**
 - Oatley, Chapter 16
 - Frieden, Chapter 7