

Syllabus Course Description

Instructor:

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International Political Economy

Semester and academic year: Second Semester, 2020

Credits: 2

Total lecturing hours: 30

Class hours: Sunday, 13:30 to 15:10

Attendance: Highly recommended, but not required to pass the course

Course Overview

This is an introductory course that caters to an introduction to international political economy - the interface between international economics and international politics.

This study assumes that in order to understand patterns of interaction and change at the global level, we need to look at both international politics and economics in an integrated manner.

Students will look at economic issues of trade, finance, production and development, but not from the perspective of economic theory.

Instead, students will engage with the International Relations concepts, ideas and literatures on the economic relations among states, and between states and non-state actors (such as firms, societal groups and international organizations).

The focus is therefore on the political problems that arise as a consequence of the increasing density of international economic relations. Knowledge of the economics is an advantage but not a requirement.

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- 1-Understand the themes of Macroeconomics.
- 2-Analyze current events in the global political economy with a historically informed and analytically rigorous approach.
- 3-Write concise policy analysis on how domestic and international politics influence international trade, finance, and production.
- 4-Identify the key elements of complex economies and offer convincing arguments about which policy options to pursue.

5-Demonstrate a systematic and critical understanding of the key issues and debates within contemporary economies in developed and developing countries.

Oral Presentation

Each student requires to select and present one of the texts of the following case studies for his/her class presentation.

- 1- The Geopolitics of Natural Gas
- 2- The Greek Crisis: Tragedy or Opportunity?
- 3- Is the next for the Chinese Economy?
- 4- The Promise and Peril of Russia's Resurgent State
- 5- TAPI
- 6- The Political Economy of Carbon Trading
- 7- Saudi Arabia: modern Reform, Enduring Stability
- 8- Turkey: A Work in Progress

Policy Papers

Each student will also select one title at the beginning of the class and write a policy paper till week 15. The total number of the words should be around 3000. Titles must be approved by Professor. This list is considered as a suggestion.

1. The influence of the international political system on the international economic system
2. OPEC: Cartel or useless agency
3. Iran and Eurasian Economic Union
4. "One Belt, One Road", its impact on global economy
5. Media Bias and its impact on politics and economics
6. The political economy of social media
7. The political economy of immigration
8. The political economy of organized crime
9. The political economy of conflict
10. Redistribution and Taxation
11. Inequality and Public Goods
12. Cyber Security & Public-Private Partnerships
13. Future of Energy Market in the Frame of IPE
14. Windfall oil money in OPEC countries

References:

- Bade, Robin & Michael Parkin; *Essential Foundations of Economics*; (8th edition), New York: Pearson, 2018
- Frieden Jeffrey, David Lake, and J. Lawrence Broz (eds.), *International Political Economy: Perspectives on Global Power and Wealth*; New York, W.W. Norton, 6th edition, 2017.
- Oatley Thomas, *International Political Economy: Interest and Institutions in the Global Economy*; New York: Pearson/Longman, 5th edition, 2016
- Lawfon, Thomas C, James N. Rosenau, and Amy C. Verdon; *Strange Power” Shaping the Parameters of International Relations and International Political Economy*; London: Ashgate, 2000
- Strange, Susan; “International Economics and International Relations: A Case of Mutual Neglect”; *International Affairs*; Royal Institute of International Affairs, 1970
- Spero, Jean E. and Jeffrey A. Hart; *The Politics of International Economic Relations*; London: Routledge, 1997
- Palan, Romen (ed.); *Global Political Economy: Contemporary Theories*; London: Routledge, 2000
- Maleki, Abbas; “Iran” in Starr, S. Frederick. *The New Silk Roads: Transport and Trade in Greater Central Asia*. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007.

Supplementary Readings

The following Persian texts are suggested for better understanding the resources and case studies. Additional resources for studying at home will be suggested upon request.

منابع فارسی:

- ملکی، عباس و مجید رئوفی؛ *راه ابریشم جدید: برون رفت چین از محدودیت های استراتژیکی*، تهران: ابرار معاصر، ۱۳۹۶
- ریموند سی، *اقتصاد سیاسی بین الملل: جهان بینی های متعارض*، ترجمه محمدعلی شیرخانی، تهران: سمت، ۱۳۹۰
- گیلپین، رابرت، *مرزهای نو در اقتصاد سیاسی بین المللی*، تهران: چاپخش، ۱۳۹۶

Evaluation Criteria and criteria to awarding marks

The students are expected for:

1. Pre-studying the assigned texts before each session, and active participation in debates and discussions

2. An oral presentation during the term (Presentation (15 min.) + Discussion (15 min.))
3. Writing a policy paper
4. Participating in mid and final exams

Assessment

Assessment will be based on:

- 1- One written essay as homework assignment (15%),
- 2- An oral presentation (15%).
- 3- Mid-exam (20%)
- 4- Final exam (50%)