

## **POLI 4420: International Political Economy**

### ***Spring 2019 Syllabus***

Instructor: Heather Ba

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Time: T-TH 11:00 – 11:50am

Class Room: TBA

Office Hours: T-TH; 8:45am-11:45am

Office: Professional Building 302

TA: Heather Kopp

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Office Hours: T & W 9:30 - 11:00 am

Office: Professional Building 22

#### **Textbooks:**

*International Political Economy*, Thomas Oatley 2019 (6<sup>th</sup> edition)

Other readings will be posted on Canvas

Also, please register for iClicker Reef mobile polling application. The University provides this service free of charge.

**Course Description & Objectives:** This course is designed to introduce students to central issues in the field of international political economy. It is also designed to expand students' perspective on how their lives, as citizens in the largest economy in the world, affect and are affected by the lives of others around the world. The syllabus begins by introducing the concept of political order, and the central problem of international relations: creating political order between nation states. It then situates the issue of economic relations between countries as an important dimension of international order, and considers how the structure and pattern of economic relations between countries can affect how the international order evolves and changes. The majority of the syllabus focuses on the unique economic characteristics of the contemporary, liberal, American-led order. The syllabus concludes with a discussion of economic challenges to the contemporary international order.

At the end of this course, students should be able to think more analytically about social, political, and economic phenomena that occur in the international system. Students should have an expanded knowledge base of international economics and international politics, and they should be able to apply contemporary theories that attempt to explain political and economic phenomena at the international system-level of analysis.

**Course Technology:** This course website is on Canvas. It will be used to post the syllabus, required readings not found in the text book, and other course information and announcements in an easily accessible location. Please be sure to let me know as soon as possible if you have any issues logging into the website.

**Email Etiquette:** Please use email judiciously and professionally. First, ask yourself if your question is appropriate to ask over email. Can you find the answer on the course syllabus or website instead? Reserve email for questions of clarification; office hours are for help with substantive questions and to discuss grades. Please maintain reasonable expectations about response time; I try to respond to all emails within one business day. Do not expect a response over the weekend. Finally, be specific about the subject of the email in the mail subject heading and use proper spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

**Office Hours:** I am more than happy to discuss questions about lecture material, readings, and assignments with you outside of class. To use our time most efficiently, I recommend that you make an appointment, but this is not required. To make an appointment, please email me with both the question(s)/topic(s) you wish to discuss. If you have a class conflict during my office hours, please provide me with at least three alternate times you could meet.

**Measurement of Progress:** Your final grade will be computed from the following assessments:

10 of 13 multiple choice and short answer quizzes, completed weekly (60%)

\*\*Lowest three grades are dropped and there are no make-up quizzes

A cumulative final exam including multiple choice questions, short answer, and essay questions (25%)

Class Participation: including attendance and responsiveness via iClicker (15%)

**Grading Scale:** For each grade you earn, I use a 100 point scale. Points earned will be weighted at the end of the semester according to the distribution outlined above. The final numerical grade will be converted to a letter grade according to the following scale.

A: 94+

A-: 90 - 94

B+: 87 - 90

B: 84 - 87

B-: 80 - 84

C+: 77 - 80

C: 74 - 77

C-: 70 - 74

D+: 67 - 70

D: 64 - 67

D-: 60 - 64

F: < 60

**Attendance, Electronics, & Discussion:** Your attendance in class is important both to your ability to master the material as well as to improving the quality of class discussion. Research on learning continually shows a strong correlation between attendance and performance on exams and written assignments. You are given three unexcused absences. After this, each unexcused absence costs you a letter grade drop from the participation grade. This means that more than three absences will prevent you from getting an A for participation. **If you miss eight or more lectures, you will be automatically withdrawn from the course. You can submit doctor's notes for any unexcused absences above three. I will call the doctor's office to confirm the validity of the note. Forging a doctor's note is a very serious offense and will result in you being reported to the Office of Academic Integrity.**

I DO NOT PERMIT LAPTOPS TO BE OPEN DURING LECTURE. However, if and when small group discussions are organized, the use of laptops is permitted in order to gain access to the assigned material. The reason for this is that there is statistical evidence to suggest that taking notes by hand facilitates knowledge retention (see me if you want the data).

This class will include two 55 minute lectures each week, one quiz completed at the end of class each Thursday and a class review of the quiz from the previous week at the end of each class on Tuesday. During lecture, I use iClicker to pose questions from the assigned readings. Your attendance is also recorded via iClicker. Your scores on the iClicker questions and your attendance form your participation grade for the course. To ensure a good participation grade, come to class having not only read the assigned material, but having taken synthesizing notes. In other words, come to class having thought a bit about the content and quality of the arguments made in assigned readings. Be sure to jot down questions you have about the readings themselves as well as broader points that the authors' arguments raise. I will give time for questions in class, periodically.

**Deadlines & Submission Procedures:** There are no make-up quizzes or exams unless you e-mail me at least 48 hours before quiz or exam with a valid reason, or provide a doctor's note for the day you missed the quiz or exam, and you arrange to take the quiz or exam ahead of schedule. If you wake-up with the flu, stay home, take a zero for the quiz and let it be one of the grades that is dropped. If you wake up with the flu for the final, show up, show me you are sick, and we can schedule a make-up.

**Academic Honesty:** For all course work, the Honor Code applies; the student's signature on her/his work confirms that the code rules were respected. Familiarize yourselves with the code: (<https://oai.missouri.edu/about/academic-integrity/honor-pledge/>)

You also need to familiarize yourself with the concept and practice of plagiarism in order to make sure that you avoid it. Plagiarism is defined as deliberate or reckless representation of another's words, thoughts, or ideas as one's own without attribution in connection with submission of academic work, whether graded or otherwise. You should also know that forging a doctor's note is taken as seriously as plagiarism and will incur a similar reprimand.

**Accessibility & Learning Disabilities:** The University takes seriously its commitment to provide reasonable accommodations to promote learning among individuals with learning disabilities and physical handicaps. Please contact the Disability department to obtain more information about the services they provide (<https://disabilitycenter.missouri.edu/>). This resource provides information about university services as well as guidelines for communicating with instructors about learning disabilities.

**Student Feedback:** I take my job as an educator very seriously, and want this course to be informative as well as fun. If something isn't working for you, I want to know about it. Everyone has different learning styles, and while I try to incorporate different teaching techniques to accommodate many types of learners, I believe teachers can always improve through feedback of their students. The sooner you come to me with questions, confusion, or frustration, the sooner I can find new ways of making class time most productive.

**Course Schedule:** Please note that I reserve the right to make changes to the course schedule, including quiz dates (excluding the officially scheduled final exam), when unforeseen circumstances occur. These changes will be announced as early as possible so that students can adjust their schedules. The Links for supplemental materials can be found on Canvas.

Date	Topic, Readings, and Assignments
8/20/2019	Introductions, syllabus, and policies
8/22/2019	What is International Political Economy? Oatley Chapter 1
8/27/2019	Historical Foundations of the International Economy Obstfeld and Taylor <a href="https://ourworldindata.org/trade-and-globalization">https://ourworldindata.org/trade-and-globalization</a>
8/29/2019	No Lecture (APSA); Quiz #1
9/3/2019	The WTO Oatley Chapter 2
9/5/2019	Why Trade? The Logic of International Trade Oatley Chapter 3 *Quiz #2
9/10/2019	The Controversy of International Trade Brexit as a Game of Chicken Global Inequality & Trade: <a href="https://ourworldindata.org/trade-wages-cost-living">https://ourworldindata.org/trade-wages-cost-living</a>
9/12/2019	The Domestic Politics of Trade Oatley Chapter 4 *Quiz #3
9/17/2019	Alternative Explanations of Trade Policy Simmons and Elkins 2004
9/19/2019	Economic Development Oatley Chapter 5 *Quiz #4
9/24/2019	Import Substitution Industrialization Oatley Chapter 6
9/26/2019	Neoliberalism & The China Model Oatley Chapter 7 *Quiz #5
10/1/2019	The Beijing Consensus or the Washington Consensus Huang
10/3/2019	Multinational Corporations

	Oatley Chapter 8 *Quiz #6
10/8/2019	The Controversies of International Corporations Oatley Chapter 9
10/10/2019	The Historical Context and Mechanics of the International Monetary System Oatley Chapter 10 *Quiz #7
10/15/2019	The Historical Context and Mechanics of the International Monetary System (Cont'd)
10/17/2019	Domestic Political Explanations for Capital Account Liberalization Pepinsky 2013 *Quiz #8
10/22/2019	Controversies of Capital Account Liberalization Furceri & Lungani 2018 Liberalization and inequality
10/24/2019	Societal Explanations for Monetary Regime Policies Oatley Chapter 12 *Quiz #9
10/29/2019	Societal Explanations for Monetary Regime Policies
10/31/2019	State Centered Explanations for Monetary Regime Policies Oatley Chapter 13 *Quiz #10
11/5/2019	The Controversies Surrounding International Finance Oatley Chapter 14
11/7/2019	Developing Countries and the Politics of the IMF "The High Politics of IMF Lending", Thacker Vreeland *Quiz #11
11/12/2019	History and Mechanics of Financial Crises Oatley Chapter 11
11/14/2019	Explanations for the Causes of Financial Crises Oatley Chapter 15 *Quiz #12
11/19/2019	Explanations for the Causes of Financial Crises Bauerle et al
11/21/2019	Explanations for the Causes of Financial Crises *Quiz #13 Ba Ba
12/3/2019	Contemporary Economic Challenges Oatley Chapter 16
12/5/2019	Final Exam Review (TA)



