

# PSCI 4356.001: International Political Economy

Instructor: Les Stanaland

Spring 2020

E-mail: [les.stanaland@utdallas.edu](mailto:les.stanaland@utdallas.edu)

Office Hours: F 1:00 - 3:00; by appointment

Office: GR 2.816

Classtime: TR 2:30 - 3:45pm

Classroom: SLC 1.102

---

## Course Description

This course will present an overview of the academic study of the interaction between politics and economics at several levels of analysis, including the international system, domestic politics, and even individuals. An entire subdiscipline of political science, international political economy, exists solely to study this topic, and so the course will naturally refer primarily to this literature. That body of work draws from international relations, comparative politics, and international economics, among other research programs, and it blends previous work in an attempt to understand the complex world economy. Economic theory plays a large role in this course, because it is often a good starting point to understand who wins and who loses from current economic outcomes. We will review important theories in both international politics and international economics during this course. A key question throughout the course will concern the potential retrenchment from globalization (as indicated by Brexit in the UK, a turn toward protectionism in the United States, and elected figures such as Bolsonaro in Brazil and Modi in India) and its sources. If globalization provides increased wealth, why would people want to turn away from it?

## Prerequisites

Students enrolling in this course must satisfactorily pass PSCI 3328, International Relations, PSCI 4329, Global Politics, or ECON 4360/4382, International Economics. Students should also know how to find journal articles, either through the library database or through Google Scholar. We will review both methods early in the course.

## Required Materials

Frieden, Lake, and Broz. *International Political Economy: Perspectives on Global Power and Wealth, Sixth Edition*. W. W. Norton; New York, 2017. ISBN 13: 978-0-393-60388-0.

This text will be available at the campus bookstore as well as many online retailers. I chose this book because it does a great job of showing academic work without all the gory details regarding statistics and design that you aren't ready for. Instead, you get the crux of the theory, argument, and reasoning, which is exactly what we want. If you plan on going to graduate school to study IPE, I suggest purchasing. If not, I suggest renting.

Also, the fifth edition of this book will not be helpful. The authors replaced 70% of the articles found in the fifth edition. However, since the book is a few years old, there is likely a used market you can take advantage of.

## Student Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will have greater insight into the relationship between international politics and economics. Students will be better able to evaluate current events and others' arguments critically using interest group preferences, domestic political institutions, and international interactions as building blocks. Additionally, via writing assignments and in-class discussion, students will produce better political and economic arguments, complete with supporting evidence.

## Course Rules & Policies

### Grading Policy

Since this is an advanced PSCI course, I will make the assumption that you are either juniors or seniors who understand that University coursework is more than just simply showing up to class, but rather reading before class, being engaged during class, thinking through the ramifications of any particular theory and its application, and asking appropriate followup questions after class. To that end, this course will be graded in the following manner:

- Midterm Exam. To be completed in the Testing Center on Thursday, March 12th. This exam will cover the first half of the course material. **25% of course grade**
- Final Exam. To be completed in the Testing Center on Tuesday, May 5th. This exam will cover the second half of course material. **25% of course grade**
- Journal assignments: A short writing assignment in the 350-500 word range, to be due every Saturday by 11:59pm, responding to questions posed by me regarding that week's lecture and associated readings. There will be 14 of these assignments (I will be gone one week plus there will not be one due the first week); I will record the highest 12. Feel free to discuss with your colleagues their thoughts on the questions; just remember everything you turn in must be your OWN work. See below. **50% of course grade**

Final grades will be assigned via the following scale:

A: 90 - 100	B: 80 - 89	C: 70 - 79	D: 60 - 69	F: 0 - 59
-------------	------------	------------	------------	-----------

Except in cases where there is a legitimate, documented reason (i.e. - medical emergency), there will be **NO MAKEUP EXAMS**. Both exams will be open note, open book, and completed

online at the Testing Center. It is **YOUR** responsibility to sign up for an exam slot. Failure to sign up for a slot is not an adequate reason for a makeup.

## Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the unforgivable sin of academic life. Check out <https://www.utdallas.edu/conduct/dishonesty/> for more information. My rule of thumb while writing my own work is to ask myself: "Is this plagiarism?" If I find myself asking the question, I assume the answer is yes and correct the draft accordingly. I will follow all appropriate University policies regarding the prosecution of academic dishonesty. If you have any questions, please just ask me.

## Incompletes

Generally speaking, the material in this course is best learned as a single unit. I will grant incompletes only in cases where a substantial change in life circumstances occurs that is beyond the control of the student, and only with appropriate documentation. Furthermore, by university policy, an incomplete can only be granted when at least 70% of the coursework has been completed at a passing level.

## Makeup work

Makeup work will only be allowed in cases of documented medical emergency.

## Comet Creed

*"As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do."*

## Personal Policies

Communicating with me doesn't have to be a formal affair; however, it is also not like texting your friend about where to meet after class. This is a great time to learn professional communication strategies; one way to start is to use your UTD email address (or BlackBoard) for any communication with me. If you use your personal email address, I will not be able to reply because of federal privacy laws. Allow 24 hours for me to reply to all weekday emails; I do not usually check emails over the weekend. Also, kindly put "PSCI 4356" in the subject line of any emails to me.

Lastly, I have a 24-hour "no discussing the exam results" policy. Upon receiving feedback on your exams, the grade you get may not be what you hoped, causing confusion and/or anger. Therefore, the 24-hour policy protects us from saying things in the heat of the moment which we may regret later. Many times, after waiting that day, a reassurance sets in that one bad grade is not the end of the world or the course, and life can proceed. After that 24-hour period, feel free to contact me for a regrade; however, the regrade may be the same, higher, or lower than the original grade.

## Course Structure

Most classes will be a combination of lecture and class activity. Laptops are nice for these activities, but not required. If you have one, please bring to class. However, you must make sure you are on task. It is tempting to do other things; you will not be tested on anything in this class except IPE (hint hint).

## University policies

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment for the course syllabus. Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

## Course Schedule

The schedule is tentative and subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. *FLB* refers to the text. I will also likely assign scholarly articles; these will be made available in time for the journal assignments.

### Week 01, 01/13 - 01/17: Course Overview / "How To Find and Read an Article" /

- Text: *FLB* Introduction

### Week 02, 01/20 - 01/24: Individuals, States, and Countries: Different Units of Analysis

- Text: *FLB* Part 1; Chapters 1 - 4
- Articles:

S. Rho and Michael Tomz. Why don't trade preferences reflect economic self-interest? *International Organization*, 71(1):85–108, 2017.

I. S. Kim. Political cleavages within industry: firm-level lobbying for trade liberalization. *American Political Science Review*, 111(1):1–20, 2017.

### Week 03, 01/27 - 01/31: Individuals, States, and Countries: Different Units of Analysis

- Text: *FLB* Part 1; Chapters 1 - 4

### Week 04, 02/03 - 02/07: Historical Perspective - liberalism, Marxism, capitalism, and socialism

- Text: *FLB* Part II, Chapters 5 - 8

### Week 05, 02/10 - 02/14: Trade

- Text: *FLB* Part V, Chapters 18 - 22

**Week 06, 02/17 - 02/21: Trade**

- Text: *FLB* Part V, Chapters 18 - 22

**Week 07, 02/24 - 02/28: Money & Finance**

- Text: *FLB* Part III, Chapters 13 - 17

**Week 08, 03/02 - 03/06: Money & Finance**

- Text: *FLB* Part III, Chapters 13 - 17

**Week 09, 03/09 - 03/13: Midterm Week**

- To be done at the Testing Center on Thursday, March 12th. You must register for a seat for these exams. You will have three hours to complete the exam and can sign up for anytime the Testing Center has availability.

**Week 10, 03/16 - 03/20: Spring Break****Week 11, 03/23 - 03/27: Development**

- Text: *FLB* Part VII, Chapters 26 - 28

**Week 12, 03/30 - 04/03: Foreign Direct Investment**

- Text: *FLB* Part III, Chapters 9 - 12

**Week 13, 04/06 - 04/10: Migration**

- Text: *FLB* Part VI, Chapters 23 - 25

**Week 14, 04/13 - 04/17: Online Assignment**

- I will be at the Midwest Political Science Association conference this week, so I will give an online assignment in lieu of class.

**Week 15, 04/20 - 04/24: Current Events: Brexit and Trumpism**

- Review and analysis of current populist sentiment found in, but not limited to, the UK and US
- Text: *FLB* Part VIII, Chapters 30, 32, and 33

**Week 16, 04/27 - 05/01: Special Topics: Informal Economies**

- How can IPE theories be used to explain how and why people engage in the informal economy?

**Week 17, 05/04 - 05/08: Final Exam week**

- Per University scheduling <sup>1</sup> - the exam time for this class is *Tuesday, May 5th from 2:00pm to 4:45pm*. To be completed at the Testing Center. Follow all applicable rules regarding the registration for a seat.

---

<sup>1</sup>which can always change!