

INTL 199: Globalization and the Economy [WEB] SPRING 2020



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Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the study of globalization and the global economy through the academic framework known as International Political Economy (IPE), alternately Global Political Economy (GPE). (These terms are generally used interchangeably). In essence, we will be analyzing the ways in which the global economy is structured and maintained in and through various political interventions and regimes. The aim of this course is to provide the tools that will enable students to understand and explain developments in the global economy.

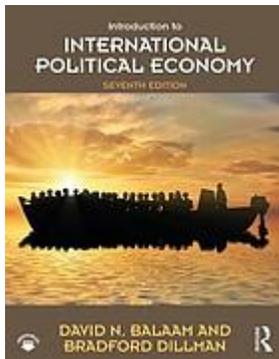
Course Outline:

The course begins with an introduction of the contested concept of globalization and the complex ways in which globalization has shaped the global economy. Students will also become familiar with the evolution of the global economy through a study of historical developments up until the Second World War. In part two, we examine the emergence and consolidation of the global economy since WWII. In this section, we identify the structures, institutions and actors that were instrumental in the shaping of a global economy and assess the implications of these developments for North-South relations. In part three we explore the ways in which wealth and power are produced and reproduced in the contemporary global economy. We identify the beneficiaries and losers of the contemporary global economy and the ways in which the distribution of wealth and resources affects social, political, economic and environmental relations. The course ends with a study of challenges and crises faced in the current capitalist global economy and what these mean for global governance, the role of the state, and for democracy and social justice.

Statement on Online Course Structure: This is a non-traditional course in that there is no face-to-face interaction with the instructor. Some have a hard time being motivated and staying organized in on-line courses because much of the work is dependent on the self-discipline of the student. As such, you have the responsibility of learning the course materials yourself by keeping up with the assigned readings, watching films, and completing thoughtful and analytic written assignments and discussion posts. In addition, you will need to have access to high-speed Internet in order to take timed quizzes and tests and also to watch assigned video clips. You must have access to such resources – if not at home, then on campus. If you cannot access these resources, consider taking the course in a traditional classroom setting.

Expected Time Allocation: As per University of Oregon's policy, one undergraduate credit hour is equivalent to approximately 30 real hours of student work, both in class and out of class. Thus, a 4-credit course should engage students for 120 hours over the course of the term. This means, that for an online course, you could expect to spend <4 hours a week watching videos and going over lecture slides (when available) in place of attending a face-to-face class. You then should plan on around 4-5 hours reading and perhaps 2-3 hours completing writing assignments and discussion posts, on average. This averages out to an average of 10 hours/week. **DO NOT FALL BEHIND!**

Required Text:



Balaam, D. N., & Dillman, B. L. (2019). **Introduction to international political economy**. New York: Routledge.

ISBN: 978-1-138-20699-1 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-1-315-46345-2 (ebk)

Book Website: <https://www.routledge.com/Introduction-to-International-Political-Economy-7th-Edition/Balaam-Dillman/p/book/9781138206991>

Course Outcomes and Goals:

- Develop a deeper historical understanding of the how the global economy has evolved
- Learn relevant concepts that can help explain developments in the global economy and identify the role of structures and actors that have shaped the current global economy
- Apply historical and analytical knowledge to specific areas of the global economy and comment on the nature of international trade, economic crises, financial liberalization, neoliberalism, global division of labor, international economic development, gender and globalization, security and the environment.
- Critically assess the arguments of proponents and critics of globalization and draw on relevant readings to support their arguments.

Assessments:

- Discussion Participation (20%): weekly (drop/skip 2)
- Quizzes (30%): due weeks 4 and 7
- Written Assignments (30%): due weeks 5 and 9
- Final Exam (20%): due finals week

Description of Assignments:

- 1. Discussion Participation:** Each week, you will post to the discussion board. Week one is a simple introduction. Starting week 2, you will want to discuss some aspect of contemporary events and connect them to concepts discussed in the textbook or related them to IPE broadly. It will greatly help if you ask a thought-provoking question to get discussion going as you will also need to reply to two classmates posts each week. It is recommended that you subscribe to or regularly read/watch a high-quality, internationally respected news source that will help you keep up to date on current events (see list below for ideas).
Your post will need to be at least 5-6 sentences long, give a brief overview of the topic you are wanting to discuss, relate the content to course topics, cite relevant sources, and ask a thought-provoking question. You should likewise follow-up on your post as classmates respond. Canvas will drop 2 lowest scores.

Examples of reliable news sources: The Economist, Financial Times, New York Times, Reuters, Project Syndicate, The New Yorker, BBC, CBC, The Wallstreet Journal, The Independent, Democracy Now, Aljazeera, and other major newspapers
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- 2. Quizzes:** A combination of true/false and multiple-choice questions based on the readings in the textbook and assigned articles, films, and lectures. These will be open note, open book, but timed (roughly 2 minutes per question) so you should plan to study. Each chapter has a list of keywords. I recommend that students create study guides and/or flash cards to make sure they are familiar with the terms.
 - a. Quiz One covers Chapters 1-5 and is due Wednesday Week 4**
 - b. Quiz Two covers Chapters 6-10 and is due Wednesday Week 7**
- 3. Written Assignments.** There will be two written assignments over the course of the term. They should be 2-3 double-spaced pages and academically organized with an introduction and conclusion, and be centered around an argument or claim.
 - a.** The first one will be a review of a film through the lens of IPE. A list of possible films is available on Canvas. You may get instructor approval for a film of your choice. You may need to purchase access to your chosen film. The paper is **due week 5**.
 - b.** The second will be a short research paper on a topic of your choice analyzed through the lens of IPE. It is **due week 9**, but a proposal is due week 6.
- 4. Final Exam (semi-cumulative)**
 - a. The Final Exam mostly covers Chapters 11-17 and is due finals week.** It will follow the same format as the quizzes, with one exception. It will have about 10% questions from previous exams and will contain **1-2 essay questions** that ask you to bring together ideas from across the entire term.

Course Policies

Late/Make-up Assignment Policy: Discussion posts cannot be made up. Make-up of all other assignments is at instructor discretion and must generally be arranged for by students requiring accommodations *prior* to the due date scheduled. If a late assignment is accepted, it will

frequently result in a point penalty. Generally, you lose 5% per day a written assignment is late and NOTHING IS ACCEPTED AFTER ONE WEEK OR THE GRADES HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED.

Communication: Email is the best method for getting in touch with me (angelam@uoregon.edu). You should be sure to regularly check your email and pay attention to all announcements. In general, I will get back to you within 24 hours. Weekends may take longer, and I will aim to respond within 1-2 hours during the week. I am available to make a phone appointment with you, email to schedule.

Pronouns: I will respect and use your preferred pronouns and first name.

Academic Integrity: Students are expected to demonstrate high levels of academic integrity and professionalism and are prohibited from committing or attempting to commit any act that constitutes academic misconduct. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will be grounds for automatic failure in the course. If you have questions about what counts as academic dishonesty, please review the University Student Conduct Code <https://policies.uoregon.edu/vol-3-administration-student-affairs/ch-1-conduct/student-conduct-code>

Mental Health and Stress Management

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning (e.g., strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation). These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance and may reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. There are ample services available to assist you. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available to UO students here:

<https://counseling.uoregon.edu/concerns>

DO NOT WAIT TO COMMUNICATE WITH ME ISSUES YOU FACE IN SUCCEEDING IN THE COURSE! I am an incredibly understanding professor (or at least attempt to be). If you are having difficulties, contact me and/or the resources above as soon as you start experiencing them. Do not wait until the end of the semester to seek understanding.

Students with Disabilities: The University of Oregon is working to create inclusive learning environments. Please notify me if there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in disability-related barriers to your participation. You are also encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Center in 360 Oregon Hall at 541-346-1155 or uoaec@uoregon.edu

Useful Websites:

- The World Bank (<http://www.worldbank.org/>)
- International Monetary Fund (<http://www.imf.org/external/index.htm>)
- World Economic Forum (<http://www.weforum.org/>)
- The United Nations (<http://www.un.org/>)
- The World Trade Organization (<http://www.wto.org/>)
- North American Free Trade Agreement (<http://www.naftanow.org/>)
- The European Union (http://europa.eu/index_en.htm)
- International Labour Organization (ilo.org)

Course Schedule

Instructions: Navigate to the course Home page on Canvas. Click on the week's Module link (on the homepage). Each week has a Page with a breakdown of the requirements (including readings, films, lectures, and assignments). In addition, each Monday between 9am-noon an announcement will go out via Canvas with the week's requirements.

*FYI: Each week there will be readings from the Balaam textbook and 1-2 articles, films, or other resources. See Canvas for details.

PART I Perspectives on International Political Economy

Weeks 1-3:

- CHAPTER 1 What Is International Political Economy?
- CHAPTER 2 Laissez-Faire: The Economic Liberal Perspective
- CHAPTER 3 Wealth and Power: The Mercantilist Perspective
- CHAPTER 4 Economic Determinism and Exploitation: The Structuralist Perspective
- CHAPTER 5 Constructivism

PART II Structures of International Political Economy

Weeks 4-6:

- CHAPTER 6 The Global Production Structure
- CHAPTER 7 The International Trade Structure
- CHAPTER 8 The International Finance and Monetary Structure
- CHAPTER 9 The Global Security Structure
- CHAPTER 10 The International Knowledge Structure: Controlling Flows of Information and Technology

PART III States and Markets in the Global Economy

Weeks 7-8:

- CHAPTER 11 The Development Challenge
- CHAPTER 12 The Fragmentation of the European Union: The Crossroads Redux
- CHAPTER 13 Moving into Position: The Rising Powers
- CHAPTER 14 The Middle East and North Africa: Things Fall Apart

PART IV Transnational Problems and Dilemmas

Weeks 9-10:

- CHAPTER 15 The Illicit Global Economy: The Dark Side of Globalization
 - CHAPTER 16 Energy and the Environment: Navigating Climate Change and Global Disaster
 - CHAPTER 17 Global Health: Refugees and Caring for the Forgotten
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