POSC 177: Politics of the World Economy

Spring 2007
MWF 1:00
Wehr Physics 141

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OBJECTIVES: This course provides an introduction to the field of international political economy (IPE). In its most common manifestation, the field seeks to explain how politics and economics interact to shape international relations. The objectives of this course are threefold. First, students will learn to identify and distinguish the major theoretical approaches that seek to explain the IPE. Second, students will learn to identify and analyze the basic characteristics and mechanics of substantive issue areas within the IPE. Third, students will learn to apply and assess the merits of theoretical approaches in seeking to understand patterns of international economic relations.

REQUIREMENTS: The course grade will be based on two exams (300 points each) and a research paper (400 points). The direction of borderline grades will be based on class participation. The midterm and final exams will consist of a combination of identification and short essay questions. A week prior to the exam the instructor will hand out a review sheet.

The research paper will use theories discussed in the course to make an argument on some aspect of international political economy. Your paper must identify and resolve a problem/paradox (e.g., why does a certain pattern exist where we would expect a different pattern—given theory, past experience, or the experience of other countries or regions). The paper must be theoretically informed, 12-14 pages long, draw in detail on at least ten sources of information (five of which must be books) to support the argument. You must explicitly cite the sources you use, even if you do not quote materials word for word. Citation forms can be footnotes, endnotes, or in text. On February 23, students must submit a one-page summary of their proposed paper (thesis statement plus rough outline). Rough drafts of the paper are optional and will be accepted for review up until April 2. The final draft of the paper is due on Friday, April 27. Plan ahead and back up your work (with hard or multiple electronic copies as your write). Due to the size of the class, late papers will not be accepted.

Students are responsible for completing and thinking about the assigned reading before coming to class. Class format will be a combination of lecture and discussion. If it becomes clear that the course readings are not being completed, the instructor reserves the right to add to the course requirements through the use of surprise reading quizzes. The successful completion of this course requires attention to both course readings and class lectures and discussions. Absence will be spot checked and academic dishonesty policies will conform to University and College of Arts and Sciences policies as described in the 2006/2007 MU UNDERGRADUATE BULLETIN. All students will be bound by Arts and Sciences rules.

GRADING SCALE: 1000 point total: 950-1000 = A; 900-949 = AB; 850-899 = B; 800-849 = BC; 750-799 = C; 700-749 = CD; 650-699 = D; 0-649 = F

COURSE OUTLINE (Tentative Schedule):

PART I: INTRODUCTION

January 17-22: What is IPE?
   Read: Cohn, Chapter 1 (Introduction)
          Cohn, Chapter 2 (Managing the Global Economy)
          Friman and Andreas, Introduction, *Illicit Global Economy* [on reserve]

January 24-29: Theoretical Approaches
   Read: Cohn, Chapter 3 (Realist Perspective)
          Cohn, Chapter 4 (Liberal Perspective)
          Cohn Chapter 5 (Historical Structuralist Perspective)

January 31, February 2,5: The Emergence and Collapse of a Global Economy
   Read: Schwartz, Rise of the Modern State, *States and Markets* [on reserve]
          Schwartz, States, Markets, and the Origins of International Inequality, *States and Markets* [on reserve]

PART II: MANAGEMENT AND ITS PROBLEMS

February 7-19: Managing Global Finance
   Read: Cohn, Chapter 6 (International Monetary Relations)
          Also available in *International Organization* 36, 2 (Spring, 1982): 379-415
          Helleiner, Illicit Global Finance, in Friman and Andreas, *Illicit Global Economy* [on reserve]
          FATF, About FATF and 40 Recommendations [available at the FATF website: www.fatf-gafi.org ]

February 21-March 7: Managing Global Trade
   Read: Cohn, Chapter 8 (Global Trade Relations)
          Irwin, Trade and Globalization [in Weinstein]
          Cohn, Chapter 9 (Regionalism and the Global Trade Regime)
          Video: The Godfather of Cocaine

March 9: Midterm (in class)
March 12-16: Spring Break
March 19-30: Development, Trade and Globalization
   Read:   Cohn, Chapter 11 (International Development)
           Sachs, Globalization and Patterns of Economic Growth [in Weinstein]
           Dollar, Globalization, Poverty, and Inequality [in Weinstein]
           Stiglitz, The Overselling of Globalization [in Weinstein]
           Video: Life and Debt

April 2-18: Aid, MNCs, Debt and Crisis
   Read:   Easterly, The Rich Have Markets [in Weinstein]
           Cohn, Chapter 10 (MNCs)
           Calomiris, Capital Flows, Financial Crises [in Weinstein]
           Cohn, Chapter 7 (Foreign Debt and Financial Crises)

April 6, 9:   Easter Break

April 20-25: Migration
   Read:   Borjas, Globalization and Immigration [in Weinstein]
           Video: Exodus

April 27-May 4: Developing Countries, Globalization and Criminal Undersides
   Read:   Mittelman, Global Organized Crime, *Globalization Syndrome* [on electronic reserve]
           Andreas, When Policies Collide, in Friman and Andreas, *Illicit Global Economy* [on reserve]

Paper Due: Friday, April 27

May 4: Review

**Final Exam: Wednesday, May 9: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.**