COURSE DESCRIPTION:

From 1945 until the early 1970s, the study of international relations was dominated by security concerns. The numerous manifestations of the Cold War focused attention on war studies, strategy, conflict resolution, and game theory. Combined with the economic dominance of the United States, these concerns pushed economic issues into the category of "low" politics.

The multiple economic shocks of the 1970s, however, altered this division between "high" security issues and "low" economic issues. The collapse of the international monetary system, two successive oil crises, rising protectionism, and rampant inflation increased the relative importance of economic issues. The declining American hegemony and increased activism by developing countries also began to alter the political and economic characteristics of international relations. The economic and political shocks of recent decades, such as increased international trade conflicts, the formation of the World Trade Organization, international currency and debt crises, regional integration patterns, the end of the Cold War, and dynamics of globalization have reinforced these trends.

These changes at the level of policy have been reflected in the study of international relations and the intersection of international relations with the field of comparative politics. The seminar provides an overview of the resulting field of international political economy. To do so, the seminar combines the analysis of specific policy areas with an assessment of contending international and domestic approaches. Regarding the latter, the idea that politics and economics overlap is not new. The way in which these factors overlap, however, remains a subject of considerable debate in the field.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Critical reviews (30%). Students will be assigned to prepare a 5-6 page critical reviews of each week's required reading. The number of students enrolled in the course will determine the rotation of weekly paper assignments. Papers must be submitted by email to the instructor (as an attached file in Word or RTF format) by the Sunday before class. Reviews should be written in paragraph form and for each article: briefly state each author's main argument, and briefly note two major strengths and two major weaknesses of each reading (2-3 sentences for each strength and weakness). The criteria for strengths and weaknesses will be discussed in the initial class meetings and refined during the course of the semester.

2. Papers (60%). Each student will write two 10-12 page papers, one due at mid-semester and one at the end of the semester. Topics will be handed out two weeks in advance. The papers will require no outside research and will require students to draw linkages across the different weeks of the course.

3. Class Participation (10%). In addition to contributions to class discussions, students will also be assigned to present the arguments of selected authors each week.

REQUIRED BOOKS:
There is one required book for the course, Theodore H. Cohn, *Global Political Economy: Theory and Practice* (New York: Longman, 2003). The book offers an overview of issues and concepts and will be especially useful for those students with no prior work in IPE. The remaining required readings will be available through the library. Books are at the reserve desk and articles are available on electronic reserve. Some articles can be obtained directly through a MARQCAT search by journal as will be discussed in class.

**COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS:**

I. **INTRODUCTION:** (August 29): Details and General Introduction to Course

September 5: Labor Day, no class

II. **The Discipline (September 12)** NO REVIEW PAPER

*Background reading:* Cohn, Chapters 1, 3, 4


III. **Explaining Openness Versus Closure (September 19)**

*Background reading for weeks III-V:* Cohn, Chapter 8 (Trade) and Chapter 6 (Money)


IV. Explaining Foreign Economic Policies: Trade and Money I (September 26)


V. Explaining Foreign Economic Policies: Trade and Money II (October 3)


VI. Regional Integration (October 10)
Read for background Week VI: Cohn Chapter 9 (Regionalism and the Global Trade Regime)


VII. Migration and Control (October 17)


MIDTERM PAPER DUE: Friday, October 21 (by 4:30 p.m.).
VIII. Modernization versus Dependency (October 24)
Read for Background for Weeks VIII-IX: Cohn, Chapter 5 (Historical Structuralist Perspective), Chapter 11 (International Development).


IX. Paths Out—Part I (October 31)


X. Paths Out--Part II (November 7)
Read for Background for Week X: Cohn, Chapter 7 (Foreign Debt)


**XI. Paths Out--Part III (November 14)**

**Read for Background:** review Cohn, Chapter 7


**XII. Globalization (November 21)**


**XIII. Globalization Part II (November 28)**


XIV. The Illicit Global Economy (December 5)


FINAL PAPER DUE: 4:30 P.M. Monday, December 12.