

Simon Fraser University
Political Science Departments
Theories of Global Political Economy/International Political Economy
(POL 447/844) updated: Feb. 11, 2020

Summer 2020
Tu, Thurs, 8:30-12:20
BLU 10655
Office: AQ6048

Prof. Hira
tel. 778 782-3286
e-mail: ahira@sfu.ca
website: www.sfu.ca/~ahira

Description

Objectives

This intensive course is designed to introduce advanced undergraduate and graduate students to classic theoretical perspectives in global political economy, including their underlying logic and assumptions; the history of their development; their strengths and weaknesses; and some practice in applying them to ongoing issues, including trade, finance, and development. Through the course, students have the opportunity to examine the politics behind economic structures and decision-making, and thereby to understand factors that constrain and guide policy decisions and opportunities for members of society, from the levels of taxation to future employment opportunities. The policy analysis tools that students develop are analytical, written, and oral, and will serve them in a wide variety of future professional and academic situations.

Required Books

The material is available on Canvas, on reserve and/or through the journal database at the SFU Library.

We will not use a textbook, however, I will place 2 on reserve at the library for your reference:

- i) Theodore H. Cohn, *Global Political Economy*, 7th ed. NY: Routledge.; HF 1359 C654 2016; you can access it on-line via the SFU library.
- ii) Greg Anderson and Christopher J. Kukucha. 2016. *International Political Economy*. Toronto: U. of Oxford Press HF 1359 158624 2015 *only avail in physical copy, if SFU lib. reopens.

If you are new to GPE, I would highly recommend you purchase the Cohn book so that you will have the background material for this course at your fingertips. You can find many used copies on Amazon.

You can find basic definitions of terms through the Encyclopedia Britannica (avail. through the SFU library) and through *The Economist's* on-line glossary:
<https://www.economist.com/economics-a-to-z/a>

You can find a full collection of classic political economy works (for free) at:

<http://www.econlib.org/library/classicsauA.html>

Please bring these to class where we read through and interpret them.

Assignments

The keys to success in any course for both the professor and student are thorough preparation and active participation. *Students must not only attend every session, but also be prepared to participate in each meeting.* There are few assignments, reflecting the commitment required to understand the readings. In order to accomplish this, students should prepare an outline of the readings for each meeting and work ahead of time on all assignments. Each week, we will hold a quiz, review instructions for the class, read key passages, go through a lecture for the following week, and have a student-led discussion of the reflection papers for that week.

The assignments are the following:

- 1- Thorough preparation and active participation in every class. Students should make notes from the readings and come prepared to discuss them in class. The powerpoint slides and a study guide, avail. from Canvas, will provide a road map to the topics of the lecture and discussion for each class.
- 2- Quizzes, based upon the readings and previous lecture, with terms and themes taken from the study guide, will be done in class during the first 10 minutes of class.
- 3- One reflection paper on material read for a given week, to be given during the discussion period. Reflection papers will offer the author's perspectives on the readings for the week and seek to apply them to a current event or issue. In other words, you will find a piece of evidence and test out the theories against it. I will create a sign up sheet in the beginning of class. Detailed instructions and examples will be given. You will present them in roundtable format to the class. Undergraduates can write a 2nd paper if they wish to improve their grades (the total grade will be split). Graduate students will prepare 2 papers.
- 4- A mid-term and final exam. Graduate students will have additional questions to answer on the exams.

Grading

The assignments will be graded proportionally as follows:

- participation, 15%,
- weekly quizzes based upon the readings, 15%
- reflection paper, 7-10 pages, 20% (Grad students, 10%/essay); undergrads can split the grade between 2 essays if they wish
- mid-term exam, 25%
- final exam, 25%

Graduate students will be expected to cover more material in their reflection papers, and have more complex exam questions. In particular, I would like to see them explore the theoretical aspects of their subject matter.

Assignments are due promptly at the beginning of class. There will be an increasing penalty for any work that is late. Pls. see the Canvas course site for lecture slides, readings, and a list of terms/themes. You can find additional information on grading philosophy, lecture slides and other material that will help you with skills through my personal website, listed above.

Office Hours I am generally available 9-3 M-F for you to drop in or e-mail, except for teaching and meeting times. Do send me an e-mail to confirm a time to meet.

Schedule

The schedule is planned by weeks. Readings should be done prior to each class.

I. Introduction to Course (T Jun 30)

- About the Professor, the students, and the course
- Reflection paper instructions, examples
- Selected passages from Polanyi

Lecture: Economics Primer; What is PE; Overview of the History of the GPE

- prospective timing for reflection paper presentations

Video: Watch “Commanding Heights” <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/commandingheights/>

It will give you a good background into the history of GPE

Recommended Readings: Cohn, c.1; Anderson, c. 1.

Part I- History and Theory of GPE

II. History of the Global Political Economy (R Jul 2)

- confirming timing for reflection paper presentations
- Quiz on Commanding Heights and Polanyi
- Discussion: the development of postwar domestic and global institutions around economic policies
- Selected passages from List, Snidal

Lecture: Mercantilist and Realist Perspectives

Readings: Polanyi, Karl. *The Great Transformation* (orig. 1944); e-book available through library, c.s 6, 12, & 13: “The Self-Regulating Market,” “Birth of the Liberal Creed,” and “Birth of the Liberal Creed (cont’d)”

Recommended Readings: Cohn, c.2; Anderson, c. 5.

Presenters:

III. Mercantilist and Realist Perspectives (T Jul 7)

- Quiz on List and Snidal
- Discussion: Mercantilist and Realist perspectives- links b/t defence and economics; hegemony incl. reflection papers
- selected passages from Keynes and Ruggie
- Lecture: Liberal Perspectives

Readings: Friedrich List, “The English,” in *The National System of Political Economy*; Duncan Snidal, 1985. The Limits of Hegemonic Stability Theory. *International Organization*. 39,4: 579-614.

Recommended Readings: Cohn, c.3; Anderson, c. 2.

Presenters:

IV. Liberal Perspectives (R Jul 9)

- Quiz on Keynes and Ruggie

Mid-term format

- Discussion: Bretton Woods agreements; rise, fall and return of Keynesian economics

-selected passages from Marx and Gramsci

-Lecture: Critical Perspectives

Readings: Keynes, John Maynard. *The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money*. c.s 2, 3 & 24; John G. Ruggie, 1982, International Regimes, Transactions, and Change: Embedded Liberalism in the Postwar Economic Order, *International Organization*, 36(2): 379-415.

Recommended Readings: Cohn, c.4; Anderson c.5

Presenters:

V. Critical Perspectives & Review of Theories (T Jul 14)

Qs for mid-term

-Quiz on Marx

-Discussion: Marxist and Gramscian Views

-Lecture on International Finance

-Practice Q.s for Mid-term

Readings: Marx, Karl, *Capital*, Chapter 1; Antonio Gramsci, "Hegemony, Relations of Force, Historical Bloc," and "Americanism and Fordism" from the Prison Notebooks

Recommended Readings: Cohn, c.5

Presenters:

VI. Mid-term (R Jul 16)

Part II: Issue Areas

VII. International Finance (T Jul 21)

-Discussion of Mid-term

-Quiz on Hira and Hira and Gaillard

-Discussion of International Finance, global monetary shocks and currency management

-selected passages from Smith and Ricardo

-Lecture on Global Trade

Readings: Hira, Global Financial Crisis paper; Hira and Gaillard, Fundamental Weaknesses of Latin American Finance

Recommended Readings: Cohn, c.6&11; Anderson, c.7.

Presenters:

VIII. Global Trade (R Jul 23)

-Quiz on Smith and Ricardo

-Discussion of Smithian and Ricardian arguments for free trade; the GATT/WTO and regional trade agreements

-Lecture on Global Production

Readings: Smith, Adam. *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*. Book I, chapters 1, 2 & 5, Ricardo, David, *On the Principles of Political Economy and Taxation* c.1

Recommended Readings: Cohn, c.s 7,8; Anderson, c.6, 10 & 11.

Presenters:

IX. Industrial Policy and MNCs (T, Jul 28)

-Quiz on Hira and Gereffi and Lee

-Discussion of the globalization of production; FDI and portfolio capital

-selected passages from Cardoso and Faletto

-Lecture on Dependency Theory

Readings: Hira in Anderson and Kukucha, "Industrial Policy;" Gary Gereffi and Joonkoo Lee, Economic and Social Upgrading in Global Value Chains and Industrial Clusters: Why Governance Matters, *J. Business Ethics*, 133(2016): 25-38.

Recommended Readings: Cohn, c.9; Anderson, c.8.

Presenters:

X. Dependency Theory (R, Jul 30)

-Quiz on Cardoso and Faletto and Evans

-Discussion of Dependency theory and embedded autonomy

-Lecture on L, Env, and CSR

Readings: Cardoso F.H. and F. Faletto (1979), *Dependency and Development in Latin America* (Berkeley: University of California Press), preface, c.s 1, 6, and post-scriptum; Peter Evans, *Embedded Autonomy: States and Industrial Transformation*, Princeton: Princeton U. Press, 1995, c.s 1 ("States and Industrial Transformation"), 3 ("States") and 10 ("Rethinking Embedded Autonomy")

Recommended Readings: Cohn, c.11; Anderson, c. 9.

Presenters:

XI. Labour, Environment, and Corporate Social Responsibility (T, Aug 4)

-Quiz on Hira and Porter

-Discussion of L, Env, and CSR

-Lecture: Multiple Level Analyses of Political Economy

Readings: -Hira, *The Hollow Core*, forthcoming

-Michael E. Porter and Claas van der Linde, Toward a New Conception of the Environment-Competitiveness Relationship, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 9(4): 97-118.

Presenters:

XI. Domestic-International Linkages and Review for Final Exam (R, Aug 6)

-Quiz on Putnam

-Discussion of multiple level analyses applied to international organisations and negotiations

Readings: Putnam, Robert "Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games," *International Organization* 42:3 (Summer 1988); Peter Gourevitch, "International Influences on Domestic Politics: The Second Image Reversed," *International Organization*, 32 (Autumn 1978): 90-107.

Recommended Readings: Cohn, c.12

Presenters:

Final Exam Aug. 19, 2020, 12:00-15:00 Location TBD

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER:

Plagiarism involves using another author's words without attribution or otherwise presenting another person's work as one's own. It is a fraudulent and serious academic offence that will result in a severe academic penalty. Also, close paraphrasing of another author's work & self-plagiarism, including submitting the same, or substantively the same, work for academic evaluation more than once, are unacceptable practices that will result in a severe academic penalty.

The university policies on academic honesty are available at:

<http://www.sfu.ca/policies/gazette/student.html>

The Department of Political Science's interpretation of this policy can be found at:

<http://www.sfu.ca/content/dam/sfu/politics/undergraduate%20docs/PLAGIARISM%20Policy%20-%20%20Pol%20Dept.%20Jan.pdf>, and is available in hard copy format outside our General Office. All students are responsible for familiarising themselves with these policies.

A helpful SFU Library tutorial on plagiarism is at

<http://www.lib.sfu.ca/researchhelp/tutorials/interactive/plagiarism/tutorial/introduction.htm>

The DOs and DON'Ts of AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

Do not:

- submit an entire paper or part(s) of a paper or papers that has been written or researched by any other person(s);
- submit a paper as an assignment that has been bought from another person or from a 'paper mill' or essay service;
- submit a paper or other written assignment that has been submitted at another time or for a different course by yourself or any other student or former student;
- submit material that has been downloaded from a website, without acknowledging (using appropriate citation style) that you have done so;
- take someone else's idea(s) and represent it/them as your own;
- copy any text verbatim, or with only slight variation from the original text, without using quotation marks and documenting the source with proper citation style;
- do not closely paraphrase another's material; either paraphrase completely in your own words, or cite as a direct quotation using quotation marks (in either case, give full credit and details regarding authorship and location of the original material);

Do:

- learn how to cite material properly (there are many good guides on this, including the departmental one);
- use a recognized citation style (eg. APA, MLA, Chicago), according to instructions given by the course instructor, and be consistent in the use of the style throughout any single piece of written work;
- carefully read and make sure you understand the university's policy on academic honesty;
- ask the instructor of this course or other faculty members if you have any questions about plagiarism.