



Political Science 2J03 Global Political Economy

Winter 2018
Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:30 – 3:30
ITB AB102

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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:10 – 2:10 or by appointment.
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Introduction:

This course focuses upon the relationship between economics and politics on a global scale. It considers the evolution of the global political economy through several historical eras (1400-1800s, 19th and 20th centuries) and key frameworks (trade, production, finance, development, environment, gender, labour, ideas, security and governance). Students will also develop an appreciation of the key theoretical approaches to understanding the global political economy. The primary objectives are to inspire an informed interest in world affairs and to equip students to succeed in upper-year and graduate international political economy / international relations courses. The written assignment is designed to develop student research skills.

As a second year course, this is a survey of a large topic. The subject of each week's lectures could easily be expanded into their own courses. For example, I sometimes teach a fourth year seminar on one aspect of the theories we examine (rationality and nonrationality in GPE) and a third year and a graduate course on an element of week 12 (political economy of climate change). In addition to getting an overview of global political economy, please pick a particular area that you are interested in and be prepared to learn more about that through your essay and outside reading. The exam will be structured so that you can demonstrate what you have learned rather than quiz you about every area of the course.

Required Text (available from the Campus Store):

Robert O'Brien and Marc Williams *Global Political Economy: Evolution and Dynamics* 5th Edition (New York: Palgrave 2016).

There are earlier editions of this text, but they will be missing recent developments. This is especially true of the global finance section which brings students up to date on the global credit crisis and the European sovereign debt problem. The book has a companion website which has information such as a glossary and multiple choice quizzes on each chapter. You can find it at:

<https://he.palgrave.com/companion/Obrien-Global-Political-Economy/>

Evaluation:

Tutorial Participation:	15 %
Mid term quiz	10 %
Research Essay Proposal	5 %
Research Essay:	35 %
Final Exam	35 %
Total:	100%

Tutorials:

Tutorials will begin the third week of class – the week of 22 January.

Marking Details:

Tutorial Participation: 15 marks

Students are expected to participate consistently and effectively in the work of their respective tutorial groups. Tutorials are an opportunity to engage with the ideas and concepts presented in the course through open discussion. Marks will be based upon attendance (9) and participation (6).

Quiz: 10 marks

20 question multiple choice quiz based on material in Chapters 1 – 6.

Research Essay Proposal: 5 marks

Research proposal and annotated bibliography due **in tutorial** during the week of 5 February and will be returned the week beginning the 12 February. Guidelines for proposal are attached. **NOTE: Final essays will not be accepted unless a previous research proposal has been handed in. Final essay must be based upon research proposal. There are NO exceptions to this requirement.**

Research Essay: 35 marks

Essay to be handed in **tutorial** the week of 19th of March. Please note that papers **must** be submitted in hard copy and **cannot** be accepted electronically or by fax. **Students should also submit an electronic copy on Turnitin via Avenue to Learn on the same day.** Your essay will not be marked unless the TA has a hard copy and a Turnitin copy. (if you object to using Turnitin speak to me) Guidelines for the essay are attached. Your TA will return the paper at the last tutorial.

Final Exam: 35 marks

A two and a half hour exam will be scheduled in the April exam period. The exam will be designed to determine what you have learned over the course.

Relationship between textbook, website, lectures and tutorials:

This course is designed as a package which contains a course textbook, course website, lectures and tutorials. The four elements complement each other. If you take each element seriously you will do much better in the course. Prior to each week's lecture you should do the *reading* assigned for that week. Each week's *lecture is structured as an argument* about the material you have read in preparation for the class. The lectures are designed to get you to think about what you have read. If you do not come to the lecture to listen to the argument, it will be harder to critically engage with the course subject matter. *Tutorials* will usually deal with each subject in the week following the lecture. This gives you time to absorb the readings and lectures and should allow you to participate more fully in tutorials. The website provides additional tools such as a self-test quiz questions to give you as sense of how much you are understanding, links to international organizations and NGOs, useful apps, links to videos with useful or funny information on IPE, and mock exam questions. The final exam will be based upon readings and lectures.

Since this is a survey course, material is covered very quickly. ***If you do not do the weekly reading you will have problems following the lectures and will be overwhelmed by the material, making it difficult to write a successful exam.***

How difficult is this course?

The answer depends upon how hard you are willing to work. If you read the textbook, come to the lectures and tutorials, turn your work in on time and study for the exam, the course will not be difficult. You should do well, learn something and hopefully enjoy yourself. If you do not do the reading, skip lectures and tutorials, the likelihood of success is greatly reduced. Students do not need a background in economics for this course.

Late Proposal / essay

Late papers will be accepted subject to a late penalty of 1 mark per day to a maximum of 5 days, after which they will not be accepted and a mark of 0 will be recorded. (One mark per day means that an assignment worth 7/10 handed in on time would get a mark of 6/10 if handed in one day late). Weekends count as 2 days. In the interest of fairness to all students, there will be **no exceptions** to this unless you have arranged in advance for an extension or can provide a medical certificate. Papers submitted after deadlines (including excused late papers) will be marked, but comments will not be provided. **Late penalties are real and damaging, so plan ahead to have your work in on time!**

Problems or issues:

Your first point of contact for most issues will be your teaching assistant. I am happy to talk to you in my office during office hours. Alternatively, you can book an appointment to see me at a more convenient time. You may also be able to catch me for a brief chat after the lecture. I do not check or respond to student e-mails in the evening or on weekends.

Please see Appendix 1 for policies on academic dishonesty, accommodation, e-mail communication, use of MSAF, Turnitin and course changes.

Lectures and Reading Assignments

<i>Date</i>	<i>Lecture #</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Reading</i>
Jan. 4	Lecture 1:	Course introduction	Get the Book!
Jan. 9	Lecture 2:	The field	
Jan. 11	Lecture 3	Approaches to IPE 1	Chapters 1, 2
Jan. 16	Lecture 4	Approaches to IPE 2	
Jan. 18	Lecture 5	European Expansion	Chapter 3, 4, 5
Jan. 23	Lecture 6	Industrial Revolution / Imperialism / Post 1945	
Jan. 25	Lecture 7	International Trade: the Basics	Chapter 6
		<i>Tutorials begin this week</i>	
Jan. 30	Lecture 8	International Trade: Key Issues	
Feb. 1	Lecture 9	Transnational Production: Basics	Chapter 7
		Quiz	Chapters 1-6
Feb. 6	Lecture 10	Transnational Production: Key Issues	
Feb. 8	Lecture 11	Global Financial System: Basics	Chapter 8
		<i>Proposal due this week</i>	
Feb. 13	Lecture 12	More finance basics!	
Feb. 15	Lecture 13	Global Financial System: Key Issues	
		<i>Proposals returned this week</i>	
Feb. 20/22		Reading Week	
Feb. 27	Lecture 14	Credit Crisis, Sovereign Debt, Austerity	
March 1	Lecture 15	Division of Labour	Chapter 9
March 6	Lecture 16	Gender	Chapter 10
March 8	Lecture 17	Economic Development: Basics	Chapter 11
March 13	Lecture 18	Development: Key Issues	
March 15	Lecture 19	The Environment: Basics	Chapter 12
March 20	Lecture 20	The Environment: Key Issues	
March 22	Lecture 21	Ideas	Chapter 13
		<i>Essays due this week</i>	
March 27	Lecture 22	Security	Chapter 14
March 29	Lecture 23	Global Governance	Chapter 15
April 3	Lecture 24	Exam preview	
April 5		No class	
		<i>Essays returned this week</i>	

TA Seminar Questions

Week of Jan. 22: Approaches

Question: *What are the strengths and weaknesses of the primary approaches to global political economy?*

Week of Jan. 29: World Economy

Question: *What accounts for the different patterns of interaction between Europeans and non-Europeans from 1400-1900?*

Week of Feb. 5: Trade

Question: *What are the most significant developments in international trade in the post - 1945 era? Why have they occurred?*

Week of Feb. 12: Production

Question: *How has international production changed in the last 50 years and what are some of the implications of these changes?*

Feb. 20 Reading Week

Week of Feb. 26 Finance

Question: *What basic concepts and processes are unclear and need to be discussed?*

Week of March 5 Finance continued

Question: *What impact does the global financial structure have on states, corporations and citizens?*

Week of March 12 Labour and Gender

Question: *What is the relevance of the division of labour concept for global political economy?*

Question: *What is the relevance of a gendered analysis of global political economy?*

Week of March 19 Development

Question: *What are the most promising options for countries that wish to develop?*

Week of March 26 The Environment

Question: *What attention should be given to environmental factors in the study of global political economy?*

Week of April 2 Ideas / Security / Governance / Exam Prep

Question: *Do you have any questions about the last three chapters?*

Question: *What questions do you have about the course that might help with exam preparation?*

2J03 Research Paper Proposal and Annotated Bibliography

Your research proposal is due early in the course (week 5). As soon as you get the textbook, flip through the table of contents and chapters to see if there is a topic that interests you. You may wish to pursue one of the subjects mentioned in the boxes. Take a look at the online bibliography for suggestions about articles and books in the field. One of the links to the international organizations or NGOs or one of the videos may stimulate your thinking.

A good proposal communicates to the reader in as much detail as possible the problem that you are interested in and the line of investigation that you intend to pursue. The clearer you make this to the reader, the more help the TA can give to you, and the better your final paper will be. There are several areas your proposal needs to cover.

1. As background, briefly describe the *general area of investigation*, the topic you intend to pursue. It often helps the reader understand your personal interest in this topic so you may want to describe this briefly.
2. Pose your *central research question*. This should be a single sentence focusing on a single issue, contradiction, puzzle or dilemma. Usually your question should be a “why” or a “how” question as opposed to a “what” question.
3. Explain how the proposed topic is related to the subject matter of the course.
Indicate how and where it links into the textbook. This is essential!
Failure to do this will result in a grade of 0/10!!!
4. Describe your proposed line of inquiry. What do you need to find out in order to be able to answer the question? List any secondary questions that you need to answer to move toward answering your main question. Describe your plan for finding evidence.
5. Provide an **annotated bibliography** which includes the main or most important sources relevant to your topic. This is like a regular bibliography, but it also includes short **summaries** of the article/book (2 sentences) and why it would be useful for your project. An easy way to find articles and abstracts is to use one of the library’s online database such as ProQuest Political Science:
<https://library.mcmaster.ca/articles/proquest-political-science>

You can find the books or articles themselves, and read the introductions and conclusions in order to get a general idea of what the article / book is about. You need 5 *academic* journal articles and 5 books.

DUE:	In tutorial week of February 5 (Late penalty in effect)
LENGTH:	600 words or no more than two double spaced pages of text (12pt font) + annotated bibliography
WEIGHTING:	5% of final grade

2J03 Research Paper

The purpose of the research paper is to communicate to others what you have learned. **The topic of your paper must follow the research/paper proposal that you have handed in earlier, as modified by the comments you received and any discussions you have had with your TA subsequently.** It must reflect one of the themes from the course.

Your paper should include:

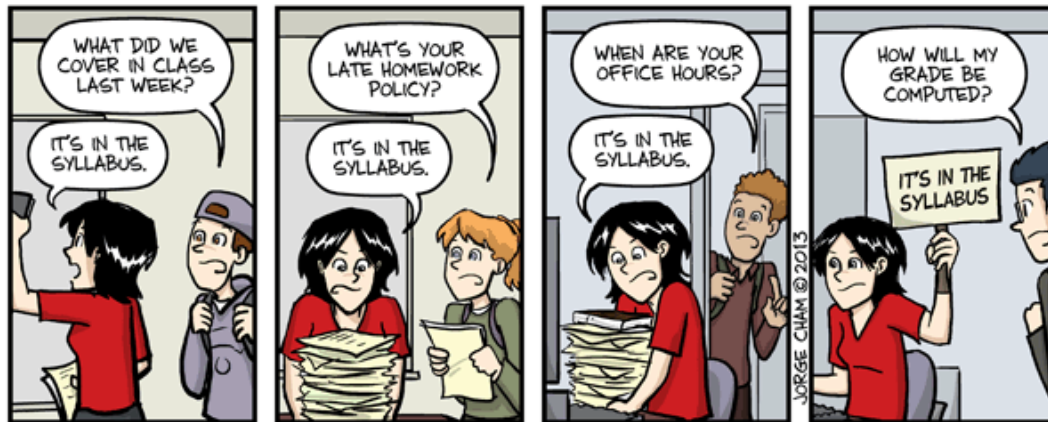
- An introduction which contains: description of the intellectual problem you are investigating; a thesis statement in the introduction which sets out your argument; a brief description of the plan or parts of the paper.
- The body of the paper which develops your argument. It offers an interpretation of the evidence you have uncovered. It weighs evidence in favour and against your particular argument.
- A conclusion which discusses of the implications of your argument and suggests new research questions that arise from your paper
- Bibliography (not annotated!)

Papers must be properly referenced following a major style such as APA, MLA or Chicago Manual of Style. For more information see the 'Citation and Style Guides' tab at:

<https://library.mcmaster.ca/guides/political-science>

DUE:	In tutorial week of 19 th March
LENGTH:	No more than 3,500 words excluding bibliography and title page
WEIGHTING:	35% of final grade

Appendix 1: Academic Dishonesty, Students with Disabilities Accommodation, E-mail Communication, MSAF, Turnitin, Course changes statement.



IT'S IN THE SYLLABUS

This message brought to you by every instructor that ever lived.

WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

Source: Jorge Cham <http://phdcomics.com/comics.php?f=1583>

Academic Dishonesty

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Students with Disabilities:

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University’s Policy for [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#). **I strongly recommend that that you inform me of any issues at the beginning of the term (within the initial two weeks).**

Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Policy

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

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MSAF

- Can be used if you are unable to do work for 3 days due to medical or personal situation and the work you are missing is within that timeframe and is worth less than 25% of the final grade. (In this class that applies to your proposal or quiz).
- No further documentation is required.
- You **must** contact your TA about rescheduling your submission.
- **For medical or personal situations lasting more than three calendar days, and/or for missed academic work worth 25% or more of the final grade, and/or for any request for relief in a term where the MSAF has been used previously in that term:** Students must report to their Faculty Office to discuss their situation and will be required to provide appropriate **supporting documentation**. If warranted, the Faculty Office will approve the absence, and the instructor will determine appropriate relief.

TURNITIN

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal plagiarism. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically to Turnitin.com and in hard copy so that it can be checked for academic dishonesty. Students who do not wish to submit their work to Turnitin.com must still submit a copy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, etc.). To see the Turnitin.com Policy, please go to www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

Course changes

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Revised Nov. 10th 2017