

Spring 2020 GOV 360N: International Political Economy (38080)
Scheduled Time: Tuesday/Thursday 12:30-2:00

Professor:

Dr. Rachel Wellhausen

(Canvas message; or email: rwellhausen@utexas.edu; or Skype: rwellhausen)

TAs:

David Futscher (futscherdavid@gmail.com but Canvas message preferred)

Xin Nong (nongxin.pku@gmail.com but Canvas message preferred)

MOVING ONLINE: POST-SPRING BREAK SYLLABUS REVISIONS:

- **Dedicated class office hours on Zoom:**

Prof Wellhausen: Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30 – 1:30 PM

David Futscher: Friday, 11:00 AM – 12:00 noon

Xin Nong: Wednesday, 9:00 – 10:00 AM

Class office hour details: these are dedicated “group” office hours for this course. You will sign in to participate via Zoom on Canvas. Participants will be expected to interact with audio and video (barring technological limitations). *This course is fully asynchronous, which means that there is no obligation to participate in these office hours.* The default will be to record these discussions and to post as supplementary materials to the whole course.

- **One-on-one Zoom office hours with Prof Wellhausen by appointment:**

- Appointments available: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:15 AM – 12:15 PM

- If you would like to sign up: Send a Canvas message or email (rwellhausen@utexas.edu) to schedule a slot.

- If you require an alternative date/time, get in touch offering 3 possibilities; Prof Wellhausen will choose and confirm with you.

Summary of changes to course content and logistics:

- Class instruction is asynchronous (i.e., not conducted in real time).
 - Materials for each class session will be available on Canvas by the beginning of the relevant class period.
- Assignments, assessments, and their relevant weights have been revised.

- Due dates continue to be structured around our assigned meeting time (i.e., quizzes continue to be due at the beginning of the relevant class period).
- Grading scales and standards are unchanged.
- Assessment for the course is based on the expectation that all students will have engaged with all the class content.

Logistics – Class Content:

- The content to view/read/learn for each class session will be available on Canvas in time for you to complete quizzes and stay on track, per our scheduled class meeting time.
 - UT Austin recommends that we provide “asynchronous” content for our classes, so you can choose when to access class content.
- For each class session, you will find some or all of the following materials on Canvas:
 - Readings and materials for the class session. As has been true throughout the class, these are the basis for the quizzes.
 - A short video and/or text introduction from Professor Wellhausen with an overview to guide you through the day’s materials.
 - A pre-recorded lecture.
- When applicable, Professor Wellhausen will also post additional recordings and/or text, including but not limited to:
 - Announcing assignments and deadlines
 - Explaining expectations for assignments
 - Giving general feedback to the whole course on assignments
 - Changes to the logistical arrangements

Logistics – Revised Assessment and Grading:

- Quizzes (30%)
 - Opportunity to earn extra credit in this category: see Canvas
- Exam 1: Trade (20%)
- Exam 2: Finance (20%)
- Final Exam (30%)

Revised Grading Policy: Given the circumstances, students are welcome to ask for flexibility with regard to the timelines and procedures for the online portion of the course. The professor reserves the right to not grant a student’s request. That said, the professor will endeavor to do whatever possible to work with the student to ensure the conditions are in place for success. When in doubt, ask.

Grade scale (unchanged): (final grades rounded to the nearest whole number)

94 and above	A
90-93	A-

87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-
77-79	C+
74-76	C
70-73	C-
67-69	D+
64-66	D
60-63	D-
59 and below	F

Tips for success in the course now that we have moved online:

** Note that “me” in the following text refers to all of us, professor and TAs. **

- ***Reach out to me:*** I (like all of your professors) want to be extremely supportive and flexible. For me to do that, *you have to take responsibility to reach out to me if and when I can be helpful.* Please do not hesitate for a moment to join office hours on Zoom, to use a Canvas message to me, to email me (rwellhausen@utexas.edu), or to call via Skype (rwellhausen).
- ***Keep up with the course:*** That said, *you will not be successful in this course if you do not keep up with the work.* The course materials, assignments, and deadlines require you to put in consistent effort, just as you would if we were meeting in person.
 - Please know that it is not fair to anyone – nor is it good for your learning or your career – if I were to be so flexible as to have no standards at all (nor would UT Austin allow me to conduct class in this way even if I wanted to).
 - Never in life does everyone earn an “A.” You should not expect to receive an excellent grade in the course without putting in the work and demonstrating your learning.
- ***Reach out to me if you have trouble keeping up with the course:*** If circumstances are such that you are finding it difficult to keep up with the course, *tell me.* We will work together to figure out how to give you all the resources and flexibility you need to be successful. *Everyone has the right to be successful in this course – COVID-19 can’t take that away from you!*
 - When possible, ***tell me in advance*** if/when you will have difficulty keeping up with the course. Contrary to the saying, *it is best for all of us if you ask for “permission” and not “forgiveness.”*
 - That said, I understand, especially at this moment, that sometimes it might not be possible for you to reach out to me in advance. Please be in touch as soon as is possible to let me know how we can set you up for success again.
 - I can’t help you if you ghost me, and I especially can’t help if you ghost me until the end of the course.

- **Flexibility does not entail bargaining over your grade at the end of the course.**
 - o My job is to give you all the resources and flexibility you need to have the conditions in place that allow you to be successful. Doing my job means providing flexibility and support throughout the semester.
 - If and when the best course of action is to give extra credit or the like, then those resources will be made available to all students.
 - If UT Austin changes grading policies, those changes will be adopted and available to all students.
 - o It is not my job to give you the grade you would like at the end of the course, crisis or not.
 - Grades are *in no way* a private good. There will be no mathematically unsound grade rounding or any other kind of special treatment when it comes to any single person's final grade.
 - o The upshot: *reach out to me* if and when you need flexibility and resources to be successful in the course, at any time. We will find a solution. Do not expect an unfair solution.

- **Tell me if/when these changes to the course are falling short:** Please tell me if/when these new plans aren't working, aren't clear, etc. In general, consider all of these plans a "first draft" – which, as you know, always requires editing and revision. I am relying on input from you to improve; under no circumstances do I want you to "suffer in silence."

- **Use UT Austin's resources – now more than ever:** UT Austin has produced a massive amount of resources, new technologies, online support, emergency financial aid, etc. to help us all as we finish this semester. Please use these, and please share them with your classmates and me when you think others might benefit as well. I'll do the same.
 - o **Reach out to me** if you're in need of something (related to the class or not) to create conditions necessary for you to be successful. I can help connect you to the correct resources.
 - o lot of folks have worked and continue to work a lot of hours with the intention of benefitting you. Take advantage! Don't let all of our work go to waste!

Schedule, Assignments, and Readings:

Frieden, Jeffry, David Lake, and J. Lawrence Broz. **2017.** *International Political Economy: Perspectives on Global Power and Wealth.* 6th edition. New York: W.W. Norton.

- **The 6th edition of this textbook, published in 2017, is required. Previous editions are unacceptable.**
- Referred to in syllabus as "FLB"

Oatley, Thomas. **2019.** *International Political Economy: Interests and Institutions in the Global Economy.* 6th edition. New York: Routledge.

- **The 6th edition of this textbook is required – published in 2019 by Routledge (dark blue cover, picture of a port). Previous editions are unacceptable.**

- Referred to in syllabus as “O”

IN-PERSON COURSE CONTENT (PRE-SPRING BREAK):

Approaching IPE

- Tues 21 Jan (No reading)
 Thurs 23 Jan Frameworks | FLB: Introduction; O: Ch. 1; see Canvas

International Trade

- Tues 28 Jan Who benefits from free trade? | O: Ch 4, 5; FLB: Ch 1
 Thurs 30 Jan What makes protectionism popular? | FLB: Ch 18, 30
 Tues 4 Feb How does trade policy come about? | FLB: Ch 19, 21; see Canvas
*** All quizzes due by 4 Feb must be completed; late quizzes no longer accepted. ***
 Thurs 6 Feb (When) do countries cooperate on trade? | O: Ch 2, 3; FLB: Ch 22
 Tues 11 Feb Trade strategies in developing countries | O: Ch 6, 7
 Thurs 13 Feb **EXAM 1: Trade**

International Finance

- Tues 18 Feb History of monetary cooperation | O: Ch 10, 11
 Thurs 20 Feb Sovereign Wealth Funds | O: p 189-191; See Canvas
 Tue 25 Feb Sovereign debt | See Canvas
 Thurs 27 Feb “Unholy Trinity” | FLB: Ch 13
 Tues 3 Mar Exchange-rate politics | O: Ch 12, 13; FLB: Ch 14
 Thurs 5 Mar European Monetary Union | See Canvas
 Tues 10 Mar Capital flow politics: 2008 crisis | FLB: Ch 15; see Canvas
 Thurs 12 Mar Sovereign debt politics: Eurozone crisis | FLB: Ch 16

*** Spring Break (2 weeks) ***

ONLINE COURSE CONTENT (POST-SPRING BREAK):

** = there will be a reading quiz due by the beginning of the class session.

Tues	31 Mar	International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and Regulation See Canvas
Thurs	2 April	<i>Exam 2 Review Session (See Canvas for logistical details)</i>
Tues	7 April	Exam 2: Finance (See Canvas for logistical details)

Politics of Multinational Corporations (MNCs)

Thurs	9 April	** Overview: MNCs and politics O: Ch. 8 and 9
Tues	14 April	** Who likes MNCs in developing countries? FLB: Ch 10
Thurs	16 April	** Do MNCs like democracy? FLB: Ch 12
Tues	21 April	** International law and MNCs FLB: Ch 11
Thurs	23 April	** What do MNCs do about political risk? See Canvas
Tues	28 April	** Application: MNCs and the environment FLB: Ch 29, 31
Thurs	30 April	Application: Supply chains and COVID-19 See Canvas
Tues	5 May	<i>Exam Review Session (See Canvas for logistical details)</i> Final Exam distributed (See Canvas for logistical details)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available: Tues 5 May, 2:00 PM • Due: Thurs 7 May, 2:00 PM

- **Notes on Final Exam:** The final exam has two components. First, it will cover material from the readings, lectures, and class discussions from the day after Exam 2 through the final course session. The second component is comprehensive, and it will require the student to reflect on themes from the course as a whole. See Canvas for more details.

The following information is unchanged from the original syllabus; it is repasted here for your convenience. You are still expected to understand this information.

Course Description:

This course provides an overview of the study of international political economy. The course's primary focus will be on the role of politics and government decision-making in international economic relations. Thus, while we will cover some topics familiar in the discipline of economics, this is wholly a political science (government) course. That said, students should be willing to learn some basic relationships in macroeconomics – which government officials deal with on a daily basis.

We will examine several topics central to IPE, including (1) the politics around international trade; (2) the politics around the international monetary system, including financial crisis; (3) the politics of foreign investment by multinational corporations; and (4) other aspects of the politics of economic globalization.

This course will expose students to historical and contemporary material. We will draw on examples from the United States as well as developed and developing countries around the world. We will also read cutting edge qualitative (prose-based) and quantitative (statistics-based) research. We ask that students be open to learning to read and interpret statistical analyses.

Availability of In-class Presentations and Other Materials:

The professor uses the “Lectures Online” system to provide a supplementary means for students to access in-class material. This system records the lecture's audio and video (slides). It is free. (sites.la.utexas.edu/lecturesonline) The Lectures Online system allows the professor to update slides throughout the semester and is a very convenient system for allowing students to re-visit materials.

The professor is very reluctant to further distribute slides to students, for several reasons. First, slides often present multiple sides of a controversial issue, such that the professor is worried about content being taken out of context. (The professor is committed to remaining as non-partisan as possible, within the constraints of what research has shown us to be “true” and/or very likely.) Second, the slides are not written in a way to be sufficient resources on their own. As such, the slides and commentary provided through the Lectures Online system better provide information than could be gotten through access to slides alone. Third, the slides are the professor's intellectual property, and thus the professor has the right to control the means of distribution.

Students are welcome to email the professor to ask for copies of specific slides (all slides are numbered for the ease of the students). In general, we suggest that students interested in accessing specific slides also come to the TAs' or professor's office hours for more thorough information. The TAs or professor will not repeat lectures in office hours.

Plagiarism and Academic Misconduct:

All violations of university academic conduct guidelines, including plagiarism, will be referred to the Dean of Students and **will result in a zero on the assignment or exam in question.** Plagiarism is the use of others' ideas or work without credit and/or presenting derivative work as one's own. This includes, but is not limited to, cutting and pasting from someone else's work or an internet source, failing to identify exact quotes, failing to cite a source for information that is only available from that source, failing to cite a source for an idea or argument you borrowed from that source, and turning in work that is not your own. When in doubt, cite.

University Honor Code:

The core values of the University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity and responsibility. Each member of the University is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness and respect towards peers and community. Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL): 512-232-5050.

Mandatory Reporting Requirement:

Senate Bill 212 (SB 212) passed during the 2019 legislative session. It is a Texas State Law that requires all employees (both faculty and staff) at a public or private post-secondary institution to promptly report any knowledge of any incidents of sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, or stalking "committed by or against a person who was a student enrolled at or an employee of the institution at the time of the incident." Therefore, should the professor or TAs learn of any such incident, they will file a report with UT Austin's Title IX Coordinator. For more information, consult UT Austin's Title IX office (titleix.utexas.edu).

Emergency Evacuation Policy:

Occupants of buildings at UT Austin are required to evacuate buildings when a fire alarm is activated. Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside. Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building you may occupy. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building. Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructor in writing during the first week of class. In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors. Do not re-enter a building unless given instructions by the following: Austin Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office. Information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at: utexas.edu/emergency.
