

**Spring 2019 GOV 360N: International Political Economy (38346)
MW 10:00-11:30 (RLP 0.112)**

Professor: Dr. Rachel Wellhausen

Office hours: M 11:30-13:00, W 8:30-10:00 (Batts 4.138)
(rwellhausen@utexas.edu but Canvas message preferred)

TA: Iasmin Goes

Office hours: M 8-9:30, T 8-9:30 (Batts 1.118)
(Canvas message preferred)

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.

Grading Policy:

Absolutely no alternate exam arrangements will be made nor late assignments accepted, with four possible exceptions.

Exception 1: A university-approved function. The student must inform the professor and TAs, with proper documentation, well before the deadline or scheduled exam time, so that the TAs can work on alternative arrangements.

Exception 2: Religious Holidays. By UT Austin policy, the student must notify the professor of the pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If the student must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, the student will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Exception 3: Disability Accommodations. Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community

Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD: ddce.utexas.edu/disability; 512-471-6259). Students registered with SSD are required to follow the SSD procedures, which include providing accommodation requirements to the professor (usually in a letter) and then meeting with the professor in office hours to discuss and commit to the approach that will be taken in the course. The professor asks that students registered with SSD be proactive: please raise issues with the professor immediately should we make a mistake in providing accommodations. **Students are encouraged to register with SSD and notify the professor as soon as possible. The professor does not make SSD accommodations retroactively.**

Exception 4: Student Emergency. Any student facing severe difficulties during the semester should take advantage of Student Emergency Services, which helps to coordinate between the student and the student's professors. (SES: deanofstudents.utexas.edu/emergency; 512-471-5017; 24/7 Behavior Concerns Advice Line [BCAL]: 512-232-5050) Once a student meets with SES, SES will contact the student's professors on the student's behalf. Thus, students do not need to provide explanations or doctor's notes, etc. to individual professors. Professors rely on SES as an intermediary, because we are not trained to provide students with appropriate services nor evaluate what services would be most useful. There are many staff members at SES – and throughout UT Austin – whose training and focus are exactly in these areas. Thus, students getting in touch with us directly about severe difficulties will be referred to SES. That said, **you are welcome to lean on us when seeking motivation in contacting SES (whether in office hours or via email); we are happy to talk, to the extent our positions allow us; and we can also connect students to available services. However, note that SES involvement puts the professor under no obligation to provide special accommodations for a student. Thus, we will provide special accommodations for students using SES on a case-by-case basis.**

Grade Breakdown:

Quizzes

20%

After any given class session, students may be notified by Canvas of a short quiz that must be completed on Canvas before the start of the next class session. Quizzes are forward-looking and thus will cover the readings assigned for the next class session. Students will have up to 10 minutes to complete the quiz from the moment of accessing it. Students may use the readings and their own notes to answer quiz questions. Quizzes are intended to help students gauge their understanding of the material and are intentionally low-stakes. Each quiz is worth three points. Students should expect quizzes following the majority of our class meetings. **Every student will have 3 points (the equivalent of one quiz) added to their cumulative quiz score for the semester.** This bonus is intended to compensate for the inevitable conflicts that students face and mistakes that we all make. As such, students need not explain their failure to submit a quiz to the TAs or professor. Because quizzes are available online for several days at a time and can be completed on the student's timetable, the bar for offering alternative quiz arrangements is quite high even if one of the Grading Policy Exceptions (1-4) above is met. Late quizzes will be acceptable up until the beginning of the fourth class session. Students who join the course late will be required to go back and complete missed quizzes in order to receive credit – and must be proactive in doing so.

Extra Credit:

The professor reserves the right to offer students extra credit opportunities during the semester. All extra credit will accrue under the Quiz portion of the student's grade. The professor also reserves the right to reward students with exceptional class participation with extra credit. The criteria for exceptional participation are at the professor's discretion, but can include consistently asking and answering questions during class sessions, participating actively in office hours, and/or otherwise regularly reaching out to us to make connections and demonstrate learning. Students should not expect extra credit to appear in the last week of class or after classes conclude.

Note on Attendance:

Class attendance in itself does not contribute to a student's grade nor earn the student extra credit. Students are not required or expected to notify the professor or TA of individual absences (outside of Grading Policy Exceptions 1-4 outlined above). Since all material is important (otherwise why would we talk about it?), absent students are expected to be self-motivated in getting notes from colleagues or watching Lectures Online, without prompting from the professor or TAs. Thus, the professor or TAs will not respond to email messages of this type. This said, the professor reserves the right to grade students on in-class assignments.

In-class Exam (1)**15%**

An in-class exam will cover material from the readings, lectures, and class discussions from the beginning of the course through the course session prior to the exam. It will consist of a combination of providing definitions of terms, short essay questions, and a longer essay question. The exact format is at the professor's discretion and will be discussed in course sessions in advance of the exam. Blue books are required.

In-class Exam (2)**35%**

An in-class exam will cover material from the readings, lectures, and class discussions from the day after exam (1) through the course session prior to exam (2). It will consist of a combination of providing definitions of terms, short essay questions, and a longer essay question. The exact format is at the professor's discretion and will be discussed in the course sessions in advance of the exam. Blue books are required.

Take-home Final Exam**30%**

The final exam will be assigned on the last class day and will be due at the end of our assigned final period. It is to be completed on the student's own time and submitted on Canvas as a PDF or Word document. Students are welcome to turn in the exam anytime up until the end of the assigned final period. **A student who does not turn in the exam by the deadline will receive a zero.** 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. The exact format is at the professor's discretion and will be discussed in class.

Grade scale: (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

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.

Emergency Evacuation Policy:

Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus 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.

SCHEDULE AND READINGS

Texts:

Frieden, Jeffrey, 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. The 6th edition is in stock at the Co-op.**
- Referred to in syllabus as “FLB”

Oatley, Thomas. *International Political Economy: Interests and Institutions in the Global Economy.* 5th edition. New York: Pearson Longman.

- 5th edition required. There are two covers (from two different publishers), one published in 2011 and one in 2013. Feel free to get whichever is more economical.
- Referred to in syllabus as “O”

We reserve the right to change readings and exam material based on our progress during the semester. Please reference the course’s Canvas page for the latest updates. Canvas messages will be the primary form of communication during the course.

See schedule beginning on next page (also available on the Canvas landing page).

Approaching IPE

Wednesday	23 January	(No reading)
Monday	28 January	Frameworks FLB: Introduction; O: Ch. 1; see Canvas

International Trade

Wednesday	30 January	Who benefits from free trade? O: Ch 4; FLB: Ch 1
Monday	4 February	What makes protectionism popular? FLB: Ch 18, 30
Wednesday	6 February	How does trade policy come about? FLB: Ch 19, 21

*** All quizzes due by 6 Feb must be completed; late quizzes no longer accepted.*

Monday	11 February	Trade strategies in developing countries O: Ch 6, 7
Wednesday	13 February	Politics at the WTO O: Ch. 2; FLB: Ch. 22
Monday	18 February	EXAM (1)

International Finance

Wednesday	20 February	History of monetary cooperation O: Ch 10, 11
Monday	25 February	Sovereign debt See Canvas
Wednesday	27 February	“Unholy Trinity” FLB: Ch 13
Monday	4 March	Exchange-rate politics O: Ch 12; FLB: Ch 14
Wednesday	6 March	European Monetary Union See Canvas
Monday	11 March	Capital flow politics: 2008 crisis FLB: Ch 15; see Canvas
Wednesday	13 March	Sovereign debt politics: Eurozone crisis FLB: Ch 16

Spring Break

Monday	25 March	Natural resource revenue See Canvas
Wednesday	27 March	Guest lecture, Nate Jensen; IPE Current Events See Canvas
Monday	1 April	Interest-rate politics: the Fed FLB: Ch 17
Wednesday	3 April	Future of monetary cooperation? FLB: Ch 2, 32
Monday	8 April	<i>In-class exam review session</i>
Wednesday	10 April	EXAM (2)

Politics of Multinational Corporations (MNCs)

Monday	15 April	Overview O: Ch. 8 and 9
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Wednesday	17 April	Who likes MNCs in developing countries? FLB: Ch 10
Monday	22 April	Do MNCs like democracy? FLB: Ch 12; see Canvas
Wednesday	24 April	What do MNCs do about political risk? See Canvas
Monday	29 April	International law and MNCs FLB: Ch 11; see Canvas
Wednesday	1 May	Application: MNCs and the environment FLB: Ch 29, 31
Monday	6 May	Globalization today O: Ch 16; FLB Ch 33; see Canvas
Wednesday	8 May	<i>In-class final review session</i>

FINAL EXAM DISTRIBUTED (ON CANVAS)

SATURDAY 18 MAY

Final Exam DUE BY 5:00 PM, ON CANVAS

Note: Submit as PDF OR WORD DOCUMENT

Note: Students are welcome to submit the final exam on Canvas at any point up to this deadline. The deadline is the end of our scheduled final exam period. *Reminder:* Late exams will receive a ZERO.