



COURSE SYLLABUS

Course: **INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY**

COURSE DATA

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|-------------------------|---|
| Degree | Diploma in Humanities and Global Challenges |
| Academic Year | 2023-24 |
| Credits | 6 |
| Course type | Elective |
| Departament | International Relations Department |
| Language of instruction | English |

SHORT DESCRIPTION

International Political Economy is a cross-cutting course building on multiple disciplines such as International Relations and political economy, yet it does not require specialised knowledge in economics, finance, or international trade. The course is taught in English. Readings and group work are also done in English.

The course focuses on offering a panoramic and global vision of the International Political Economy discipline, focused on two dimensions: descriptive and normative. The descriptive dimension covers the main areas of applied knowledge that make up the field of connections between economics and international relations, such as: international trade throughout history, the global institutional order following the Second World War and the fall of the socialist regimes, as well as the dynamics of population growth and migration.

The normative dimension analyses the possible scenarios of international relations from an economic perspective focused on 'ought to be', that is, how international relations focused on economic policy should be from an ideal point of view. This includes topics such as: free trade and fair trade, the concept of sustainable development, the ideal of human development, or food security.

CONTENTS AND STRUCTURE

CONCEPTS AND THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

Topic 1: What is International Political Economy? Locating the field

Topic 2: The Mercantilist - Nationalist Perspective

Topic 3: The Liberal Perspective

Topic 4: Critical Perspectives of International Political Economy

REGIONALISM AND IPE

Topic 5: Regionalism: European Union

Topic 6: Regionalism: North America

Topic 7: Regionalism: Latin America

Topic 8: Regionalism: Middle East

Topic 9: Regionalism: East and South-East Asia

POLICY TOPICS IN IPE

Topic 10: The ideal of Poverty Reduction and the End of Hunger

Topic 11: Economic impact of climate change

Topic 12: Globalisation and cultural identity

Topic 13: Globalisation and the future of labour

Topic 14: Human Development Index

Topic 15: Ethics in global supply chains

Topic 16: Global migration trends

METHODOLOGY

ACTIVITIES IN CLASSROOM

- Lectures presenting the main concepts, raising debates around the mandatory readings, and helping the students to use IPE concepts to address real world dilemmas.
- Group debates during practical sessions on a case study.
- Individual presentations of the main argument of an essay debating the utility of an IPE concept.
- Group revision of the main content before the final exam.

ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF CLASSROOM

- Preparing the readings for each session.
 - Preparing the individual essay.
 - Preparing the group debate.
- Final revision for the end of term exam.
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ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

| Assessment type | Assessment criteria | Percentage |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------|
| FINAL EXAM | FINAL EVALUATION | 50% |
| GROUP PRESENTATION | PARTIAL EVALUATION | 20% |
| INDIVIDUAL ESSAY | PARTIAL EVALUATION | 20% |
| PARTICIPATION | PARTIAL EVALUATION | 10% |

- Committing any serious academic misconduct, such as **plagiarism** of previously published material, or **copying** in the exam or any other graded activity, **will imply not being able to pass the course in the ordinary assessment period.**
- At the beginning of the term the professor will announce the office hours for the course. Tutorials are an essential part of the development of the course, and students may attend tutorials during the course within those office times, but it is recommended that they are arranged in advance with the professor.
- Any non-face-to-face learning activity that requires the submission of an assignment/document, etc. will be submitted by the student through Moodle, always in PDF format.
- To be able to take the final exam, students must not have missed **more than one third of the classes without justification.** If this requirement is not met, the student may lose the right to be assessed both in the ordinary and extraordinary assessment period (art. 93-1 of the General Regulations). Failure to attend to the first hour of a two-hour lecture, means having missed the whole session in terms of attendance, regardless of whether or not the student the second hour.
- The use of artificial intelligence software such as ChatGPT for the delivery of work or evaluation activities is prohibited, and its use will be considered as a plagiarism issue

STUDENT WORKLOAD (in hours)

| CONTACT HOURS | OUTSIDE CLASSROOM | OVERALL |
|---------------|-------------------|---------|
| 60 | 90 | 150 |

READING LIST / RELEVANT REFERENCES

- Balaam, D y B. Dillman (2019), *Introduction to International Political Economy*, Routledge, 7th edition, NY
- Broome, A. (2014) *Issues & Actors in the Global Political Economy*, Palgrave.
- Ferguson, N. (2008). *The ascent of money: A financial history of the world*. New York: The Penguin Press. Pp. 65-91.
- Freiden, J.A. (2007), *Global Capitalism: Its fall and rise in the Twentieth Century*, Norton
- Friedmann, T. L. (2005). *The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
- Gilpin, R. (1987). *The Political Economy of International Relations*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Kissinger, H. (2015) *World Order*. Penguin Books
- Lairson, T.D. and D. Skidmore (2017), *International Political Economy: The Struggle for Power and Wealth in a Globalizing World*, Routledge.
- O'Brien, R. and M. Williams (2013) *Global Political Economy*, Palgrave.
- Ravenhill, J. (2008.) *Global Political Economy*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Rodrik, D. (2009) *One Economics Many Recipes. Globalization, Institutions and Economic Growth*. Princeton University Press
- Smith, R., El-Anis, I and Ferrands, C. (2017), *International Political Economy in the 21st Century: Contemporary Issues and Analyses*, 2nd Edition, Routledge.
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Stiglitz, J. (2004). Globalization and Its Discontents. New York: W. W. Norton.

UNDP (2022) Special report. New threats to human security in the Anthropocene demanding greater solidarity. United Nations

UNDP (2022) Human Development Report 2021-2022. United Nations

World Bank (2023) Global Economic Prospects. World Bank Group Flagship Report
