

COURSE INFORMATION SHEET

Course information	
Course title	International Political Economy
Code	E000007113
Degree	Business in Spain Diploma
Year	Advanced
Semester	Second
Hours/week	4 h/week
ECTS Credits	6
Type	Elective
Department	Economics
Sub-field	International Economics/International Politics
Coordinator	Robert A. Robinson
e-mail	robrob@icade.comillas.edu

Lecturer information	
Name	Eszter Wirth
Department	Economics
Office	To be determined shortly
e-mail	ewirth@icade.comillas.edu
Tutorial hours	Consult with professor

Detailed information about the course

Context of the course
<p>Contribution to the professional profile of the degree</p> <p>International Political Economy (IPE) is a field of International Relations which highlights the relationship between politics and economics. This sub-discipline deals with the way in which economic and political factors interact at the international level. It can be conceptualized as an academic crossroads or disciplinary intersection of politics and economics which seeks to explore and analyze the mutual interaction between states and markets. The academic concepts or buzzwords of 'globalization', 'hegemony' and 'interdependence' are central to analyses of IPE. International production and trade, international finance and money, international investment and multinational corporations and economic development, poverty the BRICS countries, energy, climate change and the environment constitute the core topics of IPE.</p>
<p>Prerequisites</p> <p>Clear understanding of notions on Economics (Microeconomics and Macroeconomics) will suffice.</p>

Skills – Objectives
General skills
CG 04. Ability to manage information from diverse sources CG 06. Oral and written communication in own language CG 10. Leadership capacity and ability to work in groups CG11. Critical and self-critical capacity CG14. Capacity to learn and work autonomously
Skills specific to the sub-field of knowledge
CE04. Capacity to identify and understand different economic variables that affect the firm
Content – Thematic blocks
BLOCK 1: THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY
Topic 1: What is International Political Economy (IPE)? Locating the field
Topic 2: The mercantilist nationalist perspective
Topic 3: The liberal perspective
Topic 4: Structuralism
Topic 5. Critical perspectives in IPE
BLOCK 2: HISTORICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL EVOLUTION
Topic 6: The first globalisation:1870-1913
Topic 7: The interwar period: 1914-1939
Topic 8: The making and breakdown of the Bretton Woods System
Topic 9: Globalisation and financial crises
BLOCK 3: ISSUES AND STRUCTURES IN THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY
Topic 10: International production structure
Topic 11: International trade system
Topic 12: International monetary and financial structure
Topic 13: Poverty and economic development
Topic 14: The BRICs in the global political economy
Topic 15: Energy and the environment

General learning and teaching approach of the course

The main teaching approach is based on the encouragement of active participation in class and group situations. The primary means of imparting knowledge and understanding is through the lecture but students are strongly encouraged to engage in independent reading for which they are given extensive support and guidance on reading materials and their appropriate use.

Class-based teaching methods**Skills**

Lectures. The purpose of lectures is to introduce students to the main areas of the course and to provide the grounding for further study. Use will be made of this traditional teaching method as a way of presenting the greatest amount of information to a large number of students in a relatively efficient manner. However, it is expected that students will interrupt, make comments and ask questions throughout the lecture thus transforming it into an active learning process.

CG04
CE04

The lecturer will provide some essential reading to do before the lecture which will give the student an idea of the nature of the topic to be covered. Students find that they get much more out of the lecture if they do the essential reading beforehand.

Class discussions and debates. Discussions constitute a primary teaching method in order to stimulate critical thinking. Students have an opportunity to make significant contributions to the learning of others and develop their own analytical skills and articulate their ideas and opinions clearly.

CG04,
CG06,
CG10,
CG11**Outside classroom activities****Skills**

Individual or group study. Students are expected to undertake individual or group study which will concentrate on reading and researching to carry out in-depth investigations of areas of interest. There is only a limited amount of information that can be covered in class time, so students will be expected to study independently on a regular basis. As a general rule of thumb you should aim to do two hours of independent study for every hour you do in the classroom.

CG10,
CG11,
CG14**Directed reading**CG14,
CG11

Assessment activities	Assessment criteria	Weight
Exam. Final written examination	<input type="checkbox"/> To measure understanding of fundamental ideas and knowledge <input type="checkbox"/> To measure comprehension of main theoretical frameworks <input type="checkbox"/> To measure ability to use theories and constructs in practical applications and analysis <input type="checkbox"/> To measure critical thinking	50%
Essay. One individually written or group essay	<input type="checkbox"/> Ability to identify adequate bibliographical sources <input type="checkbox"/> Ability to carry out a complete research/writing process <input type="checkbox"/> Ability to present coherent, well-supported arguments <input type="checkbox"/> Ability to offer original thought and perspectives	20%
Class Work. In groups or individually. Consists of readings, videos, Q&A sessions, briefings to the class, case studies	<input type="checkbox"/> Active and productive participation in activities	30%

Grading scale: 0 to 10. Pass threshold: 5.

The criteria stated above applies to students who regularly attend lectures and pass the **ordinary exam** in **May/June**. For those who do not, they will have to (re)sit the extraordinary exam in **June/July**.

For those who (re)sit the **extraordinary exam** in **June/July** the mark of the final exam will be their final mark, without considering the course assignments and the essay.

SUMMARY OF WRITTEN ASSESSMENTS AND TIMING

Class-based and outside class activities	Work period	Submission dates
Essay	During semester	End of semester
Continuous assessment	To be announced and displayed on Moodle	Each week
Final written exam	Exam timetable to be determined by Head of Studies of degree	End of semester

Textbooks

- Balaam, D.N. and Dillman, B. (2019): *An Introduction to International Political Economy*, Longman, 7th. Edition.
- Freiden, J. A. (2007): *Global Capitalism: Its fall and rise in the the Twentieth Century*, Norton.

These books are complemented by slides and documents handed out by the lecturer or uploaded on Moodle, which will be the main materials to follow the course.

Other resources: web pages

World Trade Organization <http://www.wto.org/>

World Bank <http://www.worldbank.org>

International Monetary Fund <http://www.imf.org>

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

<http://www.unctad.org>

Organization of economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

<http://www.oecd.org>

European Union <http://www.europa.eu>

The Economist <http://www.economist.com>

The Financial Times <http://www.FT.com>

Slides and additional course materials

Accessible via MOODLE