

Georgia Institute of Technology
The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs
Spring 2016

INTA 6302. GRADUATE SEMINAR: INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

Instructor: Professor Fei-Ling Wang

Time: Tuesdays 18:05-20:55

Office Hours: TTH 12:00-13:15 and Tuesdays 15:15-17:30 or by Appointment

Office: 214 Habersham House (404-894-1904); E-mail: fw@gatech.edu

The Course:

As a core course of the Nunn School's Graduate Program, this seminar examines some of the basic approaches to the study of International Political Economy (IPE). We will explore the major theories, key concepts and important policy issues in the field of IPE through a reading and discussions of the literature on the state and market, trade and foreign direct investment, collective action, hegemonic stability, economic growth, North-South relations, dependency, technology transfer, globalization and regionalization, international financial market, international terrorism, and environmental issues.

The seminar is a combination of informal lectures and discussions. The students are required to report on the readings and participate in classroom discussions. The assigned readings are expected to be finished before classes. Each student will give an oral presentation of professional quality on a major issue in international political economy. Each student is expected to develop and demonstrate the ability to describe the social, political, and economic forces that influence social and nations' behaviors and the global system.

Course Requirements:

The grading scheme is as follows:

Requirement	(%)
Weekly Reading Reports	20
Critique Essay and Presentation	20
Participation/Attendance	20
Research Paper Outline	10
Research Paper	30
Total	100

Weekly Reading Reports: Every student is required to write a short (one page, single space) reading report about assigned weekly readings every week. The weekly report should be ready for submission at the beginning of that week's class (in hard copy and electronic version with the subject line of "Week XX Reading Report from XXX"). The reports should be brief summaries of the reading materials.

Critique Essay and Presentation: Each student is required to write a critique essay (not to exceed four pages, single space, or six pages, double space) and orally present it (for no longer than 30 minutes including Q&A) to the class on one of the weekly readings, to be selected and approved by the instructor at our first meeting of the class. The hardcopy of the essay is due at the time of

presentation (also submit it electronically with the subject line of “Critique Essay from XXX”). Each essay should critically examine the readings, outlining the main strengths and weaknesses, offering a brief assessment or critique and raising questions for the class to discuss. No outside reading or research is needed but the student is expected to make comments on the reading while utilizing his/her overall knowledge about the subject.

As a major learning outcome, the course will assess the student’s effective communication skills, the ability of being able to express their arguments clearly and effectively both in written reports and in their research and oral presentations.

Research Paper: every student is required to write a research paper addressing one theoretical or practical IPE issue. Sample issues include: exploration and protection of the high sea, international financial system, international migration and refugees, international regimes, the fate of socialism, and the issue of international terrorism. Your paper topic must be submitted with a brief justification to the instructor by Week 4. You are also required to submit your research design and a detailed outline of your paper (maximum 2 pages single space) by Week 7. The completed paper is due on the last meeting of our class. It should have 18-20 double-spaced pages, excluding bibliography and cover page. Each student is required to submit a hardcopy and an electronic copy of the paper.

Participation/Attendance is the instructor portion of your grade. It will be based on the quality and the quantity of your participation in class discussions. All views are welcome and those who participate actively will be rewarded accordingly. We all learn from each other’s insights.

GT Honor Code

This class strictly observes the Georgia Tech Honor Code and does not tolerate any form of plagiarism, defined as “to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another’s as one’s own or use another’s production without crediting the source.” For questions involving these or any other Academic Honor Code issues, please consult me or visit www.honor.gatech.edu/plugins/content/index.php?id=9.

For contact information of ADAPTS, see www.adapts.gatech.edu.

Course Materials (at the Engineer’s Bookstore)

(For those of you who may lack the general knowledge of the subject, you may want to skim a standard college-level textbook such as *Introduction to International Political Economy* <6th Edition>, by David N. Balaam and Bradford Dillman, Prentice Hall; 2013)

Niall Ferguson, *The Ascent of Money: A Financial History of the World*, Penguin, 2009, (Ferguson)

Stijn Claessens et al eds. *Rebalancing the Global Economy: A Primer for Policymaking*. London: CEPR, 2010. (Claessens et al) – E-book, will be posted on T-Square.

Benjamin J. Cohen: *International Political Economy: An Intellectual History*, Princeton University Press, 2008. (Cohen)

Hernando de Soto: *The Mystery of Capital: Why Capitalism Triumphs in the West and Fails Everywhere Else*. Basic Books; 2003. (de Soto)

Jeffrey A. Frieden: *Global Capitalism: Its Fall and Rise in the Twentieth Century*, W. W. Norton, 2007. (Frieden)

Robert Gilpin: *The Political Economy of International Relations*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, N.J. 1987. (Gilpin)

Michael Lewis, *Boomerang: Travels in the New Third World*, Norton & Company, 2011. (Lewis)

Douglass North: *Structure and Change in Economic History*, New York, Norton, 1982. (North)

Mancur Olson: *Logic of Collective Action: Public Goods and the Theory of Groups*, Harvard University Press, 1971 (Olson)

James Gustave Speth, *Red Sky at Morning: America and the Crisis of the Global Environment*, Yale University Press, 2004, (Speth)

Susan Strange: *Casino Capitalism*, St. Martin's Press 1997. (Strange)

Fei-Ling Wang: *Organizing Through Division And Exclusion: China's Hukou System*, Stanford University Press, 2005. (Wang)

Martin Wolf, *Why Globalization Works*, Yale University Press; 2nd edition, 2005. (Wolf)

Additional hand-out reading materials will be posted on T-Square.

Course Outline

Week 1 (1/12)	Orientation and Introduction
Week 2 (1/19)	Market, the state, money and international financial system Gilpin xi-170
Week 3 (1/26)	Schools and questions Cohen
Week 4 (2/2)	Global capitalism: Trade, FDI, and MNCs (paper topics due) Gilpin 171-262; Frieden 1-126
Week 5 (2/9)	Contemporary IPE: a short history Frieden 127-362
Week 6 (2/16)	Collective action, rationality, and hegemonic stability Olson
Week 7 (3/23)	Property rights, institutions, and economic systems North. (Research design and outline due)
Week 8 (3/1)	Globalization Frieden 363-476
Week 9 (3/8)	Impact of and Reaction to Globalization Wolf 2005
Week 10 (3/15)	Economic development and dependency

Gilpin 263-340; de Soto

Week 11 (3/22)

No class – Enjoy the Spring Break

Week 12 (3/29)

Financial system and Casino capitalism
Ferguson; Strange.

Week 13 (4/5)

Global financial crisis
Lewis; Watch *The Inside Job*

Week 14 (4/12)

Modernity, institutional exclusion, and non-market economies
Wang 1-31 & 150-178; Handout.

Week 15 (4/19)

World ecology
Speth; Watch *Inconvenient Truth*

Week 16 (4/26)

**Rebalancing the world economy: alternatives and the future
(Paper due)**
Claessens et al