

**INTA 3301. INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY  
Fall 2023**

**Instructor: Dr. Fei-Ling Wang  
Time: TuTh 9:30-10:45  
Office Hours: TuTh 11:00-12:30 or by appointment.  
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### **1. Course Description.**

This class examines the relationship between the globalizing and market-oriented world economy and national sovereignty-based international politics. We will expose the links, disparities, and conflicts between the two through a historical review and case studies. We will also explore the theoretical perspectives aiming a better understanding of this relationship. A major aim of this class is for the students to demonstrate the ability to describe the social, political, and economic forces that influence nations' behaviors and the global system.

A thorough understanding of history is always very important to students of international affairs, therefore, after a clarification of the concepts, we will first briefly review the historical development of IPE (international political economy). Then we will examine the major theoretical perspectives in the study of IPE: from mercantilism to Marxism. Using the historical knowledge and the theoretical perspectives learnt, we will discuss some of today's most important IPE issues including the much talked-about financial crisis, environmental protection and international terrorism. Finally, we will conclude the course by reconsidering the relationship between the market and the sovereign states.

### **2. Use of Technology:**

Unless the student has an official letter from the GT administration certifying a need for special accommodation, audio or video recording device are not allowed in class.

Cell phones are to be placed on vibrate mode or turned off and remain out of sight, unless you are expecting an emergency call (in that case, please alert the instructor before class). No texting during class.

### **3. University Policies**

The Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts supports the Georgia Institute of Technology's commitment to creating a campus free of discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status. We further affirm the importance of cultivating an intellectual climate that allows us to better understand the similarities and differences of those who constitute the Georgia Tech community, as well as the necessity of working against inequalities that may also manifest here as they do in the broader society.

If you are a learner that requires adaptations for you to succeed in this course or are a student with disabilities that requires accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability (404) 894-2563 or [disabilityservices@gatech.edu](mailto:disabilityservices@gatech.edu)) to make an appointment to discuss your needs and obtain the appropriate accommodation letter. Any student

requiring such adaptation/accommodation should make an appointment to meet with the instructor as soon as possible so to make the appropriate arrangement.

We have all committed to upholding the ideals of honor and academic integrity. 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.” Please consult University policies for more information ([www.policylibrary.gatech.edu/student-affairs/academic-honor-code](http://www.policylibrary.gatech.edu/student-affairs/academic-honor-code); [www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/](http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/)). Any student suspected of violations of honor code including but not limited to cheating or plagiarizing behavior will be automatically reported to the Office of Student Integrity, which will investigate the incident and recommend penalties for the violations.

#### 4. Course Requirements.

Requirement	Marks	(%)
First Test	300	30
Participation/Attendance	200	20
Group Presentations	200	20
Second Test	300	30
Total	1,000	100

**The first test and the second test** will be written exams primarily in short-essay format. The tests, non cumulative, will be drawn from all aspects of the class: readings, lectures, and classroom discussions.

**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 including your participation in the case study debate sessions. The class will be a mixture of informal lecture and relaxed discussion. All views are welcome and those who participate actively will be rewarded accordingly. We all learn from each other’s insights. As far as attendance is concerned, two or more unexcused absences will be penalized.

**Group Presentation** is a collective research and presentation exercise. In the first week of class, the students will be divided into groups. Each group must select one aspect of an IPE issue area to study and to debate, and submit it to the instructor for approval in week 5. Sample topics include: The political economy of international terrorism; the political economy of the Covid-19 Pandemic; Is global warming real? How to assess the rise of China and other economies? Is the United States declining? Is Bitcoin a new world currency?

Each group will make an oral presentation for about 15-20 minutes to the class, followed by a Q & A of 5 minutes. A written summary of each group’s presentation (2-3 pages, single spaced, bibliography and footnotes additional) is due on the day of the presentation. Every member of the same group will receive the same grade for this exercise. The group leaders are expected to report any free-riding activities that may take place in the groups.

In the process, as a major learning outcome, we will assess the students’ problem solving abilities. Students will demonstrate theoretical knowledge of the discipline to address international policy issues, demonstrate methodological literacy to analyze to international political phenomena, use oral communication to demonstrate knowledge and to make cogent arguments in international affairs, demonstrate proficiency in written communication to increase knowledge and develop cogent

arguments in international affairs, and demonstrate the ability to collaborate effectively in teams.

## 5. Course Materials.

Text book is available for purchase online or at GT Bookstore. The handout reading will be posted on Canvas).

Theodore H Cohn & Anil Hira: *Global Political Economy*, 8th Edition, paperback, 2021. ISBN-13: 978-0367512507

## 6. Course Outline:

<b>Week 1</b>	<b>Class orientation and overview</b> 8/22, 8/24 Cohn & Hira 1-14.
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>Money, economy, market, the state, and IR</b> 8/29, 8/31 Cohn & Hira 17-42.
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>Mercantilism</b> 9/5, 9/7 Cohn & Hira 49-68.
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>Liberalism</b> 9/12, 9/14 Cohn & Hira 74-95.
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>Structuralism and other perspectives</b> 9/19, 9/21 Cohn & Hira 102-123. <b>(Presentation topics due 9/21)</b>
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>International financial market</b> 9/26, 9/28 Cohn & Hira 132-172.
<b>Week 7</b>	10/3 <b>No class - Study Session</b> 10/5 <b>First Test</b>
<b>Week 8</b>	10/10 <b>No class - enjoy the fall break</b> 10/12 <b>Financial Crises</b> 10/10 Cohn & Hira 173-209.
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>International trade</b> 10/17, 10/19 Cohn & Hira 218-255.
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>Trade Regime and Policies</b> 10/24, 10/26 Cohn & Hira 263-297.
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>TNCs/MNCs and Global Production</b> 10/31, 11/2 Cohn & Hira 306-342.
<b>Week 12</b>	<b>Poverty and development</b> 11/9, 11/11 Cohn & Hira 350-387.
<b>Week 13</b>	<b>Rise of China and trade war</b> 11/16, 11/18 Cohn & Hira 414-423; Handout

<b>Week 14</b>	11/21	<b>Scenarios and Prospects</b>
		Cohn & Hira 398-414
	11/23	<b>No class – Happy Thanksgiving!</b>
<b>Week 15</b>	11/28	<b>Second Test</b>
	11/30	<b>Group presentation I</b>
<b>Week 16</b>	12/5	<b>Group presentation II</b>