



Course program and reading list

Semester 2 Year 2024

School: Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy & Strategy B.A

International Political Economy

Lecturer:

Dr. Alisa Rubin Peled peleda@runi.ac.il

Course No.:	Course Type :	Weekly Hours :	Credit:
4864	Lecture	2	2

Course Requirements :	Group Code :	Language:
Final Paper	242430001	English



Course Description

International Political Economy (24037/4864)

M.A. in Government—2 credit hours

Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy

Reichman University

Semester B (2022/2023)

Time: Thursdays, 13:45-15:15 (L102)

The goal of this course is to provide students with a broad knowledge of the leading theoretical approaches and major issues in the field of international political economy (IPE) in order to develop a deeper understanding of current world affairs. The course begins by defining international political economy and introducing the main theoretical perspectives (mercantilism, liberalism, structuralism, and recent theoretical developments). The course then explores several of the leading issues in IPE, including:

international trade, international financial flows and monetary relations, foreign direct investment (FDI) and the role of transnational corporations and the environment. Next, the course explores the political economy of several countries and regions, including Great Britain, the United States, Russia, China and India. Throughout the course, the emphasis will be on applying the theoretical concepts to current IPE issues, including writing (with the intention of publishing) an op-ed, participating in in-class debates and exercises as well as hearing guest speakers on relevant current issues.



Course Goals

Attendance at lectures and class participation is important in order to succeed in this class. Complete academic integrity is required of all students.



Grading

Participation—presence and participation in the in-class case study (10%)

Op-ed (30%) +1 bonus point for publication

Final exam—Final essay (60%)



Lecturer Office Hours

Dr. Alisa Rubin Peled

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Teaching Assistant

David Fizon

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Reading List

Each week, the readings for the next class meeting and recitation will be announced in class and will appear under “what’s new” on the website. All required readings will be uploaded to the course website. Recommended readings will not be included on the final

examination. The due dates for all assignments will also be posted on the website under "what's new."

Main Course Texts

1. Balaam, David N. and Veseth, Michael. *Introduction to International Political Economy*. 4th edition. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2008. (Balaam and Veseth)
2. Cable, Vince. *Money and Power: The 16 World Leaders Who Changed Economics* (London: Atlantic Books, 2022). (Cable)
3. Wild, John J. et al. *International Business*. 3rd Edition. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 2006. (Wild)
4. Yueh, Linda. *The Great Economists: How Their Ideas Can Help Us Today* (London: Penguin Random House, 2019). (Yueh)

Important News Sources

5. *The Economist* (weekly journal of business and politics) economist.com--available on ProQuest (The Economist)
6. *The New York Times* nyt.com
7. *The Wall Street Journal* wsj.com

Recommended Texts/Websites

1. Gilpin, Robert. *Global Political Economy: Understanding the International Economic Order*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 2001. (Gilpin)
2. Levitin, Daniel J. *A Field Guide to Lies*. New York: Dutton, 2016. (can be downloaded online)

Course Topics and Readings

1. **Theoretical Perspectives on International Political Economy**
 - Definition of International Political Economy
 - Mercantilism and Economic Nationalism
 - Liberal Perspective
 - Structuralist Perspective
 - Critical Perspectives (rational choice, environmental, feminist, postmodern)

Required Readings:

1. Balaam and Veseth (Chapter 2, "Wealth and Power: Mercantilism and Economic Nationalism," pp. 21-36)
2. Balaam and Veseth (Chapter 3, "Laissez-Faire, Laissez-Passer: The Liberal IPE Perspective," pp. 37-56)
3. Balaam and Veseth (Chapter 4, "Marx, Lenin and the Structuralist Perspective," pp. 62-80)

Recommended Readings:

1. Gilpin (Chapters 1-5, pp. 3-128)--excellent discussion of main theoretical debates in the field) (IDC Library: 337 GIL)
2. Selections from *Foreign Affairs* (Jul/Aug2018, Vol. 97 Issue 4)--"Which World are We Living In? (Realist, Liberal, Marxist)
3. Balaam and Veseth (Chapter 5, "Alternative Perspectives of International Political Economy," pp. 81-98)
4. Yueh (Chapter 1, "Adam Smith," pp. 11-31; Chapter 3, "Karl Marx," pp. 51-75)

1. **Major Issues in International Political Economy**

- International Trade
- International Finance
- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Transnational Corporations (TNCs)
- Impact of the Environment on IPE

Required Readings:

1. Wild (Chapter 6, "Business-Government Trade Relations," pp. 177-202)
2. Yueh (Chapter 2, "David Ricardo," pp. 32-50)
3. Balaam and Veseth (Chapter 7, "A Beginner's Guide to International Finance," pp. 143-165)
4. Balaam and Veseth (Chapter 17, "Transnational Corporations: In the Hurricane's Eye," pp. 364-385)
5. Balaam and Veseth (Chapter 20, "The Environment: The Green Side of IPE," pp. 432-454)
6. "The New Order: Special Report, World Trade," (*The Economist*, October 9, 2021)

Recommended Readings:

1. Balaam and Veseth (Chapters 6-8)

2. Gilpin (Chapters 8-11)

III. The Changing Relationship between the Firm and the State around the World

- Great Britain
- United States
- China
- India
- Russia

Required Readings:

1. Cable (Chapter 11, "Thatcher," pp. 199-220)
2. Cable, (Chapter 16, "Trump," pp. 313-332)
3. Zakaria (Chapter 4, "The Challenger" (China), pp. 100-144.
4. Cable (Chapter 12, "Deng," pp. 221-244)
5. Zakaria (Chapter 5, "The Ally" (India), pp. 145-183)
6. Cable (Chapter 13, "Manmohan Singh," pp. 245-268)
7. Selected readings from *The Economist*, TBA (to be announced)

Recommended Readings:

1. "China vs. America: Managing the Next Clash of Civilizations," Graham Allison, *Foreign Affairs* (September/October 2017)
2. "The Capitalist Charade," (Chapter 8, pp. 156-176) in Michael Pillsbury, *The Hundred-Year Marathon: China's Secret Strategy to Replace America as the Global Superpower* (New York: St. Martin's Griffin, 2016)
3. Selections from *Poorly Made in China*, Paul Midler (Hoboken, New Jersey: Wiley, 2009 and 2011)
4. "Special Report: Taiwan (*The Economist*, March 11, 2023)
5. "Special Report: The World China Wants" (*The Economist*, October 15, 2022)
6. Yergin, Daniel and Joseph Stanislaw. *The Commanding Heights: The Battle for the World Economy*. New York: Touchstone, 2002 (Excellent source to review historical development of the relationship between market and state in various regions and countries) (IDC Library: 338.9 YER)

IV. Toward the Future: Recent Developments and New Models

- The Future of Democracy and Liberalism in an Era of Economic and Political Crisis
- China vs. America: The New Global Order
- The Impact of Inequality

Required Readings:

1. Selected chapters from Yuval Noah Harari, *21 Lessons for the 21st Century* (London: Penguin Random House, 2018).
2. Shoshana Zuboff, *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism* (London: Profile Books, 2019), pp. 495-525
3. "The Visible Hand: A Special Report on State Capitalism" (*The Economist*, January 21, 2012).
4. "Taming Leviathan: A Special Report on the Future of the State" (*The Economist*, March 19, 2011)
5. "Business and the State: Special Report, The New Interventionism" (*The Economist*, January 15, 2022)
6. "Homeland Economics: Special Report: The World Economy," (*The Economist*, October 7, 2023)

Recommended Readings:

1. Katherine Boo, *Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity* (New York: Random House, 2012).
2. "The Economist at 175: Reinventing Liberalism for the 21st Century," (*The Economist*, September 15, 2018)
3. Sarah Smarsh, *Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth* (New York: Scribner, 2018)
4. Yueh (Epilogue, "The Future of Globalization," pp. 283-298)
5. Barbara Ehrenrich, *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America* (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2001)
6. Alissa Quart, *Squeezed: Why Our Families Can't Afford America* (New York: Harper Collins, 2018).