



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS INTP 247: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: WEALTH AND WORLD AFFAIRS 20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2014

Important dates

Trimester dates: 3 March to 2 July 2014

Teaching dates: 3 March to 6 June 2014

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 18 April to 4 May 2014

Last assessment item due: 6th June – class test

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Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Lectures: Wednesday 11.00-11.50 and Friday 11.00-11.50

Venue: HMLT104

Tutorials – various times, please sign up using S-cubed <https://signups.victoria.ac.nz>

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Ben Thirkell-White

Room No: MY533

Phone: 463 5796

Email: ben.thirkell-white@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: Monday 9.00 -10.00, Wednesday 12.00 -13.00

Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Prescription

This course looks at the global, international and domestic politics of the world economy. It looks at the ways in which economic processes shape politics and the ways in which political processes shape economics. We look at international trade, finance and production (multi-national corporations) and at the regional and international institutions that regulate the global economy. We also look at some of the interactions between international and domestic politics and explore the ways in which the world economy shapes peoples' everyday lives. No technical knowledge of economics is required for this course and the course involves no equations, graphs or large numbers.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a good understanding of the economics and politics that shape the world economy
2. Understand the main theoretical perspectives through which academics seek to understand international political economy and relate these to theoretical perspectives on international relations more generally
3. Understand contemporary debates on international economic policy in the areas of trade, international production and international finance
4. Write a structured and theoretically-informed essay about debates in international political economy.

Teaching format

You get two lectures each week. The lectures are designed to give you the background you need to make sense of the readings and to point you to what I think are the important themes of those readings. Usually my lectures will start to outline some of the more important arguments involved in answering essay and exam questions. To fill out those arguments, find some extra facts and develop different arguments of your own, you need to go on to do the compulsory readings. Although the topics can be separated out, they also re-enforce one another so the more of the course you can attend the easier and more interesting you should find it.

Tutorials are optional (in that we won't keep attendance records) but are very strongly recommended. Tutorials can be harder work...but that harder work is where you do the most learning. Educational research shows that recall from sitting in a lecture is pretty low. You need to work with the material you're shown to make it your own and get it to sink into your brain! Tutorials are designed to do that. They are supposed to help you to debate the issues, puzzle over them and make up your own minds. That works much better if you have done the reading before the tutorials. Tutorials are always the week after the lecture is given to give you time to digest the lecture material and do some reading. If you're finding tutorials dull, that may be because you aren't properly prepared.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. Submit both essays
2. Sit both in-class tests

Workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to the course throughout the trimester. An approximate indication of the hours to be spent on each component of the course is as follows:

1. Attendance at lectures:	20 hours
2. Attendance at tutorials:	12 hours
3. Compulsory readings and tutorial preparation:	48 hours
4. Revision for class tests:	30 hours
5. Reading and research for essays:	60 hours
6. Writing essays:	30 hours

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Essay one, 1800-2200 words	30%	1,2,3,4	11 th April
2	Class test one (50 minutes, in class)	20%	1,2,3	18 th April
3	Essay two, 1800-2200 words	30%	1,2,3,4	23 rd May
4	Class test two (50 minutes, in class)	20%	1,2,3	6 th June

Detailed assessment requirements and criteria for assessment can be found on the course content document handed out with this outline (and posted on the course resources page on Blackboard).

Submission and return of work

One printed and one electronic copy of each essay should be submitted.

Printed copies should be submitted through the office essay drop-off point, Murphy Room 518, together with completed cover sheet which is available on Blackboard and/or from the office.

Electronic copies should be posted to Blackboard using the links on the course resources page.

Essays and tests will be returned at times to be advised. If students fail to attend these times, they may collect their essay from the Office, Murphy Room 518 between the hours of 2.00 and 3.00 pm from Monday to Friday and must show their Student ID card before collection.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Extensions will be granted only by the course coordinator and only in exceptional circumstances. In particular you must ask for an extension *before* the deadline for the assessment in question. If you think you might need an extension (because of illness, family issues etc.) it is better to ask when the problem occurs, rather than wait until you've missed the deadline. I don't want people to have unfair advantages by getting extra time for no reason but I'm understanding of people who have genuine problems that make deadlines hard to meet.

Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of assignments – **a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days.** Work that is more than 10 weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but may not be marked. Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary.

Set texts

You will all need a copy of:

Robert O'Brien and Marc Williams, *Global Political Economy* 3rd Edition (Basingstoke, Palgrave, 2007)

Recommended reading

A list of further reading for each week will be supplied in the first lecture and posted on Blackboard.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Student feedback is very helpful for improving the course. The main areas of concern the last time this course was taught were a tendency for the course coordinator to talk too fast and some lack of clarity of exactly what students needed to learn. I have tried to deal with these issues by slightly reducing the amount of material I cover in each lecture and adding some notes on the minimum knowledge I expect under each weeks' tutorial description. Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz