

# Political Science 3386: International Political Economy

Spring 2021

Online

CRN: 20411

Credit Hours: 3

Instructor: Dr. Christopher Patane

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**Office Hours:** Remote only, over Zoom/Discord/Blackboard Collaborate/Email.

Due to COVID-19 I won't be meeting with students in person in my office. However, I will be available by email, over Blackboard, and on my Discord server (see below). Other than late night emails, I should be able to get back to students with questions relatively quickly. I am also more than happy to voice or video call with any student who wants to talk or speak relatively face to face.

## Course Description

How come politicians are so obsessed with “bringing jobs” to the US? Why would a city in Texas pay a company to build a factory here? How do individual people like us survive in a world where mega-corporations have so much influence?

This course focuses on questions like these, and others that are common in the social scientific study of international political economy (IPE). IPE rests at the intersection of economics and international relations, and focuses on questions where this intersection takes place. For example, we will discuss how international trade affects a country's domestic population, and how that changes policy. Conversely, we will examine the political interactions that resulted in the international organizations that coordinate and affect international trade.

During the course we will focus on both the theories of international political economy, and several topic areas such as monetary relations, trade, and development. You will be asked throughout the class to think about and discuss the interactions between local and national politics, policy and economics, and the roles of all the actors in the international system. Throughout the class, more technical discussions will be supplemented with examinations of real-world examples.

This class will be conducted entirely online. Please look below for all the ways that you will be able to keep in touch with the instructor.

## Course Material

**There are no required textbooks for this course.** Instead, readings for each week will be posted as PDFs to the course Blackboard page. Students are responsible for reading the assigned articles during the week they are assigned.

Readings will be accompanied each week by posted outlines that are to be guides to the more complex readings. There will also be brief recordings available to guide thinking for the week.

Each week, you will see a new folder appear in the “Weekly Assignments” section of the course Blackboard page. That folder will have all of the reading assignments you will need for the week, as well as directions and links to the week’s assignments.

## Grading

Your final course grade will be calculated from the following sources:

1. Weekly Reading Reflections: 75 (5 points per week)
2. Weekly Discussion Board: 75 (5 points per week)
3. Literature Review Topic Proposal: 10 points
4. Literature Review First Draft: 50 points
5. Literature Review Final Draft: 100 points

## Weekly Reflections

Each week, students will be expected to make at least one private reflection post in response to one of several guiding questions for the week. This is where students will apply the ideas and concepts in the week’s content. Responses **must** be at least a paragraph and directly back up their thoughts with something from the assigned readings. These will only be seen by the writer and the course instructor, and students are free to criticize or supplement the week’s readings with their own thoughts.

## Weekly Discussion Board

Think of these as taking the place of in-person discussion.

Each week, I will post a “controversial” question or two that are related to the week’s readings. They are designed to make sure everyone understands the basic arguments/findings of the assigned readings and will give students space to help each other while also getting feedback from the instructor. Full credit will be given to those who clearly make an honest effort to participate, incorrect arguments or confusion about the week’s material will not be penalized.

## Literature Reviews

Even if you wind up hating political economy, or never use this class (or a Political Science Major) in the real world, the most important skill you can develop is your analytical writing. No matter the job you do after your time at Sam Houston, knowing how to ask questions, find and organize evidence, and describe that to others is an essential skill.

Because this is a writing enhanced course, students will spend the entire semester working on a literature review about a topic of their choice related to political economy. At each stage, from proposal to final draft, there will be opportunities for students to get feedback and advice from the instructor. As assignment deadlines get closer, there will be further instructions posted to Blackboard.

## Grading Scale

A: 90-100

B: 80-89

C: 70-79

D: 60-69

F: Below 60

## Blackboard

All communication for this course will be conducted via the course's Blackboard site and University email. Any supplementary material, assignments, or changes to the course structure will be made available on this site. Each student should ensure that they have access to these materials and are able to receive emails through their student account. Please note that I cannot accept or respond to student emails that come from a non-university address.

## Discord

In addition to email and Blackboard, I am using Discord to provide a place where students and I can meet, exchange instant messages, talk over voice/video, and stream. It is entirely free and provides a less formal environment where students can talk to each other or to me.

To set up an account on the Discord server:

1. Visit <https://discordapp.com/>
2. If you don't already have an account, click the "Register" button.
3. Once your account is created (please keep your username class/work appropriate), click on this link: <https://discord.gg/Q3W6FJD> and you should automatically be sent to the server.

4. The service will run fine on a web browser, so there is no need to download any software. If you would like to download the app to use on your phone or home computers, the site has apps available for most platforms.

Once you are on the server, you will see that there are text and voice “channels” for each of my classes this semester. You are free to look in, chat with, and generally interact with the students in classes that are not your own—this is an informal and open space. There are also a number of text and voice chat rooms available as “Student Study Spaces” where groups of you can work together.

## **Information and University Policies**

### **Academic Dishonesty:**

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

[http://www.shsu.edu/~slo\\_www/](http://www.shsu.edu/~slo_www/)

### **Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy:**

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: “a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20....” A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/861001.pdf>

### **Students with Disabilities Policy:**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail [disability@shsu.edu](mailto:disability@shsu.edu)). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/7ff819c3-39f3-491d-b688-db5a330ced92.pdf>

## **Visitors in the Classroom:**

Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

## **Copyright on Lecture and Course Materials**

Copyright 2021 (Christopher Patane) as to this syllabus and all lectures. During this course, students are prohibited from selling notes or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the express written permission of the instructor teaching this course.

## **Emergencies, Crises, and Mental Health**

Sometimes the study of Political Science involves dealing with difficult material. In some cases, these may reflect or reference your own personal, family, or group experiences. Other times, life events may interfere with your ability to succeed in class. We do not want to neglect our own health or well-being. If you need support, the Counseling Center can be reached at 936-294-1720. The [website](#) also contains self-help resources, and those services available in the Huntsville community.

As with all other parts of the course, students are welcome and encouraged to come talk to me to voice their concerns, seek support, or discuss accommodation for coursework after a crisis.

## **Class Outline, Schedule**

I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus at any time. Changes will be announced in class, through email, and on the course Canvas site. It is the responsibility of the student to take note of any changes.

## **Section 1: An Introduction to International Political Economy**

### **Week 1: January 13-15**

#### Course Introduction

1. "How to Read an Academic Article" Outline
2. Dr. Pacheco-Vega Posts linked on Blackboard

### **Week 2: January 18-21**

#### International Economic History

1. Kenneth L. Sokoloff and Stanley L. Engerman, 2000. "History Lessons"
2. Edward E. Baptist *The Half Has Never Been Told*, 2014. Intro and Chapter 7 "Seed"

## **Section 2: Topics in IPE**

### **Week 3: January 25-29**

#### International Monetary Relations

1. J. Lawrence Broz and Jeffry A. Frieden, 2001. "The Political Economy of International Monetary Relations."

### **Literature Review Topic Proposal Due Sunday, January 31**

### **Week 4: February 1-5**

#### International Finance

1. Jeffry Frieden and Menzie Chinn, 2011. "Welcome to Argentina: How America Borrowed Its Way into a Debt Crisis."
2. Edward E. Baptist, *The Half Has Never Been Told*, 2014. Chapter 8 "Blood"

## **Week 5: February 8-12**

### International Trade

1. Helen V. Milner, 1999. "The Political Economy of International Trade."
2. Judith Goldstein 2017. "Trading in the Twenty-First Century."

## **Week 6: February 15-19**

### Trade Agreements and Treaties

1. Yotam Margalit, 2011. "Costly Jobs: Trade-related Layoffs, Government Compensation and Voting in U.S. Elections"
2. Leonardo Baccini 2019. "The Economics and Politics of Preferential Trade Agreements"

## **Week 7: February 22-26**

### The Role of Multinational Corporations

1. Nathan M. Jensen, 2003. "Democratic Governance and Multinational Corporations."
2. Sonal S. Pandya, 2016. "Political Economy of Foreign Direct Investment: Globalized Production in the Twenty-First Century."

## **Week 8: March 1-5**

### Foreign Aid

1. David H. Bearce and Daniel C. Tirone, 2010. "Foreign Aid Effectiveness and the Strategic Goals of Donor Governments."
2. Michael G. Findley, 2018. "Does Foreign Aid Build Peace."

## **Week 9: March 8-12**

### Development I

1. Adam Przeworski and Fernando Limongi, 1993. "Political Regimes and Economic Growth."
2. Peter Gourevitch, 2008. "The Role of Politics in Economic Development."

## **Week 10: March 15-19**

**No Class, Spring Break**

## **Week 11: March 22-26**

### Development II

1. Michael Albertus and Victor Menaldo, 2015. "Capital in the Twenty-First Century—in the Rest of the World."
2. Christopher S. P. Magee and John A. Doces, 2015. "Reconsidering Regime Type and Growth."

**First Draft of Literature Review Due Sunday, March 28 at 11:59pm**

## **Week 12: March 29-April 2**

### Economic Sanctions

1. A. Cooper Drury, Patrick James, and Dursun Peksen, 2014. "Neo-Kantianism and Coercive Diplomacy."
2. Dursun Peksen and A. Cooper Drury, 2010. "Coercive or Corrosive: The Negative Impact of Economic Sanctions on Democracy."
3. Abel Escriba-Folch, 2012. "Authoritarian Responses to Foreign Pressure."

## **Week 13: April 4-9**

### Economics and War

1. Peter Andreas, 2004. "The Clandestine Political Economy of War and Peace in Bosnia."
2. B. Peter Rosendorff and Todd Sandler, 2005. "The Political Economy of Transnational Terrorism"
3. Michael Ross 2006. "A Closer Look at Oil, Diamonds, and Civil War."

## **Section 3: Putting it all Together: Theories of IPE**

## **Week 14: April 12-16**

### The Earliest Theory: Realism

1. Wolforth, 2004. "Realism"

### **Week 15: April 19-23**

#### Evolving Past Realism

1. Robert O. Keohane, 1984. "Bounded Rationality and Redefinitions of Self Interest."
2. David A. Lake 1996. "Anarchy, Hierarchy, and the Variety of International Relations."

### **Week 16: April 26-30**

#### Constructivism and Others

1. Martha Finnemore and Kathryn Sikkink, 2001. "Taking Stock..."
2. David A. Lake, 2011. "Why 'isms' Are Evil"

### **Week 17 & 18: May 3-12**

All assignments and Final Draft of Literature Review due at 11:59pm on Wednesday, May 12.