International Political Economy  IR 312 spring 2016

SYLLABUS

Section 2: Thornton Hall 335    Class schedule # 4049    Mondays & Wednesdays 2:10 – 3:50

Professor: Kathleen McAfee  4 units  Prerequisites: IR308, upper-division standing

Office hours: HSS 381, most Mondays & Wednesdays 4:15 – 5:30; other times by appointment kmcafee@sfsu.edu

REQUIRED TEXT:

Download study questions on iLearn for each assigned text chapter for reading. Print pdfs of slides for study. Bring textbook to class.

RESOURCES (recommended supplements to main textbook; very useful but not required):
Dollars & Sense Collective Real World Globalization 2016 edition, ± $35 Dollars & Sense Books: buy online
Raymond C. Miller 2008 International Political Economy: Contrasting World Views <$35 new <$10 used 978-0415384094

WEEK 1

1. Jan. 27 Overview of course themes, logistics, & expectations
Lecture: What is political economy? Why is IPE controversial? Course topics, requirements, grading; students’ questions
READING O&W Global Political Economy Introduction (required); Ch 1 & 2 (encouraged, especially for IR majors)

WEEK 2

2. Feb. 1 The rise of capitalism: Globalization phase I
READING BEFORE CLASS: O&W Ch 3 Forging a world economy pp 43-66
Lecture & discussion: The world from 1300 – 1800; Origins & dynamics of capitalism; Empires & their consequences

3. Feb. 3 The emergence of a global economy: Globalization phase II
READ BEFORE CLASS: O&W Ch4 Industrial revolution, pax Britannia and imperialism pp 67-90
Lecture & discussion: Industrial revolution; transition from feudalism to mercantilism to free trade; colonies & the world economy

ASSIGNMENT 1: Submit on iLearn BEFORE 11:55 PM SATURDAY 400-word summary of Ch. 4’s main ideas, guided by the questions on iLearn. All assignments are due at this time. Note the number and letter of each part of the questions at the beginning of each part of your answer. USE YOUR OWN WORDS – don’t just copy phrases from the readings. Try not to wait until Saturday to do them. Late assignments are not accepted. Lack of internet access on Saturday night is not an excuse!

WEEK 3

4. Feb. 8 The 20TH century 1: world wars & depression
Video: The Commanding Heights (Chapters 1 – 8, at least) THERE WILL BE A QUESTION ON THE EXAM ABOUT THIS FILM
You can view the entire video series and read or download the full transcripts at http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/commandingheights/hi/story/ch_menu.html
5. Feb. 10    Economic history & ideology in the 20th century; the 1945-1970s ‘golden age’
Lecture, discussion work on study Qs: J.M Keynes, Bretton Woods; US hegemony & the ‘3 worlds’; the developmental state
READ BEFORE CLASS: O&W Ch 5 part 1: World wars & the post-1945 order pp 91-96

WEEK 4

READ BEFORE CLASS: O&W Ch 5 part 2 World wars & the post-1945 and post-cold-war order pp 96-105
Lecture, discussion of study Qs: Economic slowdown & the rise of neoliberalism; global markets & the competition state
US Income Distribution Change Chart http://im.ft-static.com/content/images/d823a614-9e82-11e5-b45d-4812f209f861.img

7. Feb. 17    Political economy theory I: market-centered theory (economic liberalism)
READ BEFORE CLASS: Ch 9 Global division of labour pp 182-187
R Miller 2006 ‘Neoclassical economics & the market model’ pp 1-13 iLearn
Chris Tilly 1989 ‘Shaking the invisible hand’ in pp 90-92 in Real Word Micro Dollars & Sense iLearn
Milton Friedman 1962 “The relation between economic freedom & political freedom” pp 7-21 Capitalism & Freedom
Univ. of Chicago Press. This influential neoliberal book argues that capitalism and democracy go together. iLearn
Lecture & discussion: The market world; methodological individualism; classical → neoclassical economics, efficiency, externalities
ASSIGNMENT 2: 400 words addressing the questions on economic liberalism given on iLearn. Post on iLearn BEFORE 11:55 PM SATURDAY

WEEK 5

8. Feb. 22    The changing contours of the global economy
READ BEFORE CLASS: P Dicken Global Shift Ed. 7, Ch 2 ‘The changing global economic map’ Especially read the charts, maps, & tables iLearn
RESOURCES ETC Group 2005 Oligopoly Inc. Concentration in Corporate Power Communiqué 91 iLearn
Lecture & discussion with slides: Who makes what, how, & for whom? Who imports what, exports what, & to where?

9. Feb. 24    TBA
QUIZ on data in Dicken - 50 points

WEEK 6

10. Feb. 29   International trade
READ BEFORE CLASS: O&W Ch 6 part 1 International trade pp 109-115
Lecture & discussion: trade theory, comparative advantage, trade deficits & surpluses
11. Mar. 2  
**Global expansion of trade; governments & trade**

Lecture & discussion: Overview of economic trends post WWII; free trade and protectionism  
(global governance & multilateral institutions will be addressed in more detail during Week 13)

**READ BEFORE CLASS:** O&W Ch 6 part 2 International trade pp 115-131  
CPE Brief ‘Free Trade and Comparative Advantage’ iLearn

**ASSIGNMENT 3:** Submit on iLearn BEFORE 11:55 PM SATURDAY 400-word summary of this week’s main ideas, guided by the questions on iLearn.

**WEEK 7**

12. Mar. 7  
**Transnational corporations and regime change in the global South: The case of Indonesia**

**THERE WILL BE A QUESTION ON THE EXAM ABOUT THIS FILM**

Followed by discussion

13. Mar. 9  
**TNCs; transnational production & the NIDL; Transpacific Partnership (TPP)**

**READ BEFORE CLASS:** O&W parts of Ch 7 Transnational Production pp 132-153, especially through p 145

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Xiomara Castro, Citizens Trade Initiative [http://www.citizen.org/trade/](http://www.citizen.org/trade/)

**RESOURCES:**  
Washington's Dirty Little (Trade) Secret [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kOehzCkPMP8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kOehzCkPMP8)

Lecture & discussion: From Fordism to flexible production; TNCs; commodity chains; the changing economic roles of governments

**WEEK 8**

14. Mar. 14  
**MID-TERM REVIEW**

15. Mar. 16  
**MID-TERM EXAM**

**SPRING BREAK**

**WEEK 9**

16. Mar. 28  
**The new international division of labor (NIDL) among countries and global regions**

**READ O&W** parts of Ch 7 Transnational Production pp 132-153, especially through p 145

**READ BEFORE CLASS:** most of O&W Ch 9 Global division of labour pp 182-199 [pp 185-187 was assigned for class 7]  
Lecture & discussion: Globalization & the changing role of TNCs; China and India.  

**ASSIGNMENT 4:** Submit on iLearn BEFORE 11:55 PM SATURDAY 400-word summary of this week’s main ideas, guided by the questions on iLearn.

**Mar. 30**  
**Video:** *The Cotton Wars*  
**THERE WILL BE A QUESTION ON THE FINAL EXAM ABOUT THIS FILM**

Followed by discussion:
WEEK 10

17. Apr 4. The global financial system I - the international monetary system & the international credit system

READ BEFORE CLASS: O&W Ch 8 The global financial system pp 154-181 (OK to skip Mundell-Fleming pp 157-158)

Lecture: finance basics


18. Apr 6 The 2008 financial crash in the US

Video: Inside Job THERE WILL BE A QUESTION ON THE FINAL EXAM ABOUT THIS FILM

Take-home QUIZ on the financial system – 50 points, due Monday in class

WEEK 11

19. Apr 11 The global financial system II - US financial crisis and the current global great recession

READ BEFORE CLASS: O&W Ch 13 Ideas: “Interests & the global financial crisis” pp 273-276

READ BEFORE CLASS: MacEwan Causes of the Economic Crisis: Inequality Power Ideology iLearn

Short video on the US mortgage meltdown: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HkD2Jo0ZgRM

Lecture & discussion: Bubble economies; bank bail-outs, & the great recession

TAKE-HOME QUIZ DUE

20. Apr 13 The global financial system III - debt-fueled economic growth & financialization

READ BEFORE CLASS: Some newer financial crisis readings may be posted – check iLearn.

Short video wealth inequality in the USA: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPkkOQijnsM&feature=youtu.be

(Also see http://inequality.org/tax-rich-animated-fairy-tale/)

Lecture & discussion: financial crises the current US/global financial and economic crisis

WEEK 12

21. Apr 18 Political economy theory II: Society-centered theory (historical materialism & Marxism)

READ BEFORE CLASS: Michael Schuman 2013 ‘Marx’s Revenge: How Class Struggle Is Shaping the World’ Time magazine


RESOURCES: R Miller ‘Classical Marxism and the capitalist mode of production’ iLearn

short video: Marx on the concept of alienation: https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/14ca456b544a6e2b?projector=1

Lecture & discussion: Theories of the social world: from classical political economy to neo-Marxism
22. Apr. 20  Comparing market- & society-centered models of human nature, economy & social change

RESOURCE:  R Pollin 2006 ‘What’s wrong with neoliberalism: the Marx, Keynes, & Polanyi problems’ iLearn in Real World Macro Dollars & Sense pp 106 – 109

Video: Prof. Richard Wolff How Capitalism is Killing Itself  THERE WILL BE A QUESTION ON THE FINAL EXAM ABOUT THIS FILM https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6P97r9Ci5Kg&list=PLPjpw1Wy7DONGAhRkyiQ-qOINUNJk&index=4 35 min.

ASSIGNMENT 5: Submit on iLearn by 2 PM SUNDAY 400-500-word summary of this week’s main ideas, guided by the questions: on iLearn.

WEEK 13

23. Apr. 25  The global ‘North’ & ‘South’; the effects of trade and foreign direct investment (FDI) on development

READ BEFORE CLASS: O&W Ch 11 Economic development pp 219-241 SHOW 1ST PART OF LIFE & DEBT ON IMF?


Lecture & discussion: Developmental states, import-substitution industrialization; FDI; underdevelopment/ dependency theories

ASSIGNMENT 6: Submit on iLearn by 2 PM SUNDAY 400-word summary of Chapter 11’s main ideas, guided by the questions: on iLearn.

WEEK 14

25. May 2  Political economy of the global environment

READ BEFORE CLASS: O&W Ch 12 Global environmental change Environmental Studies Debates pp 247-249;
Mainstreaming Environmentalism (don’t miss Box 12.4!) and Key Issues pp 252-259.


K McAfee 2003 ‘Whose Planet Are We Saving?’ http://www.kmcafee.com/whose_planet.php iLearn

Jared Diamond ‘What’s Your Consumption Factor?’ NY Times opinion editorial Jan 2, 2008 iLearn

Video: Annie Leonard The Story of Stuff  20 minutes

Lecture & discussion: Global environmental governance; environmental debt; environmental justice.

26. May 4  International political economy of climate change

Powerpoint: Cap & Trade – a solution to global warming?  30 minutes

Lecture & discussion: Environmental treaties, green markets & other responses to climate change

ASSIGNMENT 7: Submit on iLearn by 2 PM SUNDAY 400-word summary of this week’s main ideas, guided by the questions: on iLearn.
WEEK 15

27. May 9  Global governance – States & multilateral institutions: IMF, World Bank, WTO; non-state actors

READ BEFORE CLASS: O&W Ch 13 Ideas ‘Rise & stall of the Washington Consensus” pp 267-70

O&W Ch 15 Governing the Global Political Economy Part 1 pp 295-305 (skip Global Compact section; read pp 305-11 for May 11)

[REVIEW: O&W Ch 6 International trade pp 119-122 (sections on the WTO)]

Lecture & discussion: The decline of the state? The World Bank, IMF, WTO and their critics

28. May 11  Policy beyond the Washington consensus; alternatives to globalization as we’ve known it

READ BEFORE CLASS: O&W Ch 15 Part 2 Governing the Global Political Economy ‘21st-Century Challenges’ pp 305-311

READ BEFORE CLASS: Some newer readings may be posted – check iLearn.

RESOURCES:  http://shiftchange.org/video-clips/

Lecture & discussion: Civil society, social movements, non-government organizations; new regional initiatives by states

WEEK 16

29. May 16  FINAL REVIEW

Before class, use the IR forum to post the numbers of the questions you want the professor & TAs to discuss

FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, May 18 1:30 - 4:00 pm  FINAL IS IN REGULAR CLASSROOM BUT NOT AT REGULAR TIME

GRADING: You can earn a total of 1,000 points (or slight more from extras-credit exam Qs). Here’s how:

Assignments = up to 300 points (up to 50 points each for the best 6 of 7 required and graded assignments)

There are 7 assignments: 4 before the mid-term exam and 3 after the mid-term. You should do all 7 to improve your comprehension and prepare for exams. This also increases your chance of earning close to 300 points because your lowest grade will be dropped.

You can miss one assignment, but if you submit fewer than 6 graded assignments 20 points will be deducted for each missing assignment in addition to the up-to-50 points that you will already be missing for the assignment.

WARNING! THIS IS AN EASY WAY TO LOWER YOUR GRADE OR EVEN FAIL THE COURSE NEEDLESSLY!

Participation = up to 100 points based on attendance, taking part in discussions and/or iLearn forums

Quizzes = up to 100 points

Midterm exam = up to 200 points

Final exam = up to 300 points
COURSE LOGISTICS AND TIPS:

Changes This syllabus is a draft. Some dates may change to accommodate guest speaker or unforeseen events. You’ll be notified by email & iLearn. Check iLearn to be sure you’re following the latest syllabus or to download an extra copy.

Attendance. We take attendance because experience has shown that it is difficult to pass this class if you miss more than 2 of the lectures or films. Don’t expect to be counted if you arrive after role has been taken. In cases of serious, documented emergencies, we'll try to accommodate your needs.

Graduate Teaching Assistants: will provide feedback and help grade your assignments with my input, lead pre-exam review sessions, and answer questions out of class. Please respect their time constraints when requesting help, but DO take advantage of their availability. They are here to help you.

Reading: You really do have to do it to do understand the lectures, pass pop quizzes, do well on assignments and exams, and get a decent grade. You won’t need to read every page of the all chapters in O’Brien & Williams. The required chapters and pages are specified in the syllabus.

iLearn is your source for the additional required & optional readings. You can read them online or –better– print the readings for yourself to highlight or underline. iLearn staff can advise you. iLearn allows you & the instructors to keep track of your progress & maintain a record of your grades.

Assignments: You should complete 4 assignments before the mid-term and 3 after the mid-term. Your lowest grade will be dropped. BUT if you submit fewer than 6 assignments, 20 points will be deducted for each one missing – an easy way to fail. (See explanation of grading above). Late assignments cannot be accepted except in cases of documented emergencies. This is to be fair to the instructor, TAs, & your fellow students. To give you flexibility they are due on iLearn by SATURDAY 11:55 PM, but that doesn’t mean you should wait until Saturday to do them!

Assignments (not exams) are handled digitally (iLearn). You must upload your written work on iLearn. That’s how we read & grade your work & make comments for you. Preferred format are MSWord (.doc or .docx). You can use .pdf or plain text format if you must. Avoid .wpd or .wps formats.

Note the number and letter of each part of the questions at the beginning of each part of your answer. It's OK if your answer is a bit longer than 400 words but it should not be much shorter. It's OK to use bullet points as part of your answer. USE YOUR OWN WORDS. If you quote a phrase of more than 3 words from the text or lecture, put the quoted words in quotation marks and note the source in parentheses.

Quizzes: There will be two scheduled quizzes during the semester on the assigned reading for any particular week. There may also be pop quizzes.

Exams: The midterm and final will comprise a combination of short essay, short answer, and multiple choice questions. No blue books are needed.

Bring your textbook to class, especially the class sessions when we will be discussing a textbook chapter, as indicated on the syllabus.

Real World Globalization is a supplementary text with short, punchy articles by Dollars and Sense magazine's Editorial Collective. The on-line articles by the Center for Popular Economics (some are in the syllabus) is another good source of easier-to-digest information.

International Political Economy: Contrasting World Views was written by Emeritus SFSU IR professor Raymond C. Miller after nearly 40 years teaching this course. It is a superb summary of liberal, institutionalist, & Marxist approaches & their real-world applications.

Videos: They deal with important themes of the class. There will be specific exam questions on each one of the videos.

Class participation is very important. You can’t get an A unless you attend regularly. Speak up in discussions! If you have trouble doing this, before you come to class, plan at least one thing to say even if it’s just a question. If you’re still shy, speak to the instructor and/or the TA. We’ll help you. Every class has students who like to talk and feel at ease doing so. If you’re one of them, great! But keep your points brief to give others a chance.

Office hours are for your benefit. If work or class schedule conflicts prevent you from coming at the stated times, the instructor or a TA can usually make an appointment with you at a mutually convenient time and place. Send one of us an email with IR312 in the subject line.

E-mail: Schedule changes and other announcements will be sent to the address you use when you enroll. If you use a different email address, be sure to have your SFSU email forwarded to that address and check it regularly. The instructor or TA will try to answer your e-mailed questions.

Plagiarism will result at least in failure of the assignment and possibly failure of the class or expulsion from the university. You should review what constitutes plagiarism: see http://online.sfsu.edu/~ron/StudentHelp/Plagiarism.html and http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml.
Students with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations are encouraged to contact the instructor. The Disability Programs and Resource Center (DPRC) is available to facilitate the reasonable accommodations process. The DPRC is located in the Student Service Building and can be reached by telephone (voice/TTY 415-338-2472) or by email dprc@sfsu.edu.”

Sexual violence, harassment discrimination SF State fosters a campus free of sexual violence including sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and/or any form of sex or gender discrimination. If you disclose a personal experience as an SF State student, the course instructor is required to notify the Dean of Students. To disclose any such violence confidentially, contact: The SAFE Place - (415) 338-2208; http://www.sfsu.edu/~safe_plc/ Counseling and Psychological Services Center - (415) 338-2208; http://psyservs.sfsu.edu/ For more information on your rights and available resources: http://titleix.sfsu.edu

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The SAFE Place - (415) 338-2208; http://www.sfsu.edu/~safe_plc/
Counseling and Psychological Services Center - (415) 338-2208; http://psyservs.sfsu.edu/
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