
PSC 8270
International Political Economy
<https://elearning.villanova.edu/>

Summer Session II 2022
M/W 5:00–8:00pm
Location: Zoom

Instructor: Ryan Weldzius, Ph.D.
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Office Hours: by appointment
Office hours [Zoom link](#)
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Economics is the study of the production, distribution, and consumption of scarce resources. *Political economy* considers the role that the state plays in such production, distribution, and consumption. *International political economy* considers the flows of such production, distribution, and consumption across national borders, recognizing that not just national governments play a role, but foreign governments and international institutions must also be taken into account.

In this course, you will be exposed to theoretical models of IPE in order to analyze current and historical moments in international politics. The course is designed not just to understand these historical and contemporary challenges to international political economy, but also to stimulate your curiosity to pursue new research questions. An important goal of the course is to equip you with the analytical tools required to pursue such research.

Core Topics

1. International trade
2. Immigration
3. International monetary relations

Course goals

1. Sharpen analytical skills (including use of quantitative data)
2. Understand the interplay of international politics and international economics

LEARNING METHODOLOGY:

To understand any of this, we will need a rudimentary grasp of international economics and international relations, which will be given primarily in the course lectures. I will lecture on

this material at the beginning of each class for approx. 20 minutes, allowing time to answer any questions you may have. The rest of the time will be devoted to discussing the assigned readings, which I expect each of you to have read and thought about prior to coming to class.

READINGS:

The course readings will be drawn from a textbook and academic journal articles, which I will link on our course Blackboard page.

The theoretical material for each lesson will come from Thomas Oatley's *International Political Economy* (6th Edition). This is an excellent text that summarizes the main theories on which the scholarship we will discuss is based. Falvey Library has an online version of the text.

- Oatley, Thomas. 2019. *International Political Economy* (6th Edition). New York: Routledge. [Digital copy available [here](#)]

I also recommend you sign up for the Financial Times' weekly newsletter "Trade Secrets" by trade specialist Alan Beattie. You have free access to FT through Villanova and can sign up for the newsletter here: <https://www.ft.com/trade-secrets>.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION:

Written work will comprise 60 percent of the grade. The remaining 40 percent is determined by class attendance, regular and active participation, and effective leadership as a discussant each week. Students are expected to complete the readings assigned for the week and come to class prepared to actively participate.

- **Class participation** (10%): I expect you all to engage the material prior to coming to class and take part fully in all of the in-class group discussions.
- **Discussion leader** (30%): You will lead the discussion of one reading each week (10% × 3), which includes briefly presenting the material to the class (< five minutes), introducing questions or topics for discussion, and drafting a one-page outline of the reading (including the research question/puzzle, argument, methods, and summary of findings).
- **Final Exam** (60%): On Monday, August 1, I will present you with one essay prompt for each week of the class (Week 2, 3, and 4). You will have 48-hours to write three short analytical essays on each topic. These essays should be less than six-pages double-spaced and use sources from the class only. Please use in-text citations — e.g., (Weldzius 2022). Each essay should have a clear argument — "In this essay, I argue that...." — and you should fully support your argument using the class material. This exercise will help prepare you for your comprehensive exams for the MA degree.

Grade Scale: please familiarize with the graduate grading system found [here](#).

Grade Appeals. If you believe you received an incorrect grade, you may formally appeal it to me. The appeal will consist of a one-page typed explanation that identifies the problem and presents a reasoned argument for the proposed change.

SCHEDULE:

WEEK 1 (*July 6*): Introduction

Class 1: What is IPE?

Read:

- Oatley - Preface, Chapter 1.
- Cohen, Benjamin J. *International Political Economy*. Routledge, 2017. Introduction (pp. 1–10)

In class: overview syllabus/course

WEEK 2 (*July 11–13*): International Trade, Institutions, and Individual Preferences

Class 2: Trade Cooperation

Read (lecture): Oatley - Chapters 2–3.

Read (discussion):

- Davis, Christina L. “International institutions and issue linkage: Building support for agricultural trade liberalization.” *American Political Science Review* 98, no. 1 (2004): 153-169.
- Davis, Christina L. and Krzysztof J. Pelc. “Cooperation in Hard Times.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 61, no. 2 (2017): 398-429.
- Goldstein, Judith. “Trading in the twenty-first century: is there a role for the World Trade Organization?” *Annual Review of Political Science* 20 (2017): 545-564.
- Baccini, Leonardo. “The economics and politics of preferential trade agreements.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 22 (2019): 75-92.

Class 3: Society-Centered Approach to Trade Politics

Read (lecture): Oatley - Chapter 4.

Read (discussion):

- Rogowski, Ronald. “Political cleavages and changing exposure to trade.” *American Political Science Review* 81, no. 4 (1987): 1121-1137.
- Mansfield, Edward D., and Diana C. Mutz. “Support for free trade: Self-interest, sociotropic politics, and out-group anxiety.” *International Organization* 63, no. 3 (2009): 425-457.

- Rho, Sungmin, and Michael Tomz. “Why don’t trade preferences reflect economic self-interest?” *International Organization* 71, no. S1 (2017): S85-S108.
- Frieden, Jeffrey. “Attitudes, interests, and the politics of trade.” Forthcoming in *Political Science Quarterly*.

WEEK 3 (*July 18–20*): Firms and Foreign Direct Investment

Class 4: Firm-Centered Approach to Trade Politics

Read (lecture): Oatley - Chapters 5, 8–9.

Read (discussion):

- Madeira, Mary Anne. “New trade, new politics: intra-industry trade and domestic political coalitions.” *Review of International Political Economy* 23, no. 4 (2016): 677-711.
- Kim, In Song. “Political cleavages within industry: Firm-level lobbying for trade liberalization.” *American Political Science Review* 111, no. 1 (2017): 1-20.
- Osgood, Iain, Dustin Tingley, Thomas Bernauer, In Song Kim, Helen V. Milner, and Gabriele Spilker. “The charmed life of superstar exporters: Survey evidence on firms and trade policy.” *The Journal of Politics* 79, no. 1 (2017): 133-152.
- Osgood, Iain. “Globalizing the supply chain: Firm and industrial support for US trade agreements.” *International Organization* 72, no. 2 (2018): 455-484.

Class 5: Trade and Development

Read (lecture): Oatley - Chapters 6–7.

Read (discussion):

- Kerner, Andrew. “What we talk about when we talk about foreign direct investment.” *International Studies Quarterly* 58, no. 4 (2014): 804-815.
- Pandya, Sonal S. “Political economy of foreign direct investment: Globalized production in the twenty-first century.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 19 (2016): 455-475.
- Dietrich, Simone, and Amanda Murdie. “Human rights shaming through INGOs and foreign aid delivery.” *The Review of International Organizations* 12, no. 1 (2017): 95-120.
- Dreher, Axel, Jan-Egbert Sturm, and James Raymond Vreeland. “Development aid and international politics: Does membership on the UN Security Council influence World Bank decisions?” *Journal of Development Economics* 88, no. 1 (2009): 1-18.

WEEK 4 (*July 25–27*): Immigration and the International Monetary System

Class 6: Immigration

Read (discussion):

- Hainmueller, Jens, and Daniel J. Hopkins. “Public attitudes toward immigration.” *Annual review of political science* 17 (2014): 225-249.
- Peters, Margaret E. “Open trade, closed borders immigration in the era of globalization.” *World Politics* 67, no. 1 (2015): 114-154.
- Singer, David Andrew. “Migrant remittances and exchange rate regimes in the developing world.” *American Political Science Review* 104, no. 2 (2010): 307-323.
- Shin, Adrian J. “Tyrants and migrants: Authoritarian immigration policy.” *Comparative Political Studies* 50, no. 1 (2017): 14-40.

Class 7: International Monetary Politics

Read (lecture): Oatley - Chapters 12–13.

Read (discussion):

- Broz, J. Lawrence, and Jeffrey A. Frieden. “The political economy of international monetary relations.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 4, no. 1 (2001): 317-343.
- Walter, Stefanie. “Globalization and the welfare state: Testing the microfoundations of the compensation hypothesis.” *International Studies Quarterly* 54, no. 2 (2010): 403-426.
- Fernández-Albertos, José. “The politics of central bank independence.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 18 (2015): 217-237.
- Ehrmann, Michael, and Marcel Fratzscher. “Politics and monetary policy.” *Review of Economics and Statistics* 93, no. 3 (2011): 941-960.

WEEK 5 (*August 1*): Final Exam