Instructor: Horatiu Rus

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Office Location: Hagey Hall 203
Office Hours: Wednesdays 11:00-12:00 pm or by appointment

Course Description:
This advanced-undergraduate/graduate political economy seminar proposes an examination of the political underpinnings of international trade, taking a national, regional and multilateral perspective. The material discussed is both theoretical and applied with special attention to key institutional arrangements – including interest groups, domestic institutions and international intergovernmental organizations - important to trade policy making.

Course Objectives:
By the end of this course, students should:

- Understand the emergence and evolution of international trade policy in the pre- and post WWII period, as well as the novel aspects of its current challenges
- Understand the main economic arguments for and against freer trade and their limitations
- Become familiar with key concepts and institutions in international trade
- Understand the main historical and current debates around the key domestic determinants of trade policy making and their international role
- Become familiar with the most important policy discussions pertaining to Canada’s internal and international trade
- Develop familiarity with non-trade ramifications of trade policy and understand the interactions with other public policy areas such as: development, labour markets and environmental regimes.
Course Requirements, Expectations, and Standards:

Attendance:

All students are expected to attend class. Penalties for an unreasonable number of absences throughout the term may be imposed.

Participation: This is a seminar, therefore all students are expected to fully engage with the readings and participate in the class discussions every week. Each student should take an informed and reasoned position based on each of the reading components. A component of your grade will reflect this. (see below)

Requirements and Evaluation:

Participation + weekly response papers: 20%
Readings for class discussion and short written assignments will be assigned each week. Your critical analysis of these readings written up in a 2-page response paper is due (almost) every class. This material will also constitute the starting point for the discussion part of each class. Weekly papers will be marked on a binary (completed-pass or not completed-fail) scale.

Midterm Exam: 25%
This in-class exam will be based on the material covered in class and will consist of several short-essay questions. Tentative date: Tuesday, October 21st. Please note: Student travel plans are not an acceptable reason for granting an alternative examination time.

Presentation + Referee Report: 15% + 5%
The last two classes are dedicated to student presentations. Each student will discuss the core argument of their final essay in a short class presentation. The use of slides and/or handouts is encouraged. Every paper presentation will be assigned a student referee, who will read the material ahead of time and will provide brief comments on the paper following the presentation. The intention is for each of you to receive constructive feedback on your work from your peers (referee and the rest of the class) before writing up the final papers.

Final Essay: 35%
This is a research paper on a specific topic relating to the themes of the course. The topic proposal must be submitted to the instructor for approval as early as possible, and no later than the week prior to the reading week. The final essay will be due on December 10th and will consist of approximately 15 double-spaced pages (20 pages for graduate students). More information of the final essay will be provided in class.

For help with library research consult the Political Science Research Guide link to subject guide http://subjectguides.uwaterloo.ca/politicalscience. Use it to locate books, articles, connect with political science librarian, Jane Forgay, and more.
**Late Policy:**
Late submissions of the weekly written assignments and/or the final essay will suffer a penalty equivalent to 10% for every day they are late. Unless with the instructor's permission, no late work will be accepted more than 5 days after deadline.

**Study Materials:**

These Texts are available online via the UW library:

   These Texts are on 3-hour reserve at the Dana Porter Library.

**Schedule and Readings:**

All students are required to read the textbook chapters and additional readings for every section.

The course webpage on LEARN will provide the actual detailed list of readings used this term, including links to many readings additional to the textbooks. The LEARN Readings page will be updated (at least) weekly.

Normally a campus (or off-campus proxy) internet connection may be required for free access to electronic journals.

I will make clear in class which of the readings are mandatory, which are optional, and which are the subject of the following week’s position papers.
Topic 1: The Evolution of International Trade

Topic 2: The Positive Economics of Trade and Political Implications

Topic 3: Key debates in International the Political Economy of Trade

Topic 4: 
Trade and Domestic Institutions

Topic 5: 
American Trade Policy

Topic 6: Canadian Trade Policy

Topic 7: Trade Multilateralism under the GATT/WTO

Topic 8: Trade Regionalism, Preferential Trade Agreements

Topic 9: Trade and the Environment/ Digital Trade / Trade and Data

Topic 10: Trade and Development/Labour Standards/Inequality/Fair Trade

Topic 11: Final Essay Presentations and Referee Reports

Topic 12: Final Essay Presentations and Referee Reports

University Regulations:

Academic Integrity:

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.
**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, link to policies http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71.

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, link to policies http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70. In addition, consult link to grievances http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/student-grievances-faculty-arts-processes for the Faculty of Arts’ grievance processes.

**Appeals:** A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, link to policies http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72.

**Academic Integrity website (Arts):** link to academic responsibility http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html

**Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo):** link to academic integrity http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/

**Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:**

**Note for students with disabilities:** The AccessAbility Services (AS) Office, located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS Office at the beginning of each academic term.

**Turnitin.com:** Text matching software (Turnitin®) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all material and sources in assignments is documented. Students will be given an option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin®. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin® in this course.