

# PSCI 283: International Political Economy

Winter Semester, 2014  
RCH 211, 9:30-12:20 Wednesdays

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**Instructor:** Dr. Warren Clarke

**Email Address:** wclarke@uwaterloo.ca

**Office Location:** Hagey Hall Room 351.

**Office Hours:** Wednesday 12:30-2:30 or by appointment.

**Course Description:** This course is intended to provide students with an introduction to issues and debates in the field international political economy (IPE). The course outlines the major theoretical traditions in IPE and provides an overview of the history and development of the international economic order. We also delve into select issues in greater detail.

## Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, students should:

- Understand and critically assess the core theoretical frameworks used in the field of international political economy and apply them to areas and issues covered within the course.
- Develop a deeper understanding of important issues, actors, and institutions in global political economy.
- Have the skill to undertake independent research, which includes developing a research question and thesis statement and identifying relevant source material.

## University Regulations:

### Cross-listed course:

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.

## **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, [Student Discipline http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71](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, [Student Petitions http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70](http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70). In addition, consult [Student Grievances http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/student-grievances-faculty-arts-processes](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, [Student Appeals http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72](http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72).

**Academic Integrity website (Arts):** [Academic Integrity http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic\\_responsibility.html](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

**Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo):** [Academic Integrity Office http://uwaterloo.ca/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.

### **Texts:**

Robert O'Brien and Marc Williams, *Global Political Economy* 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Palgrave-Macmillan, 2013. (Required)

Texts are available for purchase at the University of Waterloo bookstore.

Articles are available via the library's e-reserve system.

### **Course Requirements, Expectations, and Standards:**

#### **Assignments:**

*Project Proposal and Annotated Bibliography – 15%: Due Friday February 7<sup>th</sup> in my drop box in Hagey Hall.*

Prior to completing the research paper, students are required to complete and submit a research project proposal and annotated bibliography. The project proposal should contain a clear statement of the paper's main research question and a tentative thesis statement. The annotated bibliography should contain a minimum of **five academic sources** such as peer reviewed journal articles and books. In addition to the sources, you should provide a brief (two to four sentences) statement on the content of each source and how it relates to your research.

The project proposal and annotated bibliography must be submitted prior to final paper.

**Papers submitted without prior approval of the proposal and bibliography will not be marked and will receive a grade of zero.**

*Research Paper – 30% : Due Friday March 21st in my drop box in Hagey Hall*

Following approval of the research proposal and annotated bibliography, students are expected to complete a research paper. Paper should be between 8-10 pages in length and correctly reference at least **seven academic sources**. Papers should include a clear research question, thesis statement, and logically structured supporting argumentation. More details on the paper will be provided in the "writing memo" distributed early in the semester.

#### **Tests & Examinations:**

This class includes both a mid-term test and a final exam. Both tests are closed book and will be comprised of a series of multiple choice, short answer, and essay format questions. The mid-term and final will cover material from both the lectures and the course readings and are intended to assess student's knowledge and application of the course material.

*Mid-Term Test – 20% : Wednesday February 26th*

*Final Examination – 35%: Date TBD*

**Please note: Student travel plans are not an acceptable reason for granting an alternative examination time.**

**Extra Credit:**

Two bonus assignments are available to students wishing to improve their final grade. **Student will get credit for completing each assignment only once. Bonus assignment submissions will be accepted only until the last day of class.**

*Speaker/Presentation Blog Post (Instructor Reviewed) – 2%*

Waterloo boasts numerous events relevant to the themes discussed in this course. Students can earn 2% extra credit on their final grade by attending an instructor-approved presentation and composing a blog post to be posted on the online course environment LEARN. Students are expected to submit their post for instructor approval within one week of the event. I will review the post and may request corrections or changes. Only posts which successfully complete the review process and are posted to LEARN will receive credit. Blog posts should be between 500 and 700 words in length.

Groups and organizations which regularly hold speaking events include:

University of Waterloo Political Science Department  
Wilfrid Laurier University Political Science Department  
Balsillie School of International Affairs  
Centre for International Governance Innovation  
Waterloo Political Economy Group  
Canadian International Council – Waterloo Region Branch  
Centre for Digital Entrepreneurship and Economic Performance

*Article Blog Post (Instructor Reviewed) – 2%*

Students can earn an additional 2% on their final grade by composing a blog post reviewing an article or set of articles related to themes discussed in the course. Posts should not merely summarize the article(s), but should provide analysis and critique. Articles for review will be suggested via the class twitter hashtag (#PSCI283) throughout the the semester.

Posts will be reviewed by the instructor and I may request corrections or changes. Only posts which successfully complete the review process and are posted to LEARN will receive credit. Blog posts should be between 500 and 700 words in length. Some potential article sources include:

Project Syndicate  
Jacobin Magazine  
Foreign Affairs  
The Economist  
The Financial Times (FT)  
Foreign Policy Magazine

### **Late Policy:**

Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 5% per day on the overall grade, including weekends. Extensions are unlikely to be granted unless sufficient documentation is provided. Examples of appropriate documentation include a verification of illness form, a note from Counselling Services, or documentation from the Office for Persons with Disabilities. Extensions are granted at the discretion of the instructor.

### **A Note on Emails:**

While email is an excellent tool for facilitating communication, you should not assume that I will be checking it on an hourly basis. Students should anticipate a 24 hour turnaround time for email responses, and plan accordingly.

### **A Note on Office Hours:**

I am available for scheduled office hours Wednesdays immediately following class (12:30-2:30) in Hagey Hall 351. Many other days I am available at my alternate office located at the Balsillie School of International Affairs, room 338.

I make every effort to be available to provide extra help for students. If you feel you need extra assistance in some area of the course I strongly encourage you to take advantage of office hours **as early as possible** in order to maximize the benefit to you.

### **Schedule:**

#### **Week 1: January 8<sup>th</sup> – Introduction to International Political Economy**

Reading 1: O'Brien and Williams pg. 23-27

#### **Week 2: January 15<sup>th</sup> – Theory and International Political Economy**

Reading 1: O'Brien and Williams pg. 7-17

Reading 3: Helen V. Milner, "International Political Economy: Beyond Hegemonic Stability."  
*Foreign Policy* no. 110 (1998) pg. 112-123

### **Week 3: January 22<sup>nd</sup> – Critical Theory and International Political Economy**

Reading 1: O'Brien and Williams: 17-22 and 201-218

Also one of either:

Eric Helleiner, "International Political Economy and the Greens." *New Political Economy* vol. 1, no. 1 (1996), pg. 59-77

V. S. Peterson, "How the Meaning of Gender Matters in Political Economy." *New Political Economy* vol. 10, no. 4 (2005), pg. 499-521

### **Week 4: January 29<sup>th</sup> – History and Development of the Global Economy**

Reading 1: O'Brien and Williams pg. 43-105

Reading 2: "The History of Globalization: Railroads and Hegemons." *The Economist* vol. 409 no. 8857 (2013), Available at: [Reading 2 http://www.economist.com/news/special-report/21587382-globalisation-depends-technology-and-politics-railroads-and-hegemons](http://www.economist.com/news/special-report/21587382-globalisation-depends-technology-and-politics-railroads-and-hegemons)

### **Week 5: February 5<sup>th</sup> – International Trade**

Reading 1: O'Brien and Williams pg. 109-131

Susan C. Schwab, "After Doha: Why the Negotiations are Doomed and What We Should Do About It." *Foreign Affairs* vol. 90 no. 3 (2011), pg. 104-117

### **Week 6: February 12<sup>th</sup> – International Monetary and Financial Politics**

Reading 1: O'Brien and Williams pg. 154-181

Also one of either:

Matt Taibbi, "The Great American Bubble Machine." *Rolling Stone* Available at: [Reading 1 http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/news/the-great-american-bubble-machine-20100405](http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/news/the-great-american-bubble-machine-20100405)

Paul Blustein, "Arbiters Amiss: The Failings and Shortcomings of Institutions Governing the Global Financial System." *CIGI Policy Brief* Available at: [CIGI Policy Brief http://www.cigionline.org/sites/default/files/no29.pdf](http://www.cigionline.org/sites/default/files/no29.pdf)

## **Week 7: February 19<sup>th</sup> Reading Week**

## **Week 8: February 26<sup>th</sup> – Mid-Term Exam**

## **Week 9: March 5<sup>th</sup> – Political Economy and Development**

Reading 1: O'Brien and Williams, pg. 219-241

Reading 2: Dani Rodrik, "Cheerleaders Threat to World Trade." *Financial Times* March 26 2007. Available at: <http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/1b13320e-dbb5-11db-9233-000b5df10621.html#axzz2pFzgW8fe>

## **Week 10: March 12<sup>th</sup> – Transnational Corporations (TNCs)**

Reading 1: O'Brien and Williams, pg. 132-153

Read 2: Michael Blanding, "The Case Against Coca-Cola." *The Nation* Vol. 282, No. 17 (2006), pg. 13-17

## **Week 11: March 19<sup>th</sup> – Globalization and the State**

Reading 1: O'Brien and Williams, pg. 295-297

Reading 2: Paul Hirst and Grahame Thompson, "Globalization and the Future of the Nation State." *Economy and Society* vol. 24, no. 3 (1995), pg. 408-442

## **Week 12: March 26<sup>th</sup> - Environment and Economy**

Reading 1: O'Brien and Williams, pg. 242-260

## **Week 13: April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Future Trajectories – Shifting Power in the Post-Crisis World?**

Read two of:

Reading 1: Ian Bremmer and Nouriel Roubini, "The G-Zero World." *Foreign Affairs* vol. 90 no. 2 (2011)

Reading 2: Greg Ip, "The Gated Globe." *The Economist* Available at: <http://www.economist.com/news/special-report/21587384-forward-march-globalisation-has-paused-financial-crisis-giving-way>

Reading 3: Fareed Zakaria, "The Rise of the Rest." Available at: [Reading 3  
http://fareedzakaria.com/2008/05/12/the-rise-of-the-rest/](http://fareedzakaria.com/2008/05/12/the-rise-of-the-rest/)

Reading 4: Gideon Rachman, "American Decline: This Time It's For Real." *Foreign Policy* no. 184 (2011), pg. 59-63