

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
James Madison College
MC 221 – Spring 2007

Professor Jonas Zoninsein
Office hours:
Wednesday 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
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THE POLITICS OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

MC 221 is the second semester of a yearlong introduction to the study of international relations. Focusing on the post World War II International Economic Order and its subsequent transformations, the course stresses the role of international economic policymaking in the United States in determining the interactions among the key actors in international relations, such as nation states, multinational corporations, international organizations and global civil society. MC 221 provides the analytical tools to integrate the study of international and development economics with the study of international politics.

This study of international political economy (IPE) is organized around three themes:

- I. The introduction and first part present the theories required to analyze the evolution of the international political economy from World War II to the present and assess the political economic design of new national strategies. The interactions of the economy, civil society, and states at the national and international levels will be approached from different theoretical perspectives and public policy preferences.
- II. The second part examines the various international power structures and mechanisms that compose and shape the modern world order at different historical moments. We will focus on the international trade, monetary and financial systems, and multinational corporations to assess their impacts on the evolution of the international economic system.
- III. The third part addresses the structural adjustment challenges presented by the changing international order for the United States in the areas of energy, balance of payments, immigration, competitiveness, and support for developing countries.

ORGANIZATION AND REQUIREMENTS

This class meets **Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:40-4:00 p.m.** Attentive reading of the course bibliography is essential. Timely completion of the reading assignments will enable you to reflect systematically upon the issues presented and contribute to class discuss and learning. Student participation—careful thinking about the material read, and written and oral exchange of views between colleagues and the professor—will be factored in the grading process.

The required work and structure of grading for MC 221 consists of:

Midterm exam	20 percent
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Research paper proposal	15 percent
Final exam	25 percent
Research paper	30 percent
Class participation	10 percent

All required work must be completed to pass this course. You will be evaluated on: 1) the quality of your responses to exam questions; 2) your grasp of the concepts and issues presented in the lectures and readings; and, 3) your capacity to develop and present your own analysis of the concepts and issues.

The research paper should constitute a major focus of your course work. Your research will provide you with a robust point of reference from which to study and evaluate the questions and analyses presented in the lectures and the course bibliography. Your research paper should be 10 pages in length (double-spaced, typed, minimum 15 titles in the reference list). You should consult with the professor about your choice of a research topic early in the semester.

Your paper proposal (double-spaced, 4 pages, typed) should present a summary review and synthesis of the preliminary bibliography (minimum 6 titles in the reference list), a thoughtful presentation of the objectives of your research paper, and a detailed outline of the argument you plan to present in the research paper.

Correct bibliographic and end or footnote citations are expected. You may choose among notational styles by consulting the following sources (available in the JMC Library and MSU Main Library): *The Chicago Manual of Style: The Essential Guide for Writers, Editors and Publishers*. 14th Edition. Chicago: University of Chicago, 1993; Gibaldi, Joseph. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 4th Edition. New York: The Modern Library Association of America, 1995; Turabian, Kate. *Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations*. 6th Edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996.

MC 221 will be conducted according to the College's policies on academic honesty/dishonesty. Students should refer to the section "Expectations and Standards" of the *James Madison College Student Handbook* for clarification.

HONORS WORK

Students enrolled in MC 221 may receive honors credit for the course. To receive honors credit, you must participate in the honors seminar and write a second research paper (double-spaced, typed, 10 pages in length, minimum 15 titles in the reference list) in consultation with the professor.

READINGS

Two books and one course packet are required for MC 221. They are available for purchase in the Student Book Store, 441-427 E. Grand River, East Lansing, and telephone (517) 351-4210:

Balaam, David N. and Michael Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, 3rd Edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, Inc., 2005;

Bergsten, C. Fred, *The United States and the World Economy: Foreign Economic Policy for the Next Decade*. Washington, DC: Institute for International Economics, 2005;

Course packet (CP): SBS – MC 221 – Zoninsein.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READING LIST

INTRODUCTION

- Jan. 9 1. Course program, organization and requirements
2. Current changes in the balance of economic power
- Jan. 11, 16 “The New Titans: A Survey of the World Economy,” *The Economist*, September 16th-22nd 2006: 13-14 and Special report,: 1-30. (CP)
- Jan. 18 Huntington, Samuel. “The Lonely Superpower,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 78, No. 2, 1999: 35-49. (CP)
- Balaam and Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, ch. 1: 2-25.

PART I: THEORIES OF IPE

1. Mercantilism and Economic Nationalism

- Jan. 23 Balaam and Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, ch. 2: 26-45.
- Gilpin, Robert, *The Political Economy of International Relations*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1987, ch. 2: 31-34, 46-50. (CP)

Jan. 25 Balaam and Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, ch. 13: 282-305.

2. International Liberalism

Jan. 30 Balaam and Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, ch. 3: 46-69.

Gilpin, *The Political Economy of International Relations*, ch. 2: 25-31, 43-46; and, ch. 3: 72-92. (CP)

Feb. 1 Balaam and Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, ch. 5: 93-100.

3. Marxism and Structuralism

Feb. 6, 8 Balaam and Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, ch. 4: 70-92.

Gilpin, *The Political Economy of International Relations*, ch. 2: 34-43, 50-64; and ch. 3: 65-72. (CP)

4. The Green Perspective

Feb. 13 Balaam and Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, ch. 5: 100-103; and ch. 20: 451-478.

5. The Feminist Perspective

Feb. 15 Balaam and Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, ch. 5: 103-106.

Pettman, Jan Jindy, "Gender Issues," in John Baylis and Steve Smith (eds.) *The Globalization of World Politics*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2001, ch. 27: 582-598. (CP)

PART II: THE POWER STRUCTURES IN IPE

1. International trade

Feb. 20, 22 Balaam and Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, ch. 6: 117-142

Schott, Jeffrey J., “Confronting Current Challenges to US Trade Policy,” in Bergsten, *The United States and the World Economy*, ch. 8: 247-279.

Feb. 27 Balaam and Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, ch. 11: 241-263.

Mar. 1 **PAPER PROPOSAL DUE**

Mar. 1 **MIDTERM EXAMINATION**

2. International Production

Mar. 13 Balaam and Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, ch. 17: 376-402.

3. International Finance

Mar. 15 Balaam and Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, chs. 7-8: 143-187

Mar. 20 Goldstein, Morris, “The International Financial Architecture,” in Bergsten, *The United States and the World Economy*, ch. 12: 373-407.

4. Knowledge and Technology

Mar. 22 Balaam and Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, ch. 10: 216-237.

PART III: U.S. INTERNATIONAL POLICYMAKING

1. A New Foreign Economic Policy Agenda?

Mar. 27 Bergsten, “A New Foreign Economic Policy for the United States,” in *The United States and the World Economy*, ch. 1: 3-61.

2. International Competition and Cooperation

- Mar. 29 Lardy, Nicholas, “China: A Great New Economic Challenge?” in Bergsten, *The United States and the World Economy*, ch. 4: 121-141.
- Apr. 3 Boyer, Jan E. and Edwin M. Truman, “The United States and the Large Emerging-Market Economies: Competitors or Partners?” in Bergsten, *The United States and the World Economy*, ch. 5: 143-171.
- Apr. 5 Man, Catherine L., “Offshore Outsourcing, and the Globalization of Services: Why Now, How Important, and What Policy Implications,” in Bergsten, *The United States and the World Economy*, ch. 9, 281-311.
- Apr. 10 Kletzer, Lori and Howard Rosen, “Easing the Adjustment Burden on the U.S. Workers,” in Bergsten, *The United States and the World Economy*, ch. 10: 313-341.

3. Growth and External Imbalances

- Apr. 12 Mussa, Michael, “Sustaining Global Growth while Reducing External Imbalances, in Bergsten, *The United States and the World Economy*, ch. 6: 175-207

4. Development

- Apr. 17 Cline, William R. and John Williamson, “Fostering Development,” in Bergsten, *The United States and the World Economy*, ch.13: 409-427.

5. Immigration

- Apr. 19 Hanson, Gordon H. “Challenges for U.S. Immigration Policy,” in Bergsten, *The United States and the World Economy*, ch. 11: 343-372.

6. Energy

- Apr. 24 Balaam and Veseth, *Introduction to International Political Economy*, ch. 18: 403-422.

Verleger Jr., Philip K. “Energy: A Gathering Storm,” in Bergsten, *The United States and the World Economy*, ch. 7: 209-246.

- Apr. 26 **Summary and Review**

- Apr. 27 **RESEARCH PAPER DUE**

Apr. 30
3:00-
5:00 p.m.

FINAL EXAMINATION