Fall 2016

International Political Economy

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School of Diplomacy and International Relations  
Seton Hall University  

Fall 2016  

International Political Economy  
DIPL 4108 AA  
Wednesdays 8:00 – 10:30 am

Instructor: Edislav Manetovic  
Office hours: Wednesdays 1:45-2:45  
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Course Description and Objectives  
This course examines the interaction between politics and economics in the international system, i.e. how international economic activity is affected by the political decisions rendered by states and how states are in turn affected by the international economy.

We start with the broad outline of the evolution of international political economy (IPE), its post-WWII institutions, and some influential theoretical interpretations of IPE. These readings are posted on Blackboard.

Then we will focus on the intricate relationship between politics and economics in the Third World (or, as it is also known, the Global South). We will explore some challenges these countries face, and analyzes South’s post-World War II development strategies. These readings are from Handelman’s textbook.

Finally, we will end the course by analyzing IPE from the perspective of the North-South divide. Note how the Great Recession created a setting for both left and right protests politics in the developed northern countries. The vast majority of the countries of the world have been dealing with far more difficult economic problems since their entry into the international system. Vijay Prashad’s critical study introduces us to the Global South’s continuing attempts to make the international economic architecture more equitable, explains the emergence of the current “neoliberal economic order” and its impact on both the North and the South.

Handelman’s book is easy to read and comprehend. Prashad’s book is dense. Make sure you allocate sufficient time to read it slowly and thoroughly.

Students should be prepared to do a significant amount of reading each class and to discuss it constructively. Courses work well only when everyone comes prepared for a critical and informed conversation.
While reading the assigned texts take notes and write down the questions you would like to discuss or simply ask.

Throughout the course we will try to link the readings with contemporary events. Hence, students should keep informed about relevant current events by regularly following news. **News Agency:** IPS News Agency (www.ipsnews.net) has very good coverage of the Global South (access is free). They also have a free app. IPS is one of the few news sources from the South that has a global reach.

**Newspapers:** English language newspapers like *The New York Times, Washington Post,* and *The Guardian* provide solid coverage of international news. *The Guardian* is a good British newspaper and you can follow it for free at: [http://www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com).

**TV & Websites:** You may also want to watch news on the web or TV. BBC (UK), CNN International (USA), France 24, Al Jazeera (Qatar), CCTV (China), and RT (Russia), provide good insight into current events.

You will get a better insight if you follow news from different countries.

**Course Materials**
- First readings are posted on Blackboard.
- Additional texts may be provided during the seminar.

**Student Responsibilities**
1. **Article review** (30%). Submit a review of three (3) scholarly articles dealing with a single topic on IPE. The articles must be published after 2000 and must be from an academic journal. The topic and the articles must be approved by me.
   - Deadline to submit the topic for my approval: October 19
   - Deadline to submit the 3 articles for my approval: November 9
   - Deadline to submit your article review: December 7

Late submissions will be penalized by 1% for each late day.

Compare and evaluate the articles. Your review should be both descriptive and analytical. The review should be between 5 and 6 pages long (double spaced, Times New Roman, 12 font, 1 inch margins).

The review should:
- Provide an overview of the issue or theory under consideration
➢ Divide works under review into categories (e.g. those in support of a particular position, those against, and those offering alternative theses)
➢ Explain how each work is similar to and how it varies from the others
➢ Conclude by suggesting which work makes the greatest contribution to the understanding and development of the subject.

In assessing each piece, consider the following:
➢ Are the author’s arguments supported by evidence?
➢ Is the author’s perspective even-handed or prejudicial? Is contrary data considered and is certain relevant information ignored?
➢ Are the author’s arguments and conclusions convincing? Does the work contribute in any significant way to your understanding of the subject?

2. **Exam.** Two in-class exams. 25% each. Use of books and notes will be prohibited.

3. **Class participation and attendance** (20%). All students are expected to do the reading in advance and to take part in the discussion. The quality of class sessions is greatly enhanced when students come prepared to engage the course material in a constructive fashion. Make an effort to actively engage the reading. Your goal should be to define your position and develop a thoughtful critique of issues covered in the texts.

Poor attendance (over two absences) will result in a reduction of your grade. Each absence, beyond the two excused, will reduce your final grade by 1%.

**Basis for Grade**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Article review</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>50% (25% each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course Rules Regarding Phones and Laptops**
- Please put your cell phones on mute and put them away before class starts. If you have a problem with this rule please talk to me before class.

- Laptops can be used only for taking notes. They cannot be used for extra class purposes. If I notice that students use laptops for extra class purposes, I will ask that all laptops in the classroom be turned off.
Academic and Professional Integrity
Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will be reported to the administration, and may result in a lowered or failing grade for the course and up to possible dismissal from the School of Diplomacy. See University and School standards for academic conduct here:
<http://www.shu.edu/academics/diplomacy/academic-conduct.cfm>

Disability Services
It is the policy and practice of Seton Hall University to promote inclusive learning environments. If you have a documented disability you may be eligible for reasonable accommodations in compliance with University policy, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and/or the New Jersey Law against Discrimination. Please note, students are not permitted to negotiate accommodations directly with professors. To request accommodations or assistance, please self-identify with the Office for Disability Support Services (DSS), Duffy Hall, Room 67 at the beginning of the semester. For more information or to register for services, contact DSS at (973) 313-6003 or by e-mail at DSS@shu.edu.

Policy on Incompletes
Incompletes will be given only in exceptional cases for emergencies. Students wishing to request a grade of Incomplete must provide documentation to support the request accompanied by a Course Adjustment Form (available from the Diplomacy Main Office) to the professor before the date of the final examination. If the incomplete request is approved, the professor reserves the right to specify the new submission date for all missing coursework. Students who fail to submit the missing course work within this time period will receive a failing grade for all missing coursework and a final grade based on all coursework assigned. Any Incomplete not resolved within one calendar year of receiving the Incomplete or by the time of graduation (whichever comes first) automatically becomes an “FI” (which is equivalent to an F). It is the responsibility of the student to make sure they have completed all course requirements within the timeframe allotted. Please be aware that Incompletes on your transcript will impact financial aid and academic standing.

Course Topics and Readings

August 31
Introduction
Film: Burn
Director: Gillo Pontecorvo
September 7  
**Introduction to History and Theory of IPE**
Blackboard:

September 14  
**Institutions of Global Economic Governance**
Blackboard:

September 21  
**Political Economy of the Global South**
Textbook:
Handelman, “Understanding Underdevelopment”
Handelman, “The Political Economy of Third World Development”

September 28  
**Democracy, Gender Equality and Development**
Textbook:
Handelman, “The Explosion of Third World Democracy”
Handelman, “Women and Development”

October 5  
**Identity Politics and Change**
Textbook:
Handelman, “Religion and Politics”
Handelman, “The Politics of Cultural Pluralism and Ethnic Conflict”
Handelman, “Revolutionary Change”
October 12  
**Quiz**  
Quiz 1 (first part of the class)  
Film: *Life and Debt* (second part of the class)

October 19  
**Poverty and Hunger**  
Blackboard:  
*Group exercise: Economic assistance as foreign policy statecraft*

Deadline to submit the topic for my approval: **October 19**

October 26  
**Demise of liberalism and the rise of global neoliberal hegemony: the NAM and the G7**  
Textbook:  
Prashad, *Introduction and chapter 1*

November 2  
**Political economy debates in the Global South**  
Textbook:  
Prashad, chapter 2

November 9  
**Emergence of the BRICS**  
Textbook:  
Prashad, chapter 3  
Deadline to submit the 3 articles for my approval: **November 9**

November 16  
**The South from below: Social movements**  
Textbook:  
Prashad, chapter 4

November 23  
**No Classes – SHU Closed**

November 30  
**Quiz**  
Quiz 2

December 7  
**Last Class**  
Catch-up and Wrap-up  
Paper due