

PSCI 2602B
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: GLOBAL POLITICAL ECONOMY
Monday 12:35 - 2:25
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Laura Macdonald
Office: C669 Loeb
Office hours: Monday 2:45 - 4:30
Friday 2:45 - 4:30
[or by appointment]
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Course description, objectives and learning outcomes:

This course provides an introduction to the study of global political economy (GPE - also known as international political economy [IPE]). The course will help students make sense of some of the tumultuous changes occurring in the world at the current moment. Many of these problems are a result of the ways in which politics and economics intersect in a dynamic but often messy fashion. In the first part of the course, we will learn about: what GPE is; how the field has evolved over time, and some of the dominant theoretical approaches to understanding the global political economy. In the second half we will delve into some of the key issues addressed in the field including the globalization of production, international finance, labour in the global economy, international trade, development, the global environment, and others.

Students who successfully complete this course should achieve the following learning outcomes:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the historical development of the global political economy;
2. Critically evaluate leading theoretical approaches to the study of the GPE;
3. Identify the main features of the global political economy and how they have changed over time;
4. Assess the significance of selected issues in the global political economy.

Organization of the Course

The course is organized around a combination of weekly lectures and tutorials. The tutorials provide you with an opportunity to discuss the lectures and reading assignments. Attendance in both lectures and tutorial groups is crucial for students to succeed in the course. **It is essential to do the required readings before the lectures and tutorials.** On the exam you will be tested on your familiarity with those readings. I also advise you to follow international news, especially related to the global economy. While you may find information about these

issues from a range of on-line sources, you should make sure you exercise caution with regard to these sources, to ensure that they are credible.

Evaluation:

Participation and attendance in tutorials:	15%
First assignment - précis of class reading:	10% (due February 3)
Research essay proposal:	10% (due February 24)
Final research essay:	35% (due April 7)
Final exam:	30% (in formal exam period - April 13-25)

All assignments (other than the final exam) will be submitted and graded on CuLearn: they will be due at 11:59 pm on the due date. Your assignments should be submitted in Word. Here is a link to a site where you can download the Microsoft Office suite:

<https://carleton.ca/its/ms-offer-students/>

Texts:

There is one **required** text for this course, which will be available at Haven Books:

- Robert O'Brien and Marc Williams, *Global Political Economy: Evolution and Dynamics*, 5th edition, Houndmills, Basingstoke and Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016

I strongly urge you to purchase the 5th edition of this text as it is substantially revised from the previous edition. You may also find this companion site to the text useful, it provides resources, sample exam questions etc.:

<https://www.macmillanihe.com/companion/Obrien-Global-Political-Economy/learning-resources/>

Term work:

1) Participation and Attendance:

The tutorial sessions provide students with the opportunity to raise questions and to discuss with their peers and the T.A. the topics raised in the lecture and the readings. You should always come to your T.A. group prepared to discuss the assigned readings for that week. You will be evaluated based on your regular participation and willingness to engage in discussions, based on informed and respectful comments, **related to the readings**. Also note that raising good questions is important as making comments. Attendance will be recorded but counts for only 1/3 of your participation grade (i.e. 5% of the 15%). Marks will be deducted if you consistently arrive late or leave early.

2) Annotation assignment (due February 3 at 11:59pm, worth 10%)

Each annotation should begin with relevant bibliographic details (author, title, source, publisher, year of publication). The length should be from 250 to 300 words. It should not be in

point form and do not use sub-titles. Use paragraphs. It should include the following information:

- Topic of the reading - why is this an interesting and important issue
- Key question or central argument
- Key supporting claims of the author
- Your identification of a strength and/or weakness of the reading

You will write an annotation of one of the following readings from weeks 1, 2, 3, and 4 of class.

- Richard Higgott, "Economics, Politics and (International) Political Economy: the need for a balanced diet in an era of globalisation," *New Political Economy*, 4 (1), 1999: 23-36.
- Eric Helleiner, "Economic Liberalism and Its Critics: The past as Prologue?" *Review of International Political Economy*, 10: 4, 685-696.
- Robert J. Barro, "Trump's mercantilist mess," *Project Syndicate*, September 5, 2019, accessible at: <https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/trump-trade-policy-mercantilism-by-robert-j-barro-2019-09>
- Robert W. Cox, "Social forces, states and world orders: beyond international relations theory," *Millennium*, 10:2, 1981.
- Felix Mantz "Decolonizing the IPE syllabus: Eurocentrism and the coloniality of knowledge in International Political Economy," *Review of International Political Economy*, 26:6, 2019, 1361-1378,

You will be graded on the precision and comprehensiveness of your reconstruction, and the clarity of your writing.

3) Research essay proposal. (due February 24th)

You will write a proposal (around 3-4 pages double spaced) on the topic of your final essay. A list of topics/questions for the paper will be posted to CuLearn at the beginning of the term. The proposal should contain:

- a research question;
- short statement on why this is an interesting and important topic;
- a tentative hypothesis or argument;
- statement on your theoretical approach;
- annotated bibliography - with a paragraph for each source which summarizes the content of the article and indicates how it will be useful for your final paper. You must include a minimum of 4 academic sources.

4) Research essay (due April 7th)

You will write a research paper (7-9 pages or 2000 to 2500 words) on a topic related to the course. The sources for the paper may include internet sources but must include at least 4 refereed journal articles, books or book chapters. You must include **at least 8-10** sources in total. The assignment will be graded based on the quality of your writing, research and

analysis, the organization of the paper, the depth of research on the topic, and the coherence and originality of your argument. The essay should be posted to CuLearn by 11:55 pm on **April 7th**.

5) Final exam

The final exam will take place during the official exam period. Do not plan to leave town during this time period as requests for writing the exam on another date cannot be accommodated. The exam will consist of a mixture of short essay questions and long essay-format questions. It is designed to evaluate your knowledge of all of the course material.

Contact Policy

Email is the best way to get in touch with the professor or TA outside of usually scheduled office hours. Students should remember the following things when emailing:

ALWAYS use your Carleton email account! Non-Carleton messages don't always get through

INCLUDE the subject line "PSCI 2602"

ADDRESS emails to the professor or TA (i.e. Dear Dr. Macdonald)

SIGN OFF with your first and last name and student number.

Email should be used for brief questions that can be answered quickly. If students want to discuss course material, assignments, or another matter in greater detail, they should see the professor during office hours or make an appointment.

Course Schedule

Week 1 - January 6 - Course Details and Introduction: What is Global Political Economy?

- What distinguishes GPE from International Relations, Comparative Political Economy and from International Economics?
- Why is it important to know about GPE?
- What are some of the key debates and issues that currently shape the field?

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 2

Richard Higgott, "Economics, Politics and (International) Political Economy: the need for a balanced diet in an era of globalisation," *New Political Economy*, 4 (1), 1999: 23-36.

No Tutorial Discussion this week

Week 2: January 13 - Historical Development of the Global Political Economy

Tutorials start this week

O'Brien and Williams, Chapters 2 and 3

- How have the relationships between states and markets shifted over time?
- What role did imperialism and colonial conquest play in shaping the contemporary GPE (and domestic political economies)?
- What role have hegemons (especially the UK and US) played in establishing the rules that govern the GPE and what types of resistance did they face?

Week 3: January 20 - Theories of GPE I: Economic Nationalism vs. Liberalism

- What are the basic assumptions of economic nationalist and liberal theorists?
- What are their historical origins?
- What are their differences and similarities?
- What are their limitations and how relevant are they today?

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 1, pp. 6-21.

Eric Helleiner, "Economic Liberalism and Its Critics: The past as Prologue?" *Review of International Political Economy*, 10: 4, 685-696.

Robert J. Barro, "Trump's mercantilist mess," *Project Syndicate*, September 5, 2019, accessible at: <https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/trump-trade-policy-mercantilism-by-robert-j-barro-2019-09>

Week 4: January 27 - Theories of GPE II: Critical approaches

First assignment due today - annotation of course article

- How do critical approaches to GPE differ from the "mainstream" approaches?
- What are their theoretical and historical roots?
- How relevant are these critical approaches today?

O'Brien and Williams, review pp. 16-21 in chapter 1.

Robert W. Cox, "Social forces, states and world orders: beyond international relations theory," *Millennium*, 10:2, 1981.

Felix Mantz "Decolonizing the IPE syllabus: Eurocentrism and the coloniality of knowledge in International Political Economy," *Review of International Political Economy*, 26:6, 2019, 1361-1378.

Week 5 - February 3 - Globalization Debate

- What is globalization?
- What are the implications of globalization for the roles of states and markets?
- What role has civil society played in responding to globalization?
- What are the implications of the rise of China for the GPE?

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 4

Film: American Factory (on Netflix)

Week 6: February 10 - Global Trade

What are the most significant developments in global trade since 1945?
What are the arguments in favour of and against free trade?
What options are available to Canada in the context of challenges to free trade policies?

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 6

WINTER BREAK February 17 - 21

Week 7: February 24 - The Rise of Transnational Production and Transnational Corporations

Research paper outline due this week

How has global production changed in the last century?

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 7

Gary Gereffi, John Humphrey, and Timothy Sturgeon. "The governance of global value chains," *Review of International Political Economy*, 12:1, 2005, 78-104.

Week 8: March 2 - Global Finance

Are the world's monetary and financial systems really global (and multilateral)? Or are they still overwhelmingly reliant on the U.S. and the exercise of American power?
What are the sources of regular global financial crises?

Mark Blyth on Austerity: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=go2bVGi0ReE&frags=pl%2Cwn>

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 8

Paola Sabucchi, "Who is in control of the International Monetary System?" *International Affairs*, 8:3, 2010, 665-80.

Week 9: March 9 - Gender and the GPE

What can students of GPE learn from a feminist approach? What does a gendered analysis tell us about the global political economy?
How does feminist IPE/GPE differ from or draw upon various other GPE theoretical traditions?

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 10

Penny Griffin, "Refashioning IPE: What and How Gender Analysis Teaches International (Global) Political Economy," *Review of International Political Economy* 14:4, 719-736, 2007.

Week 10: March 16 - Global Division of Labour

How has the global division of labour changed over time?
What resources do workers have at their disposal to improve their share of the profits generated by corporations?

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 9

Nichola Phillips, "Labour in global production: reflections on Coxian insights in a world of Global Value Chains?" *Globalizations*, 13:5, 2016, 594-607.

Week 11: March 23 - Economic Development

How do we measure development?
What are the sources of inequality between Global North and Global South?
What approaches have been proposed to promote development?

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 11

Amartya Sen. "Introduction," *Development as Freedom*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 3-11, 1999.

Week 12: March 30- Global Environmental Change

What are the origins of global environmental problems?
What role can be played by the following actors in addressing those environmental problems: states, markets, international organizations, civil societies, individuals?

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 12

Maria Ivanova, "Good COP, Bad COP: Climate reality after Paris," *Global Policy*, 7: 3, 2016, 411-419.

Week 13: April 7 - Governing the Global Economy and Review

Final research paper due today

How has global economic governance evolved in theory and practice?
What are some possible scenarios for future global economic governance?

O'Brien and Williams Chapter 15

Academic Accommodations

Requests for Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist.

For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist.

For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made.

carleton.ca/pmc

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and its survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom

experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

Plagiarism

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Submission and Return of Term Work

Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day’s date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

Approval of final grades

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Carleton E-mail Accounts

All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

Carleton Political Science Society

"The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. By hosting social events, including Model Parliament, debates, professional development sessions and more, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through our networking opportunities, academic engagement initiatives and numerous events which aim to complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/> and our website <https://carletonpss.com/>, or stop by our office in Loeb D688!"

Official Course Outline

The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.