International Political Economy

Graduate Lecture

Module Content:
This lecture offers an introduction to current research topics in the field of International Political Economy (IPE). After introducing what it means to study IPE in the age of globalization, the course addresses four major themes of current IPE research.

1) In the first part on international trade, we will learn about the opportunities and challenges that come with the intensifying exchange of goods across the globe.
2) In the second part on international finance, we will focus on how global financial flows interact with political and economic stability, instability, and crises.
3) In the third part on international development, we will learn about global economic inequality and understand its links to development cooperation and migration.
4) In the fourth part on international institutions, we will focus on the role that international institutions and organizations play in the globalized economy.

Learning Outcomes:
- Students are familiar with the basic concepts and definitions applied in current research on IPE.
- Students can explain the assumptions and predictions of standard IPE theories in the areas of international trade, international finance, international development, and international organization.
- Students can evaluate the academic contribution of current IPE research and can relate it to classic academic debates in the IPE literature.
- Students are able to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the empirical methods that are applied in current IPE research.
- Students can develop their own research question linked to current IPE research and a research design that is suited to examine this question.
Reading Material

In addition to the literature listed in the course schedule below, the following reading material is recommended.

Course handbook:

Additional good handbooks:

Most relevant journals for current IPE research:
– The general-interest journals in political science (*APSR, AJPS, JoP, BJPS*)
– The general-interest journals in economics (*AER, QJE, JPE, RES, Econometrica*)
– *International Organization*
– *Review of International Organizations*
– *Journal of International Economics*
– *Journal of Development Economics*

Most relevant conference homepages:
For the most recent IPE research, consult the homepages of IPES and PEIO, the two most important IPE conferences:
– [www.internationalpoliticalesnomysociety.org](http://www.internationalpoliticalesnomysociety.org)
– [www.peio.me](http://www.peio.me)
Part I: International Political Economy in the Age of Globalization

1. Introduction: The field of International Political Economy

   - *No mandatory reading
   - Oatley 2018: Chapter 1

2. Globalization: Anatomy of a mega-trend

   - Friedman, Thomas. 2005. The World is Flat. New York. (Focus on chapter: Ten Forces that Flattened the World.)
Part II: International Trade

3. The Economics of Trade


4. The Politics of Trade

5. The Backlash Against Globalization


Part III: International Finance

6. The Political Economy of International Finance

- *Oatley 2018: Chapter 10
7. Financial Crises


Part IV: International Development

8. The Global Distribution of Wealth, Income, and Poverty

9. The Political Economy of Development Cooperation


10. International Migration


Part V: International Institutions

11. The Bretton Woods Institutions: The IMF and The World Bank


12. The Political Economy of International Organizations


13. International Disintegration and Contested Global Governance

(Please read two of the following texts. Your choice!)


14. Concluding Session

— *No mandatory reading