POLS 390B: International Political Economy
Fall 2013
JSC111, 2:20-3:50 TuTh
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Office: 103 Asbury
Ofc Hours: 1:00-2:00 M,12:00-2:00 W, and by appt.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course examines the evolution of the world economy from the late nineteenth century to the present. Our purpose is not only to describe the historical trends in the international economy but also to explain the causes and the consequences of these trends. Students come away with the basic tools they need to understand the global economy and the politics of international economic relations.

The history of the modern world economy can be divided into three periods. The Golden Age (1870‐1913) was a period of extensive globalization; in some respects (though certainly not all), nations were more economically integrated then than now. The Golden Age came to an end with the Interwar Interregnum (1919‐1939), which saw nations abandon the world economy and turn inward behind high protectionist barriers and restrictions on international capital flows. Postwar Globalization (1945‐2003) saw the gradual reemergence of the world economy, a trend that is now threatened by politics, antiglobalization forces, and crises in global finance.

Students will gain a broad historical overview of the arc of global capitalism over the last 125 years. It is impossible in one semester to cover the sweep of this arc in its entirety. I have made the strategic decision that, along with a broad overview, it will prove valuable to focus in detail on at least one, particularly important strand of IPE throughout the history of global capitalism: oil. No other resource played such a defining role throughout the 20th century. Looking ahead to the 21st century, it seems that oil will continue to play a dominant role in IPE, both as a critical resource and as a source of environmental and energy challenges. Accordingly, I have added the Pultzer Prize-winning text "The Prize" to our syllabus.

The Prize presents a number of challenges. Most apparently, it is a doorstop of a book. We won't be reading it in its entirety . . . but we'll be reading a lot of it. Know that going into the semester! Perhaps less immediately evident, the Prize is work of history, not political science. Sometimes the stories that Yergin deems important to the history of oil have tremendous and obvious theoretical significance for the study of IPE and international relations. Sometimes, they may not. Sometimes, you may find that incidents that seem peripheral to Yergin's narrative are, in fact, termendously consequential for international relations / IPE. It will be your job to read the Prize actively, to ascertain what is theoretically significant, what is historically contingent, and which episodes have a more enduring significance for world politics. Finally, both this syllabus and The Prize are organized roughly in chronological order. I have done my best to keep the two sync-ed, but it is inevitable that one or the other will sometimes run ahead.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
10% Attendance & Participation
10% Debate Participation
25% Exam 1
25% Exam 2
10% The Prize presentation
20% Paper Project

PARTICIPATION
Participation is 50% attendance and 50% discussion. The latter is not a freebie. If you fail to contribute to course discussions, you will receive a 0 for that half of the grade. I don't expect everyone to be at the top of their game every day, and I don't mean to encourage filibustering (quantity over quality). I do expect regular, thoughtful contributions to course discussions. These contributions can be verbal or written (questions posted to the Moodle discussion board).

DEBATE PARTICIPATION
In addition to "regular" course participation, students will sign up in pairs\* for two specific "debate" readings over the course of the semester. I expect students to play a leading role in discussion on those dates. Further instructions will be posted to the news forum once enrollment is finalized (after add/drop).
\* I prefer groups of two, but reserve the right to allow larger groups, depending on course enrollment.

EXAMS
Midterm exams (there is no final exam) may consist of a small number of multiple-choice questions, a small number of identifications / short answer questions, and 1-2 short essays.
NOTE: Exams cover not only assigned readings but also "lecture" material presented during meetings.

THE PRIZE PRESENTATION
We'll make our way together through (parts of) Part I through Part III of The Prize. However, there's simply no way we'll make it through the entire book as a group. Some of the most interesting parts are towards the end, but it makes little sense to read just the end, having skipped the beginning.

Accordingly, I'll divide students into (different) groups of two. Each group will be responsible for presenting material from a part of either Part IV or Part V of The Prize. Presentations should stay under 15 minutes (not always as easy as it sounds), to ensure time for discussion afterwards. Again, I'll post more information once enrollment is finalized.

PAPER PROJECT
Lastly, each student will be responsible for writing a 10-12 page essay, either exploring further one of the debates in the Oatley text, or a topic of your choosing (instructor approval required). Note that if you choose to research a debate in the Oatley text, you cannot choose one of the same debates that you presented. If you wish to research a different topic, please consult me before the end of September; you'll be responsible for identifying a specific, tractable research question by Fall Break.

This paper takes the place of the official final exam, and is due at the same time, on the same date; papers must be submitted (preferably by email) to me by 1PM on December 16.

While I encourage you to follow your interests, and I will work with you to ensure that the essay goes as smoothly as possible, please know that there is no "subjective" penalty for choosing one of the debate topics. I realize that this course presents a lot of work.

GRADING SCALE
92.5+ (A)
89.5-92.4 (A-)
87.5-89.4 (B+)
82.5-87.4 (B)
79.5-82.4 (B-}
77.5-79.4 (C+)
72.5-77.4 (C)
69.5-72.4 (C-)
67.5-69.4 (D+)
62.5-67.4 (D)
59.5-62.4 (D-)
< 59.5 (F)

REQUIRED TEXTS
Yergin, Daniel. 2009. The Prize. New York: Free Press.
Oatley, Thomas. 2012. International Political Economy, 5e. Pearson/Longman.
Oatley, Thomas (ed). 2012. Debates in International Political Economy, 2e. Pearson/Longman

I may post an additional reading or two to Moodle.



Week 1

**Thursday,** **8/29**
no meeting - Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association



Week 2

**Tuesday, 9/3  -  Introductions & Course Overview**

**Thursday, 9/5  -  Intro to IPE**Read: Oatley, Ch.1
Read: Yergin, prologue



Week 3

**Tuesday, 9/10  -  Debate 1**Read: Debates, Part I (pp.1-27)

**Thursday, 9/12  -  Fundamentals of IPE: International Trade**Read: Oatley, Chs. 2-3

Week 4

**Tuesday, 9/17  -  Debates 2 & 3**Read: Debates, Chs.2-3

**Thursday, 9/19  -  Fundamentals of IPE: Money & Finance**Read: Oatley, Chs. 10-11



Week 5

**Tuesday, 9/24  -  Debates 4 & 5**
Read: Debates, Part IV (pp.233-270)

**Thursday, 9/26  -  The "Golden Age" of Global Capitalism / Early Globalization**Read: Yergin, Chs.3-5

Week 6

**Tuesday, 10/1  -  The "Golden Age" cont'd**Read: Yergin, Chs. 6-8

**Thursday, 10/3  -  Things Fall Apart . . . Early Opposition to Globalization**Read: Yergin, Chs. 9-10 & 12

Week 7

**Tuesday, 10/8  -  MNCs and the Global Economy**Read: Oatley, Chs. 8-9

**Thursday, 10/10  -  Debates 6 & 7**Read: Debates, Chs. 7-8

Week 8

**Tuesday, 10/15  -  Flex Date / Review**

**Thursday, 10/17  -  Exam 1**



Week 9 - Fall Break

**Tuesday, 10/22**
no meeting

**Thursday, 10/24**
no meeting

Week 10

**Tuesday, 10/29  -  International Trade, Revisited**
Read: Oatley, Chs. 4-5

**Thursday, 10/31  -  Debates 8 & 9**
Read: Debates, Chs. 5-6

Week 11

**Tuesday, 11/5  -  The Great Depression and the World at War**
Read: Yergin, Chs. 15-17

**Thursday, 11/7  -  The World at War cont'd**Read: Yergin, Chs. 18-19

Week 12

**Tuesday, 11/12  -  From Reconstruction to Bretton Woods**Readings TBD

**Thursday, 11/14  -  International Development**Read: Oatley, Chs. 6-7

Week 13

**Tuesday, 11/19  -  Monetary Policy, Revisited**Read: Oatley, Chs. 12-13

**Thursday, 11/21  -  Debt Crises**Read: Oatley, Chs. 14-15

Week 14

**Tuesday, 11/26  -  The Future of Globalization
Debates 10 & 11**Read: Debates, Chs. 15-16

**Thursday, 11/28**
no meeting - Happy Thanksgiving!

Week 15

**Tuesday, 12/3  - Globalization: Consequences & Controversies**Read: Oatley, Ch. 16
Read: Yergin, epilogue

**Thursday, 12/5  -  Exam #2**

Week 16

**Tuesday, 12/10  -  Presentations  -  the IPE of Oil**Yergin, Part IV

**Thursday, 12/12  -  Presentations  -  the IPE of Oil, cont'd**Yergin, Part V