

POLS5122

The International Political Economy

Term 3, 2022



Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Madison Cartwright	madison.cartwright@unsw.edu.au	By appointment	Room 132, Level 1, Morvern Brown	

School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

Room 159

Morven Brown C20

email: soss@unsw.edu.au

phone: 02 9385 1807

Acknowledgement of Country

UNSW Arts, Design and Architecture Kensington and Paddington campuses are built on Aboriginal Lands. We pay our respects to the Bidjigal and Gadigal peoples who are the Custodians of these lands. We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the First Australians, whose lands, winds and waters we all now share, and pay respect to their unique values, and their continuing and enduring cultures which deepen and enrich the life of our nation and communities.



Image courtesy of the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Indigenous [UNSW's Indigenous strategy](#)

Course Details

Units of Credit 6

Summary of the Course

This course provides a theoretically grounded introduction to the evolution of a global economy. It pays particular attention to examining the drivers, dimensions and dynamics of economic globalisation, and to analysing the implications of this complex process for the distribution of wealth and power in the international system. The course contributes to an enhanced understanding of the relationship between the political and economic spheres of social life, and of why this understanding is important.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Distinguish between the major theoretical perspectives of IPE (including their basic assumptions and the worldviews they generate).
2. Compare the value of different theoretical perspectives for the analysis of specific problems of international political economy.
3. Evaluate analyses of IPE from a theoretically grounded point of view.

Teaching Strategies

This course assumes no prior knowledge of the discipline of International Political Economy but, upon its completion, all students who engage fully with the course content, activities and assessments will be able to participate in debates about the study and practice of contemporary IPE. I see UNSW student learners as participants in the production of knowledge. I pursue the implementation of a curriculum responsive to each student's individual needs. I am strongly motivated to facilitate the development of transferable skills and this course is designed to encourage student preparedness upon graduation for the pursuit of future career goals. I bring my research expertise to bear on the design of this course, meaning that the course is intrinsically research-led, but more importantly this course prioritises learning-by-doing and aims to foster a spirit of critical thought and active enquiry in all student learners. I espouse a philosophy of student-centred, student-led learning and seminar activities throughout are designed to encourage the development of a strong and positive learning community in which all students can maximize their own potential.

Overall, the course uses what are known as 'blended learning' techniques (a mix of face-to-face discussion and activities in groups of different sizes supported by a range of online resources) and a range of assessment practices in order to ensure that every student, irrespective of their own learning style, can access the course material readily and in a productive manner.

Assessment

Assessment FAQs

1. What if I go over the word limit?

A +/- 10% leeway is applied to all written assessments. For example, for a 2000-word essay can be anywhere between 1800 and 2200. Essays that are shorter or longer than the allowed range will be penalised at 3% for every 100 words (or part thereof).

2. What is included in the word count?

Everything except your reference list is included in the word count. That means that footnotes, sub-headings and in-text references **are** included in the word count.

3. What referencing style should I use?

Political science and international relations do not have a standard referencing style like some other disciplines (e.g. psychology and law). You can use any referencing style you want, provided that:

1. You use just one style consistently
2. You use the style correctly
3. You use an actually existing style (i.e. you don't just make something up).

Poor referencing and attribution of sources will result in a lower grade and may even constitute academic misconduct. There is a lot of assistance available to you to help you learn about referencing, attribution and avoiding plagiarism. If you are not sure just ask! See <https://student.unsw.edu.au/support-referencing-assignments>.

If you submit work for this course that you have already submitted for assessment in another course at this University or any other institution, in whole or in part, or if you copy material from another source and do not attribute that material to its original author, your work will be referred to the School Student Ethics Officer for an investigation into a possible charge of academic misconduct. See <https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism>.

4. There is something I do not understand about the assessment, what should I do?

Please make sure you have read the assessment instructions closely. Also have a look at the marking rubric, which explains what we will be looking for when we mark your assessment. If you still have questions, you can ask the convenor.

Because I will often field similar questions from multiple students, I ask that you post your questions in the seminar, if possible.

5. What if I submit an assignment late?

Unless you have an approved extension (see question 6 below), 5% is deducted from the 'total awardable mark' each calendar day you are late. For example, an assessment that received 70% but is two days late will receive a final grade of 60% - i.e. $70\% - 10\% (2 \text{ days late} \times 5\%) = 60\%$.

For work submitted more than five calendar days after the due date a mark of **zero** will be awarded.

6. What if I need more time to finish my assessment?

You can apply for special consideration if you need more time due to illness, misadventure etc. It is highly recommended that you apply for an extension before the due date passes, if possible.

Special consideration is handled by a centralised bureaucracy. For more information, or to apply for an extension, visit <https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>.

7. I think my grade was too low, what can I do?

The process for appealing grades is available here: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines>

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Course Learning Outcomes Assessed
1. Critical Analysis	25%	04/10/2022 11:59 PM	3
2. Essay	50%	31/10/2022 11:59 PM	2, 3
3. Quiz	25%	14/11/2022 06:00 PM	1

Assessment 1: Critical Analysis

Assessment length: 1000 words

Due date: 04/10/2022 11:59 PM

Description: 1000 word critical analysis of a media article chosen by student, drawing on two theories covered in the course.

Feedback given in rubric and written comment form.

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Additional details

Please see moodle for details.

Assessment 2: Essay

Assessment length: 3000 words

Due date: 31/10/2022 11:59 PM

Description: Research Essay on set question.

Feedback given in rubric and written comment form.

This is the final assessment task for the course.

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Additional details

This is a major research essay, that will require you to engage with readings and sources beyond those discussed in the course. The essay questions will be available from Moodle.

Assessment 3: Quiz

Due date: 14/11/2022 06:00 PM

Description: 30 mins – in class test – choose answer from a list of possible answers – closed book.

Feedback: Results provided to students within 3 weeks of completion of quiz.

Additional details

Please see moodle for more information.

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 12 September - 16 September	Seminar	<p>(Neo)Liberalism and economic nationalism: the state and the market in the international economy</p> <p>In this week, we discuss two of the main theories in IPE: liberalism and economic nationalism. First, we examine the main tenants of liberalism, such as the desirability of free trade and lower levels of government 'intervention' in the economy. We will also consider the role of liberal economic thought in our world today, and the ascendance of neoliberalism from the late-1970s onwards.</p> <p>Second, we examine economic nationalism. This will address the importance of the state in economic development – both historically and today. It will also consider non-state-centric understandings of economic nationalism, which argue that even liberal policies can be 'economic nationalism' if pursued for nationalist reasons.</p>
Week 2: 19 September - 23 September	Seminar	<p>Marxism: class in the international economy</p> <p>The week examines Marxist political economy. We will discuss the foundations of Marxist thought and how it applies to the international economy. We will also examine the differing Marxist and Neo-Marxist approaches, such as imperialism, dependency, World Systems Theory, and the emergence of transnational capitalism.</p>
Week 3: 26 September - 30 September	Seminar	<p>Feminist political economy: gender in the international economy</p> <p>In the final week to discuss theory, we examine feminist political economy. We will examine how work in the international economy is gendered,</p>

		and how experiences of globalisation difference across genders.
Week 4: 3 October - 7 October	Seminar	Public holiday - no classes this week.
	Assessment	Critical Analysis
Week 5: 10 October - 14 October	Seminar	<p>The making and unmaking of the post-War order: a brief history</p> <p>This week examines economic governance in the aftermath of the Second World War. This includes the creation of the Bretton Woods System and the multilateral trade negotiations under the GATT. We will consider the importance of both the US and Cold War to this order. The week will then examine how this order changed – particularly through the 1970's – giving way to the neoliberal era from the 1980s.</p>
Week 6: 17 October - 21 October	Seminar	<p>International trade and trade negotiations</p> <p>This week we will look at the international trade architecture, beginning with the creation of the World Trade Organisation in 1996. We will then examine the fragmentation of the international trade regime through the proliferation of bilateral and regional free trade agreements. Last, we will critically assess the expansion of free trade negotiations into regulatory issues such as intellectual property, services, environmental policies, etc.</p>
Week 7: 24 October - 28 October	Seminar	<p>Global finance</p> <p>This week we will discuss the global financial system. We will consider both international financial institutions, and the backlash against them, as well as the centrality of the US dollar as the world's hegemonic currency.</p>
Week 8: 31 October - 4 November	Seminar	<p>Corporate power and private authority</p> <p>This week will examine the rise of multinational corporations as political actors in the international economy. We will discuss the private authority that these corporations wield, as well as their relationship with the state.</p>
	Assessment	Essay
Week 9: 7 November - 11 November	Seminar	Global inequality

		<p>This week we examine one of the most pressing issues today: global inequality. We examine different approaches to understanding what inequality is, why it matters (or not), and what to do about it. We will also discuss recent trends in inequality.</p>
<p>Week 10: 14 November - 18 November</p>	<p>Seminar</p>	<p>US-China rivalry in the international economy</p> <p>In our last week we will examine the US-China rivalry. This will include a discussion of the US-China trade war and China's institution-building initiatives such as the Belt and Road and the AIIB. We will critically assess China's changing role in the global economy, and whether it poses a threat to US dominance.</p>
	<p>Assessment</p>	<p>Quiz</p>

Resources

Prescribed Resources

There is no set textbook for this course. Rather, the essential readings for each week are freely available to you on Moodle. You will also find on Moodle a comprehensive list of recommended readings.

You will benefit from becoming familiar with GoogleScholar (<http://scholar.google.com>) as a key search engine for academic publications and reports. You can set up the preferences to link to the UNSW Library even when you are not on campus.

Go to Google Scholar> settings> library links, and enter 'University of New South Wales' in the box for "Library":

Recommended Resources

Please see Moodle for an extensive list of readings for each topic

Course Evaluation and Development

Student feedback is sought both formally and informally at various stages of the course. At each seminar, students are required to complete a self-and-seminar evaluation form that asks them to reflect on their learning experience that week, and to identify the parts of the seminar that they found most and least helpful. This information is read by the convener on a weekly basis, and where possible, efforts are made to address any issues of concern in subsequent seminars. Similarly, if students express the view that they enjoyed and found helpful a particular learning activity, the convener can utilize similar activities in subsequent seminars.

The course is also assessed by students via the CATEI process at the end of the semester. CATEI feedback is used to make revisions to the course the following year. In recent years for example, students felt that there were too many written assignments. This, along with the move to a 10-week term is why students are now asked to complete three rather than four pieces of assessment.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au

Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin, you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support, you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone, you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here](#).

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided).

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines> for essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;
- cross-institutional study and exchange;
- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

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