Global Political Economy II
Issues and Problems Since 1945

York University, Political Science 3275 (0.3)
Winter, January 4 – April 4, 2007, Monday 4:00-7:00

Course Director: Jonathan Nitzan
Office: S650  ·  Office hours: Tuesday 2:30-3:30, or by appointment
Voice: 736-2100 (ext. 88822)  ·  E-mail: nitzan@yorku.ca  ·  Website: www.bnarchives.net

Description
The course examines the global political economy as it developed since the end of Second World War. It deals with the general themes of power and production, order and disorder, finance, the international monetary system, international trade and the transnational corporation. It also explores various facets of capitalist expansion and crisis, including North-South relationships, development and underdevelopment, the impact of financial flows, the new wars and the future of the global political economy. (NOTE: There could be some deviations from the course schedule and readings as we go along.)

Format
Lectures and class discussion. There are no tutorials for this class.

Evaluation

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<tr>
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<th>Weight</th>
<th>Maximum length</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid Term Examination</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>February 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Take-Home Essay</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>2,500 words</td>
<td>April 2</td>
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Participation (20%). You are allowed to miss 2 sessions without reason. Every additional no-show reduces your attendance grade by 2%. Students are required to read the assigned material before class. In order to sharpen your focus and stimulate discussion, you are encouraged to come to every class with at least one critical question pertaining to the session’s reading.

Mid-Term Examination (30%). The test will be held in class on February 26 and will last one hour. It will consist of several essay questions covering the first part of the course.

Take-Home Essay (50%). The purpose of this essay is for you to integrate different facets of the course. Your grade will be based on: (1) demonstrated knowledge; (2) use of knowledge; (3) presentation, writing and organization; and (4) creativity. Your essay should be based on the course material, as well as additional readings and evidence if applicable. The questions for the essay will be distributed and discussed during the class of March 26. The paper should be emailed to me as a Word attachment by April 2 (email to nitzan@yorku.ca). The paper must not exceed 2,500 words. Longer essays will not be graded. Late submissions will be accepted only with a valid documented reason (medical or family misfortune); otherwise, they will be subject to a penalty of 10% per day.
REQUIRED TEXTS


SCHEDULE

January 9
*Introduction and organization*

1. January 16
   **The Post-War Global Political Economy: Order and Disorder**
   Frieden and Lake, Ch. 4 by Susan Strange: “State, Firms, and Diplomacy,” pp. 60-71.

2. January 23
   **Finance: The Architecture of Capitalist Power**

3. January 30
   **Instruments: What Does Finance Look Like?**

4. February 6
   **Identity Politics: Who is Running Finance, How and Why?**

February 13
*Reading Week*
No class
5. February 20
**Taming the Beast: The International Monetary System**
Spero and Hart, Ch. 2: “Governing the International Monetary System,” pp. 12-61.
Frieden and Lake, Ch. 14 by Barry Eichengreen: “Hegemonic Stability Theories of the International Monetary System,” pp. 220-244.
Frieden and Lake, Ch. 15 by Benjamin Cohen: “The Triad and the Unholy Trinity: Problems of International Monetary Cooperation,” pp. 245-256

6. February 27
**Mid-Term Examination**
Discussion: How to do research in global political economy?

7. March 6
**Freedom to Protect: International Trade**

8. March 13
**Trojan Horses: From Imperialism to the Transnational Corporation**
Frieden and Lake, Ch. 7 by Jeffry Frieden: “International Investment and Colonial Control: A New Interpretation.”
Spero and Hart, Ch. 4: “The Multinational Corporation and Global Governance,” pp. 117-170

9. March 20
**North-South: Development and Underdevelopment**
Spero and Hart, Ch. 5: “The North-South System and the Possibility of Change,” pp. 171-191.
Spero and Hart, Ch. 6: “Financial Flows to Developing Countries,” pp. 192-233.

10. March 27
**Peace Dividends, War Profits: The Political Economy of Global Conflict**

11. April 3
**Future Possibilities, Future Impossibilities**
Discussion