



**POSC 3915: (Fordham -- Rose Hill)
International Political Economy
Summer 2019**

Instructor: José A Alemán	Office: Faber Hall 662
Office hours: MR, 1-3:30 pm	E-mail: aleman@fordham.edu
Course web site: Blackboard (IMPORTANT: you must have a working account!)	

TEXTs (required):

Oatley, Thomas. 2018. *International Political Economy: Interests and Institutions in the Global Economy*. Sixth edition. New York: Routledge.

DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an introduction to theories relating the international political and economic systems. Students gain a thorough understanding of the world political economy on issues that matter most to policymakers, scholars, and publics alike. The course is structured around the following goals: the ability to explain the political economy of international trade and monetary relations; the ability to understand changes in American foreign economic policies; and the ability to discuss in theoretically informed ways recent events such as the creation of the European Monetary System. Some of the questions we will address include: Is international trade good for the United States? Why do countries join monetary unions like the EU?

REQUIREMENTS:

(A) **Attendance and participation:** as stated in the attendance policy of the Undergraduate Bulletin (<http://legacy.fordham.edu/UndergraduateBulletin/>), attendance is mandatory and students are expected to attend class having done the readings and ready to participate with questions and comments. In the event of a “religious holiday, serious illness, death in the student’s immediate family, or participation in a university sponsored event”, students must provide adequate documentation to the Dean’s office, who will then determine whether the absence is excused or not. Arriving late to class, after attendance has been taken, counts as an absence. After 3 unexcused absences, a letter grade will be subtracted from the final grade.

Students are also asked to refrain from bringing cell-phones, laptops or any other electronic equipment to class, unless it has been switched off and put away (https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/02/opinion/leave-your-laptops-at-the-door-to-my-classroom.html?emc=eta1&_r=0). In the event a laptop is necessary for note taking, proper medical documentation must be provided. To ensure participation, I reserve the

right to ask a particular student to answer a question or prompt.

(A) **Daily homework:** To ensure active learning, students are asked to submit a glossary of important terms from the readings the day prior to those readings being discussed. Glossaries will be graded and together comprise 40% of the final grade.

(C) **mid-term and final examinations:** exams will be done in class. Cheating (using unauthorized materials or giving unauthorized assistance during an examination or other academic exercise) and plagiarism (using others' ideas and words without acknowledgment) are serious offenses and will be forwarded to the Dean.

EVALUATION:

- (A) class participation: 10%
- (B) daily homework: 40%
- (C) midterm examination: 25%
- (D) final examination: 25%

On all papers and exams, evaluation is based on a thorough understanding and command of the materials presented in lectures and readings, original critical analyses of those materials, and an attempt to think about how those ideas make sense of particular countries or experiences in the real world.

RESOURCES:

(A) **book:** the above text is required and available for purchase at the Fordham University bookstore **or** online. Additional handouts and readings will be made available through blackboard.

(B) **Blackboard:** each student must obtain a blackboard account. This is a web-based platform used to administer course announcements and grades, and additional course materials.

(C) **special assistance:** students with disabilities should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to allow for coordination of assistance with the Office of Disability Services (ODS). Students in need of assistance with class assignments should contact or visit the Writing Center (x4032) located in Dealy E-533.

Course schedule

5/28	Introduction. What is IPE? (no readings)
5/28	Traditional Schools of International Political Economy Oatley (chapter 1)
5/29	The World Trading System: Origins Oatley (chapter 2)
5/29	The World Trading System: Contemporary Challenges Blackboard readings
5/30	Economic Case for Trade Oatley (chapter 3)
5/30	The Economic Impact of Trade Blackboard readings
6/3	The Politics of Trade Cooperation Oatley (chapter 3)
6/3	Domestic Politics of Trade Oatley (chapter 4)
6/4	Retrain Workers vs. Redistribute Income Rosen vs. Scheve & Slaughter
6/4	Political Institutions and Interests Oatley (chapter 4)
6/5	Trade and Growth Blackboard readings
6/5	review
6/6	midterm
6/10	Monetary systems and currencies No readings (http://www.chrismartenson.com/crashcourse) 6-11
6/10	“Inside Job” screening No readings
6/11	“Inside Job” screening, continued No readings
6/11	Fixed vs. Floating Exchange Rate Systems Oatley (chapter 10)
6/12	Balance of Payments and Balance of Payments Adjustments Oatley (chapter 10)
6/12	The Bretton Woods Monetary System Oatley (chapter 14) Argentine economic crisis (1999-2002); “Ahora o Nunca” http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YadmuZ1Lv-s
6/13	The Unholy Trinity Oatley (chapter 11)
6/13	Exchange Rate Cooperation in the European Monetary System Oatley (chapter 15)

6/17	The dollar and the renminbi Bergstein vs. Hale and Hale
6/17	The Rise (and Fall) of the Euro PowerPoint presentation
6/18	The Rise and Fall of the US \$ Stiglitz vs. White
6/18	Electoral Models of Monetary Policy and Unemployment Oatley (chapters 12 & 13)
6/19	“Money, Power and Wall Street: Part One” screening http://video.pbs.org/video/2226666502
6/19	“Money, Power and Wall Street: Part Two” screening http://video.pbs.org/video/2226666506
6/20	Multinational Corporations in the Global Economy Oatley (chapter 8)
6/20	Multinational Corporations and Host Countries Oatley (chapter 8)
6/24	Regulating Multinational Corporations Oatley (chapter 9)
6/24	The International Regulation of Multinational Corporations Oatley (chapter 9)
6/25	review
6/26	final