Government 6857: International Political Economy

Spring 2012

Jonathan Kirshner
323 White Hall
jdk5@cornell.edu
255-4120

This seminar provides an overview of international political economy targeted towards PhD students in the Government department. Students from other programs may register only with the permission of the instructor. There are no prerequisites for the course. Students preparing for their International Relations A-Exam should also familiarize themselves with the syllabus from last year’s version of this course; it is posted on the blackboard site.

The reading load for this course is substantial, averaging seven articles/chapters or approximately three hundred pages per week. Students are expected to have done all of the readings before each class. Note that most of the assigned journal articles are available on-line, and there are also hard copies of the major journals in Olin Library 405. Many of the readings will be placed on reserve in room 405 as well, on the shelf marked for that purpose. Some readings will also be available on the course blackboard site. All readings are required.

The requirements for this class are as follows:

Active and thoughtful class participation. All students are expected to participate actively and constructively in discussions of the assigned reading and related topics.

Research Paper: Students are required to write a research paper (of about 25 pages in length). There are a number of preliminary elements and deadlines attendant to this assignment:

- Friday, February 17: a 5-7 page prospectus in which you describe the research area you will focus on as well as a one-page bibliography.

- Friday, March 16: a 12-15 page memo in which you spell out your research question (or “dependent variable”) (approximately 5-7 pages); and then your main hypotheses (or “independent variables”) (also about 5-7 pages); finally you should including a reading list of about 3 pages in length in which you mark (with asterisks) the readings that you have been able to do so far.

- Friday, May 11: the final paper is due (in both paper and electronic form). I will grade all papers that come in on time promptly. All others will likely receive an Incomplete (given college requirements about when grades must be submitted); you should be alert to the rules of the department (as well as the Graduate School) with regard to incompletes, which, once frozen, are difficult to resolve.
**Week 1 (January 23): Introduction**


**Week 2 (January 30): Macro-History**


**Week 3 (February 6): State and Nation**


Week 4 (February 13): The Problem of Cooperation


Week 5 (February 20): Domestic Politics


Week 6 (February 27): Trade


**Week 7 (March 5): Money**


**Week 8 (March 12): Finance, Investment and Sovereign Debt**


Week 9 (March 27): Regimes and Institutions


Week 10 (April 2**): Economic Power and Statecraft


Week 11 (April 9): Financial Crises

Reinhart and Rogoff, This Time is Different: Eight Centuries of Financial Folly, (Princeton University Press, 2009), pp. xxv-xxxv, xxxix-xlv, 3-20, 277-292.
Herman Schwartz, Subprime Nation: American Power, Global Capital, and the Housing
Week 12 (April 16): Keynes and Keynesianism


Week 13 (April 23): Globalization

Peter Katzenstein, A World of Regions (Cornell University Press, 2005), pp. 1-75.
Andrew Cooper “The G20 as an Improvised Crisis Committee and/or a Contested ‘Steering Committee’ for the World,” International Affairs 86:3 (2010), pp. 741-57.

Week 14 (April 30): Progress in IPE?