

Johns Hopkins University
Department of Political Science

Note: This syllabus is subject to revision.

Global Political Economy
190.301 Sections 1 and 2
Professor Renée Marlin-Bennett
Karyn JiaMin Wang, teaching assistant

		Lecture:		
Gilman	55	MW	03:00 PM	03:50 PM
		Section 1		
Bloomberg	172	F	04:00 PM	04:50 PM
		Section 2		
Bloomberg	178	F	03:00 PM	03:50 PM

Professor Marlin-Bennett's contact information:

Office: Mergenthaler 326

Office hours: Wednesdays, 10am - noon

E-mail: marlin@jhu.edu

Telephone: 410-516-5478

COURSE STATEMENT:

Global Political Economy is the study of the way global economic and other interactions are governed. How do states and other actors intervene in and organize markets? How do we deal with “transborder problems” like pollution, AIDS and antibiotic-resistant tuberculosis? How are wealth and power related? Why and when is political action taken for economic gain? Why and when is economic action taken for political gain?

This course is an introduction to the practices of governance of the global political economy and theories for understanding those practices. You will not be learning much economics in this course; it is a political science course that examines the usual political science questions: Who is powerful, and why? Who governs, and how? What are the rules, and how are they made and enforced? Nevertheless, some economics sneaks in because we are asking these questions about what are normally considered economic practices: trade, finance, the economic development, and so forth.

This is a writing intensive course. You will be completing two different writing projects: a short writing assignment and a research paper. Revisions will be permitted, but the

revised paper must be turned in within one week of receiving the graded version back.

All assignments will be turned in on Blackboard.

REQUIREMENTS AND RUBRICS:

Short writing assignment (10% of total grade – with opportunity for revision), due February 15. At least 2 and no more than 6 double spaced pages.

Choose a current news article concerning the global political economy and consider the writings of Mun, Smith, Lenin, Strange, and Cox. Answer one of the following questions:

1. What kinds of questions or concerns would these authors have with the topic of the news story?
2. Whose theory best explains this news story and why?

For example, if your news story is about the failure of a large bank that has global repercussions, you might discuss how Strange and Lenin both have something to contribute to our understanding, but (perhaps) you find Strange more compelling (and then provide the reasons).

You must use at least two of the authors listed above in your essay. It is acceptable to explain why an author's writing is not helpful. You must also turn in the news article (upload it with your paper).

Research Paper (total of the parts: 50% of your grade – with opportunities for revision) Each part of the research paper should be no less than 6 pages, double spaced.

- **Research Paper Part 1:** Question or puzzle, analysis of the scholarship (10% of your total grade), due Mar 1, 2013
 - Please confirm with the TA or the professor that your question or puzzle is appropriate for this assignment. Requirements include (but are not limited to):
 - A question or puzzle relevant to GPE;
 - A question or puzzle that can be answered with existing evidence that you will have access to;
 - A question or puzzle that you can situate within the existing scholarly literature.
- **Research Paper Part 2:** Your answer to the question/puzzle and a description of the evidence you are using to provide support for your answer. (10% of your total grade), due March 29.
- **Research Paper Part 3:** Your analysis and conclusion (10% of your total grade), due April 19.
- **Final version:** put it all together (an additional 20% of your total grade), due April 26. Note: April 26 is a firm deadline if you wish to have an opportunity to

submit a revised version before 3pm on May 3. If you do not meet the April 26 deadline, you will not have an opportunity to revise the final version. The final deadline for the final version is 3pm on May 3, 2013. Any papers received after that time will be considered late and will be penalized as a consequence.

Here's an example of how this will work. Let's say your question is: Does the money I give to charity after an international disaster really help those who need help? A quick search of Google Scholar (not the only or even the best database but a useful first place to start) reveals lots of hits for the following keyword search: disaster charity development "global political economy." Your first assignment, Part 1, would be a statement of your question and a justification of its importance, along with an analysis of what the authors of the scholarly literature (a term we will discuss) think are the key issues to be studied on or around your topic. In Part 2, you'll propose an answer to your question and identify evidence to support your stance. The evidence could come from news articles, from websites of charitable organizations, from government documents, and the like. Be careful not to set up your research so that the answer you want to be correct is necessarily correct!!¹ In this assignment you will be proposing your solution and justifying your choice of evidence. You'll also be describing laying out the evidence. In the final section, Part 3, you will analyze the evidence (does it provide the answer you expect?) and conclude. In the final version, you'll put all three parts together, smooth out the transitions, make sure the references are properly formatted, etc.

If you have studied statistics, you may wish to use a statistical method to complete this assignment. Please consult with the professor if this is the case. There is no requirement to use statistics, however.

Exams

The exams will focus on your understanding of the assigned readings and your ability to apply that understanding to current issues in global politics.

- **Midterm** (15% of total grade). **Mar 15, 2013**
- **Final Exam** (15% of total grade). **May 17, 2013, 9am to noon, location TBA.**

Class Participation (10% of total grade)

Coming to class prepared is essential. The class format on Mondays and Wednesdays will be lectures interspersed with discussion. Sections on Fridays will primarily be discussions.

¹ Here's my favorite example of setting up your study to prove yourself right: A student decided to study the effect of life expectancy on level of development. The better the life expectancy, the student proposed, the higher the level of development. Then the student defined level of development in terms of a standard GPE statistic call "PQLI" ("Physical Quality of Life Index"). One of the components of PQLI is life expectancy. So, the better the life expectancy, the higher the index which measures, in part, life expectancy. Big shock. (Read: big tautology.)

REQUIRED BOOKS

O'Brien and Williams, *Global Political Economy: Evolution and Dynamics*, Palgrave, 2007.
Polanyi, Karl. *The Great Transformation*. 2nd Beacon paperback ed: Beacon Press, 2001.
Rivoli, Pietra. *The Travels of a T-Shirt in the Global Economy*. Wiley, 2006.
Case studies from www.GUISD.org

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

*Throughout its history, the Johns Hopkins University has enjoyed a distinguished reputation for academic excellence and integrity. Each member of the University bears a personal responsibility to uphold the ethical standards of the institution.*²

As a members of this academic community, it is our individual and joint responsibility to uphold the integrity of our academic endeavors. I expect that you have familiarized yourself with the University webpages on ethics (ethics.jhu.edu) and that you are committed to avoiding all forms of cheating, plagiarism, and other violations of academic integrity.

In my career, it has been my unfortunate fate to uncover more than one incident of significant violation of academic integrity. Honest students suffer when dishonest ones degrade the value of a Hopkins degree by cheating.

Because of my past experiences, late changes of topic of the research paper will be viewed with skepticism. If you need to change your research paper topic for some appropriate reason (the evidence you thought was easily available is not, you discovered something much more interesting that you are really excited about, etc.) you **MUST** consult with me and get my approval. Furthermore, it is a good practice to keep records of the work you did to research and write the paper.

CLASS CALENDAR AND OUTLINE

Please come to class having read the assigned texts for that date. Note that here are no texts assigned for Fridays. Some weeks the TA will ask you to read an additional short text (e.g., magazine article, blog post) in preparation for class discussion.

Announcements of additional readings for Friday discussion sections will be made

² Preamble to the Constitution of the JHU Ethics Board, on-line at , accessed July 12, 2007.

via email and on the course website no later than 5pm on Wednesday prior to the Friday section.

Introduction

Mon Jan 28, 2013

No reading

I. Theoretical Perspectives

Approaches to GPE

Wed Jan 30, 2013

O'Brien & Williams, Chapter 1

Mun, England's Treasure by Forraign Trade, Ch. 3, on Blackboard

Smith, Wealth of Nations, Selections on Blackboard.

Lenin, Imperialism: The Highest Stage of Capitalism, Selection on Blackboard. (Note: I believe that Lenin's use of the phrase "clipping coupons" is a reference to interest on bonds rather than 50 cents off your next purchase of Tide Detergent. See <http://www.investopedia.com/articles/bonds/08/bearer-bond.asp#axzz1kIdJ4CWT>)

Fri Feb 1, 2013

Methods and Theories

Mon Feb 4, 2013

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 2

Wed Feb 6, 2013

Susan Strange, *Mad Money: When Markets Outgrow Governments* (University of Michigan Press, 1998), Chapter 1

Robert W. Cox, "Production and Security," in *Approaches to World Order*, by Robert W. Cox with Timothy J. Sinclair (Cambridge University Press, 1996), pp. 277-295.

Fri Feb 8, 2013

II. Evolution

World Regions, 1400-1800

Mon Feb 11, 2013

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 3

Wed Feb 13, 2013

Peter T. Leeson (2007). An-arrgh-chy: The Law and Economics of Pirate Organization. *Journal of Political Economy*, 115(6), 1049-1094.

Charles Stanish (1997) Nonmarket Imperialism in the Prehispanic Americas: The Inka Occupation of the Titicaca Basin. *Latin American Antiquity*, 8(3), 195-216.

Fri Feb 15, 2013

Short writing assignment is due on Blackboard today.

Industrial Revolution, Pax Britannica, and Imperialism

Mon Feb 18, 2013

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 4

Wed Feb 20, 2013

Polanyi, Chapters 1, 4, 6, and 7

Fri Feb 22, 2013

20th Century

Mon Feb 25, 2013

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 5
Polanyi, Chapters 11, 14, and 21

Wed Feb 27, 2013

Barry Eichengreen and Peter B. Kenen, Managing the World Economy under the Bretton Woods System: An Overview, in *Managing the World Economy: Fifty Years after Bretton Woods*, edited by Peter Kenen ([Peterson] Institute for International Economics, 1994), pp. 3-57.

Fri Mar 1, 2013

Research Paper Part 1 due today!

III. Dynamics

International Trade

Mon Mar 4, 2013

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 6

Wed Mar 6, 2013

Case Study: #293 It's Not Just the Economy, Stupid: Linking Free Trade and the War on Terror, available for purchase from www.GUISD.org.

Robert Howse & Kalypso Nicolaidis (2003). Enhancing WTO Legitimacy: Constitutionalization or Global Subsidiarity? *Governance*, 16(1), 73-94.

Fri Mar 8, 2013

Global Financial System

Mon Mar 11, 2013

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 8 (Note that we are going out of order!)

Khandakar Quadrat-I Elahi and M. Lutfur Rahman (2006). Micro-Credit and Micro-Finance: Functional and Conceptual Differences. *Development in Practice*, 16(5), pp. 476-483.

Wed Mar 13, 2013

Watch: *Inside Job* (AV on reserve in the library; group screenings to be offered.)

Eric Helleiner (2011). Understanding the 2007–2008 Global Financial Crisis: Lessons for Scholars of International Political Economy. *Annual Review of Political Science* 14: 67-87. DOI: 10.1146/annurev-polisci-050409-112539

Friday, Mar 15, 2013

Midterm in class today!! (Yes, if you are in Section 1, which meets at 4pm, you may elect to take the midterm with Section 2, which meets at 3pm)

Mon Mar 18, 2013

Spring Vacation

Wed Mar 20, 2013

Spring vacation

Fri Mar 22, 2013

Spring vacation

Transnational Production

Mon Mar 25, 2013

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 7

Case Study: #256 Out of India: Enron and the Politics of Economic Liberalization, available for purchase from www.GUISD.org.

Wed Mar 27, 2013

Rivoli, 1st half

Fri Mar 29, 2013

Research Paper Part 2 due today!!

Global Division of Labor

Mon Apr 1, 2013

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 9

Case Study: #290 A Helping Hand? Eliminating Child Labor in Bangladesh's Garment Industry, available for purchase from www.GUISD.org.

Wed Apr 3, 2013

Rivoli, 2nd half

Fri Apr 5, 2013

Gender

Mon Apr 8, 2013

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 10

Case Study: #295 Sewing or Sex?: Labor Migration in Thailand, available for purchase from www.GUISD.org.

Wed Apr 10, 2013

Isabella Bakker (2007). Social Reproduction and the Constitution of a Gendered Political Economy. *New Political Economy* 12(4): 541-556.

Elisabeth Prugl (2004). International Institutions and Feminist Politics. *Brown Journal of World Affairs* 10(2): 69-84.

Fri Apr 12, 2013

Economic Development

Mon Apr 15, 2013

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 11

Moisés Naím (2005). Bad Medicine. *Foreign Policy* 147 (March/April): 96, 95.

Wed Apr 17, 2013

Case Study: #266 The Rocky Road toward Debt Forgiveness, available for purchase from www.GUISD.org.

W. Easterly (2002). How did heavily indebted poor countries become heavily indebted? Reviewing two decades of debt relief. *World Development* 30(10): 1677-1696.

Fri Apr 19, 2013

Research Paper Part 3 due today!

Global Environmental Change

Mon Apr 22, 2013

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 12

Wed Apr 24, 2013

Peter Dauvergne and Kate J. Neville (2009). The Changing North-South and South-South Political Economy of Biofuels. *Third World Quarterly*, 30(6), 1087-1102.

Visit: http://www.aaas.org/news/releases/2010/1022fixing_the_sky.shtml. Read the text; watch the video.

Fri Apr 26, 2013

Final version of your Research Paper is due today!!

Ideas

Mon Apr 29, 2013

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 13

Case Study # 271 Intellectual Property Rights, Drug Access, and the Doha Round, available from www.GUISD.org.

Governing the Global Political Economy

Wed May 1, 2013

O'Brien and Williams, Chapter 15

Fri May 3, 2013

Any revision of your Research Paper must be turned in before class time today!!!

Final Exam: Friday May 17, 2013 IN CLASS -- 9 TO NOON, LOCATION tba