INR4035 - International Political Economy

Waltraud Q. Morales

Syllabus Fall 2013

Instructor	Dr. Waltraud Q. Morales
Class Hours	online
Office	Phillips Hall 302, Main Campus
Office Hours	MT: 3:00-6:00 pm
Phone	407-823-2608 main office; 407-823-2040 desk and voicemail
E-mail	Waltraud.Morales@ucf.edu
Homepage	Dr. Waltraud Q. Morales

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

International Political Economy (IPE) is a three-credit hour upper division course with no formal prerequisites, although lower division international relations courses such as INR 2002 may provide useful and necessary preparation. The course focuses on the interrelationship between international politics and international economics, especially the process of globalization. With the end of the Cold War, expanded global interdependence and communication has provided conditions for greater international cooperation as well as conflict. Changes and continuities in the international political

economy have impacted the personal and social choices of people everywhere. The course explores the important changes and continuities in IPE as well as related problems and opportunities these may present.

First, we will survey the competing theories, economic history and recent development in IPE. Second, we will focus on the central political and economic actors and global organizations of IPE. Third, we will consider the major problems and issues in IPE and their potential policy solutions. Among these are economic development, markets and democratization, global poverty and inequality, illegal economic activities from arms to drugs, and the impact of technology and environmental constraints. Last, we will relate these problems and issues to specific country cases.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- An understanding of the critical interface between global politics and economics
- An overview and critique of the competing theories of IPE
- An investigation into the major issues and problems in IPE
- Possible applications to specific country cases
- And potential policy pitfalls and solutions.

COURSE GRADING AND REQUIREMENTS:

There are five grading components in the course worth 20 points each. **First component: Midterm. Second component: Final.**

These two non-comprehensive exams consist of short answers, and multiple choice, true false questions. **All exams are online**. However, if you miss the first test (midterm) for any reason that is legitimate and can be documented (such as serious illness or emergency), you need to contact the instructor immediately. In that case your second test (or final) will be **comprehensive and closed book,** and may have to **be TAKEN ON CAMPUS IN PERSON** in the computer lab and it must be scheduled in advance with the instructor. If you miss both tests and/or you fail to take the comprehensive second test you will receive a failing grade.

Third component: CRITIQUE PAPER consists of a 5-10 page word processed document on a selected chapter from ***Real World Globalization***.

Fourth component: COUNTRY STRATEGY & RESOURCE REPORT consists of 5-10 page word processed paper providing a strategic assessment of international political economic conditions for your approved country case with special focus on the race and scramble for the world's diminishing resources as discussed in Michael T. Klare's ***The Race for What's Left***. (See assignment instructions for how to select and have your country choice approved.)

Papers can only be submitted by uploading into webcourses online. Detailed instructions for the assignment are found in the content module section. Follow these instructions very carefully. **Papers that**

are not uploaded by the due date will be considered late. Late receipt of papers may reduce your score by 5 points each regular day late. Contact the instructor in advance if you anticipate a problem. (If the class is very large, written assignments may be group projects. If that is the case you will be advised and assigned to groups.)

Fifth component: Discussion Activities/Assignment Postings, or your responsible participation in discussion topics and forums, completion of web assignments and overall collaboration and interaction with your classmates. Again, if the class size is large this may involve group activities. In that event, you will be advised and will be expected to cooperate and be an asset to your group. Failure to post and to maintain communication, cooperation, and collaboration will affect your grade and may prevent you from achieving the highest grade.

In writing your papers don't forget that plagiarism is claiming someone else's work as your own by failure to cite or reference properly. You need to learn how to fully cite your sources, so consult any standard reference system, (Chicago Manual of Style, MLA, etc.). See the Political Science department and graduate studies web site for more explanation of these issues. Cheating is unjust and results in an automatic "F."

Grading may use plusses and minuses and is rigorous. Remember that borderline grades can go either way, so that an excellent record of forum discussions (both quantity and quality) and constructive collaboration with your classmates will impact your final grade.

The Instructor reserves the right to alter and update the syllabus and schedule at any time when necessary for proper functioning of the course, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of these changes.

Evaluation and Grading

My grading scale uses the specific letter grade and points assigned as noted below:

Letter Grade	Points
A	93 – 100 points
A-	90 – 92 points
B+	87 – 89 points
B	83 – 86 points
B-	80 – 82 points
C+	77 – 79 points
C	73 – 76 points
C-	70 – 72 points
D+	67 – 69 points
D	63 – 66 points
D-	60 – 62 points
F	59 and below

COURSE TEXTBOOKS:

David N. Balaam, and Bradford Dillman, Introduction to International Political Economy, 5th ed. (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Longman/Pearson, 2011). [IIPE]. (ISBN-13: 978-0-205-79138-5)

Bhandari, Ravi, and the *Dollars & Sense* Collective, eds., Real World Globalization, 12th ed. (Somerville, MA: Dollars and Sense, Economic Affairs Bureau, 2012). [Real World G]. (ISBN-13: 978-1-878585-87-5))

Michael T. Klare, *The Race for What's Left: The Global Scramble for the World's Last Resources* (New York: Picador, 2012. [Klare]. (ISBN-13: 978-1-250-02397-1).

*The books below are recommended **only** if you want to know more; you are **not tested on them** but they do link up with and amplify material in some of the modules.*

Robert L. Heilbroner, The Worldly Philosophers: The Lives, Times and Ideas of the Great Economic Thinkers, 7th ed. revised (Simon & Schuster Trade Paperbacks, 1999). [Worldly]. A classic and ONLY RECOMMENDED for those who want to know more.

Daniel Yergin, and Joseph Stanislaw, The Commanding Heights: The Battle for the World Economy (New York: Simon and Schuster Trade Paperbacks, 2002). This is the companion book to an award-winning video program. Some of modules draw on this but it is also just RECOMMENDED primarily for background reading for those who are interested in learning more.

WHAT'S EXPECTED REGARDING READINGS:

The **THREE Required Texts** must be read carefully, critically and on a timely basis before completing online assignments. (Note: Although there are earlier editions of the texts, these are not recommended since there seem to be significant additions and updates in the 5th edition. If you use earlier editions, it is your responsibility to be sure you have all the material.)

Recommended readings will further your knowledge and may help you do better in the course, but you will not be tested on them directly and your first priority is to read the required materials.

Cramming at the last minute or doing your assignments late will not permit you to successfully assimilate and understand the material, much less allow you the time needed to develop critical perspectives. You are expected to ask key questions and to discuss this material intelligently in discussion forums. Late assignments generally will not be accepted and will lose points. So plan accordingly and work ahead. Contact the instructor if you have special problems.

There may be SHORT POP QUIZZES or other additional assignments if the class is consistently unprepared or unresponsive in discussion postings and forums. Pop quizzes will impact your

participation grade and cannot be made up if any of these are missed. Keeping up with the class discussion and course materials will facilitate your successful completion of class assignments.

SELECTED WEB RESOURCES:

- CIA World Fact Book and regional maps: http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook
- Dollars and Sense: http://www.dollarsandsense.org/
- Center for Economic and Policy Research: http://www.cepr.net/
- People & Planet, web site of an organization of university students concerned with world poverty, environment and human rights:http://www.peopleandplanet.org
- United Nations and listing of IGOs or intergovernmental international organizations: http://www.un.org/
- Yahoo!-Regional: Countries, listing of all countries, maps, and statistical data: http://www.yahoo.com/regional/countries/

Technology Requirements and Computer Skills:

Technology	Expectations for Use
E-mail: **See E-Mail Protocols**	**Primarily** use webcourses internal mail to communicate with the instructor and to communicate with your classmates. If you have a problem, first try to resolve it with your classmates in order to help create a cooperative learning community based on self-help and group support. Also see the help discussion topic, "Friendly Help," for questions and answer postings on often asked questions and problems. If you need help from the instructor first use webcourse mail and use regular email **only** as a last resort: (morales@mail.ucf.edu); and be sure that course communication with the instructor identifies the course in the subject line: INR 4035. E-mail will be answered once a day by the instructor, or as soon as possible. For all technical and computer problems see the link on the course homepage.
Webcourses:	Since web activities are important you should be sure you are comfortable with webcourses. Take the webcourses tutorial to familiarize yourself and take the optional orientation quiz. See the link on the course homepage.
Technical and webcourses help:	For all technical and computer problems and webcourses help see the link on the course homepage.

Class Assignments:

Grade Categories	Description of the requirements	Percent of grade
Critique Paper	5-10 page analysis and critique of a selected chapter from ***Real World Globalization***.	20%
Midterm Exam	Open book short answer and multiple choice and true/false questions based on readings and discussions of main texts.	20%
Final Exam	Open book short answer and multiple choice and true/false questions based on readings and discussions of main texts.	20%
Country Strategy Report	5-10 page strategic assessment for a selected country (only one student to a country). Depending on class size, this may be an individual or a group project. If the latter, you will be informed and assigned to a country group.	20%
Discussion Postings and Internet Assignments	Quality and on-time postings to discussion topics, readings and internet assignments found in course modules.	20%

- Further instructions and details for the writing assignments (paper and report) can be found in "Assignments" and may also be linked within modules.
- Details of discussion, internet and reading assignments are included within and at the end of each of the learning modules.

Overview of Grading and Deadlines:

Grading and evaluation:	Grading includes plusses and minuses and is rigorous. Borderline grades can go either way. An excellent record of class discussion and participation may improve your final grade.
Discussion and participation; and Internet	Meaningful substantive discussion and on-time online participation in the discussions and Internet activities comprise an important component of

activities:	your course grade. Failure to fulfill this responsibility will lower your grade by as much as 20 points.
Deadlines:	Specific due dates are noted in the specific assignments, and online **class schedule**(found on the homepage), and may be posted on the calendar. **Posting Due Dates:** Modules open at the beginning of the week on Monday and posting and internet assignments for each module are due a week later by the following Monday by midnight. All other assignments are also due by midnight on the specified due dates as noted on the schedule (NOT on assignment upload links).
Late, make-up and below-standard work:	Late assignments are penalized as much as 5 points each day late. Contact the instructor if you are anticipating a problem.
Academic Honesty:	Plagiarism and Cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. See the UCF Golden Rule for further information. I will assume for this course that you will adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. In other words, don't cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. I will also adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, so please do not ask me to change (or expect me to change) your grade illegitimately or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone.
Disability Statement:	The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.