Political Science 1592

323 Alumni Hall, Tues. & Thurs., 1:15-2:30

(Fall 2020)

The Politics of Global Economic Relations:

Visualizing Change in the International Political Economy

Professor Jude Hays

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Online Office Hours: W 10:00-12:00pm or by appointment.

Course Webpage: `https://canvas.pitt.edu/`

TA: Rian Litchard

Course Description: The international political economy alternates historically between periods of stasis and change. Today, we are witnessing a period of instability and profound change. The world's economies are becoming more and more integrated through trade and financial flows. New economic powers have emerged, while old ones have retreated from leadership. Longstanding international institutions are being transformed and replaced. How do we make sense of these changes? And what are their political causes and consequences?

This course has three learning objectives. The first objective is to provide a theoretical understanding of the politics that undergird the international economy and explain change. The second is to expose students to the history and evolution of global political-economic relations since the mid-19th century. And the final objective is to teach students techniques for visualization as a means for communicating information contained in data.

The course is organized into four main parts covering distinct historical periods in the international political economy. Part I looks at the international economy under British leadership during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Part II focuses on international economic relations between WWI and WWII. Part III covers the Bretton Woods global economy during the Cold War. Part IV examines the era of globalization that began with the collapse of Bretton Woods and accelerated with the end of the Cold War. A more detailed course schedule with nested subtopics is presented below.

The third learning objective makes this course unique. Traditionally, political science training develops "soft" skills. As political science instructors, we teach you to think conceptually, analytically, and critically about a particular subject—politics. My goal is to add a "hard" skill (data visualization) to your portfolio, the kind that you can write down on a resume. Data visualization is a tool for analyzing and communicating the information contained in data. Data visualization is a particularly useful skill when it comes to studying the international economy, and it has the added benefit of being highly valued outside of academia.

Flex@Pitt: In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this semester we will follow the Flex@Pitt model, which means instruction will be mostly online and include both **synchronous** and **asynchronous** learning activities. Before class you will be expected to watch (asynchronously) a recorded online lecture using **Panopto**. For our in-class synchronous learning activities we will use **Zoom**. I will discuss and answer questions about the lecture material for twenty to forty minutes, and we will spend the remainder of time working on visualization assignments. Navigation links to all of the online learning platforms are available at our Canvas course website.

We do have a classroom that is (supposed to be) equipped with virtual conference technology. This will allow for **blended synchronous learning** with students choosing to participate either face-to-face with other students or remotely. This is an option when the University's operational posture is set to *Guarded Risk*. In the classroom, students (and instructors) must wear a face covering and comply with physical distancing requirements at all times.

Requirements and Grading: There are six quizzes, six visualization assignments and a final essay. Quizzes will cover the lecture material and assigned readings, and they will be administered (during class) through Canvas. The visualization assignments will be distributed throughout the semester. Completed assignments will be uploaded to Canvas. The final essay will describe, analyze and communicate change in the international political economy using both text and visualizations. The assignment is provided at the end of this syllabus.

There are three required books for this course:

Frieden, Jeffry A. 2007. *Global Capitalism: Its Fall and Rise in the Twentieth Century* (New York: WW Norton).

Getachew, Adom. 2019. *Worldmaking After Empire: The Rise and Fall of Self-Determination* (Princeton: Princeton University Press).

Chinn, Menzie D. and Jeffrey A. Frieden. 2011. *Lost Decades: The Making of America's Debt Crisis and the Long Recovery* (New York: WW Norton).

We will use **R**, a free open-source software package, for our data visualization assignments. To learn how to program in **R**, we will use the textbook **R** for Data Science by Garrett Grolemund and Hadley Wickham, which is available here

`https://r4ds.had.co.nz/index.html`.

The main advantage to using open-source is that you will have access to the software after you leave Pitt. I will provide brief online **R** tutorials to help you with the visualization assignments. We will use `https://rstudio.cloud/` for writing and compiling code. Additional online resources for learning **R** will be provided.

Final grades will be calculated using the following weights:

Quizzes	50%
Visualization Assignments	30%
Final Essay	20%

I will drop your lowest quiz grade. The five remaining quizzes will be weighted at 10% each. You are allowed two unexcused absences for the semester. This allowance doesn't mean that you do not have to do the assigned work for an in-class visualization exercise. Instead, it means that you will be given the opportunity to make up the work you missed, if completed in a timely manner. Letter grades correspond to the following numerical scores:

A+ 97-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F 0-59
A 93-96	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
A- 90-92	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

A condensed weekly course schedule with substantive topics and a detailed daily course outline are provided below.

Course Overview (Substantive Topics):

Week 1   Aug. 20   Topic 1: Course Intro
PART I: The Golden Age Under Pax Britannica
Week 2   Aug. 25 & 27   Topic 2: Liberalism and IPE
Week 3   Sep. 1 & 3   Topic 3: Hegemonic Stability Theory
PART II: The Interwar Global Economy
Week 4   Sep. 8 & 10   Topic 4: Realist and Marxist Perspectives
Week 5   Sep. 15 & 17   Topic 5: Domestic Politics and Ideology
Week 6   Sep. 22 & 24   Topic 6: Cycles in the International Political Economy
PART III: International Economic Relations During the Cold War
Week 7   Sep. 29 & Oct. 1   Topic 7: Neoliberal Institutionalism
Week 8   Oct. 6 & 8   Topic 8: The Bretton Woods Institutions
Week 9   Oct. 13 & 15   Topic 9: Development During the Cold War
PART IV: The Era of Globalization
Week 10   Oct. 20 & 22   Topic 10: Institutional Change after Bretton Woods
Week 11   Oct. 27 & 29   Topic 11: Development After the Cold War
Week 12   Nov. 3 & Nov. 5   Topic 12: Globalization Politics
Week 13   Nov. 10 & Nov. 12 Topic 13: The Global Financial Crisis
Week 14   Nov. 17 & 19   Topic 14: The Rise of Right-Wing Populism

Detailed Course Outline:

Day	Date	Lecture	Reading Assignments	Visualization / Quizzes
Th	Aug. 20	Course Intro		What is **R**? Getting Started with **R**
Week 2: Liberalism and IPE				
T	Aug. 25	Liberalism	Frieden, pp. 1-79.	Scatter Plots & Time Series
Th	Aug. 27	Liberalism	Getachew, pp. 1-36.	**Assignment #1**
Week 3: Hegemonic Stability Theory				
T	Sep. 1	Hegemonic Stability	Frieden, pp. 80-123.	Adding Layers
Th	Sep. 3			**QUIZ #1**
Week 4: Realist and Marxist Perspectives				
T	Sep. 8	Realism	Frieden, pp. 127-172.	Adding Layers
Th	Sep. 10	Marxism	Getachew, pp. 37-70.	**Assignment #2**
Week 5: Domestic Politics and Ideology				
T	Sep. 15	Domestic Politics	Frieden, pp. 173-194.	Shading Polygons
Th	Sep. 17			**QUIZ #2**
Week 6: Cycles in the International Political Economy				
T	Sep. 22	Cycles	Frieden, pp. 195-228.	Creating Streams
Th	Sep. 24	Cycles	Frieden, pp. 229-250.	**Assignment #3**
Week 7: Neoliberal Institutionalism				
T	Sep. 29	Neoliberalism	Frieden, pp. 253-300.	Histograms
Th	Oct. 1	Neoliberalism	Getachew, pp. 71-141.	Bar Graphs
Week 8: The Bretton Woods Institutions				
T	Oct. 6	Bretton Woods	Frieden, pp. 301-320.	Scatter Plots
Th	Oct. 8			**QUIZ #3**
Week 9: Development During the Cold War				
T	Oct. 13	Development I	Frieden, pp. 321-360.	Box Plots
Th	Oct. 15	Development I	Getachew, pp. 142-181.	**Assignment #4**
Week 10: Institutional Change After Bretton Woods				
T	Oct. 20	Post-Bretton Woods	Frieden, pp. 363-391.	Network Maps
Th	Oct. 22			**QUIZ #4**
Week 11: Development After the Cold War				
T	Oct. 27	Development II	Frieden, pp. 392-434.	Network Maps
Th	Oct. 29	Development II	Frieden, pp. 435-476.	**Assignment #5**
Week 12: Globalization Politics				
T	Nov. 3	Globalization	Chin & Frieden, pp. 1-56.	Geographical Maps
Th	Nov. 5			**QUIZ #5**
Week 13: The Global Financial Crisis				
T	Nov. 10	Financial Crisis	Chin & Frieden, pp. 57-119.	Space & Time
Th	Nov. 12	Financial Crisis	Chin & Frieden, pp. 120-174	**Assignment #6**
Week 14: The Rise of Right-Wing Populism				
T	Nov. 17	Populism	Chin & Frieden, pp. 175-226.	Visualizing Change
Th	Nov. 19			QUIZ #6
M	Nov. 23			**Final Essay Due**

Course Policies:

Academic Integrity: Students in this course will be expected to comply with the University of Pittsburgh's Policy on Academic Integrity. Cheating/plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in the University Guidelines on Academic Integrity. A minimum sanction of a zero score for the quiz, exam or paper will be imposed. For the full Academic Integrity Policy, go to `www.as.pitt.edu/fac/policies/academic-integrity`.

COVID-19 Statement: In the midst of this pandemic, it is extremely important that you abide by public health regulations and University of Pittsburgh health standards and guidelines. While in class, at a minimum, this means you must wear a face covering and comply with physical distancing requirements; other requirements may be added by the University during the semester. These rules have been developed to protect the health and safety of all community members. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in you not being permitted to attend class in person and could result in a Student Conduct violation. For the most up-to-date information and guidance, please visit coronavirus.pitt.edu and check your Pitt email for updates before each class.

Disabilities: If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and Disability Resources and Services (DRS), 140 William Pitt Union, (412) 648-7890, drsrecep@pitt.edu, (412) 228-5347 for P3 ASL users, as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

Email Communication: Each student is issued a University email address (username@pitt.edu) upon admittance. This email address may be used by the University for official communication with students. Students are expected to read email sent to this account on a regular basis. Failure to read and react to University communications in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the communications. The University provides an email forwarding service that allows students to read their email via other service providers (e, g., Hotmail, AOL, Yahoo). Students that choose to forward their email from their pitt.edu address 'to another address do so at their own risk. If email is lost as a result of forwarding, it does not absolve the student from responding to official communications sent to their University email address. To forward email sent to your University account, go to `accounts.pitt.edu`, log into your account, click on Edit Forwarding Addresses, and follow the instructions on the page. Be sure to log out of your account when you have finished. For the full E-mail Communication Policy, go to `www.cfo.pitt.edu/policies/policy/09/09-10-01.html`.

Final Essay Assignment
Visualizing Change in the International Political Economy
DUE: November 23, 2020

Instructions

- The objective of this assignment is to develop four data visualizations that effectively communicate important information about each of the historical periods covered in this course.

- Essays should be organized into four sections: 1) The Golden Age Under Pax Britannica, 2) The Interwar Years, 3) Bretton Woods and the Cold War and 4)The Current Era of Economic Globalization.

- Each section has three components

  1. A general narrative that describes the important characteristics of the international political economy that you want to highlight for each era (approximately 500 words).

  2. A visual illustration of these characteristics.

  3. An explanation of how to interpret the illustration and a discussion of its most important informational content (approximately 300 words).

- You are free to use historical sources other than Frieden, but this not required for the assignment. All sources should be properly referenced.

- Use R Markdown to knit your text and graphics. Do not include the code in the knitted version of your document.

- I will grade the essays on both the accuracy of your historical accounts and the quality of your data visualizations.