Globalization Culture and Economics

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Description of the course

This is a course about globalization. It will analyse what globalization means, how it has developed, what consequences it has on people, firms, and states. Which actors shape globalization? How do they influence each other? When do they choose cooperation rather than conflict? How wins and who loses from globalization? We will answer these and many other questions by looking at policies that have acquired a distinct international character: trade, global finance, development and environmental policies.

The course will deal with the development of today's international economic system: the 19th century's "first globalization" led by Great Britain; the breakdown of globalization during the two World Wars; the establishment of the post-WWII international economic system; the collapse of the Bretton Woods system and the advent of the "second globalization" since the end of the 1970s. However, the course's constant focus will be today's world: the trade-related tensions between USA and the rest of the world (first of all China and EU); the politics of international financial regulation; the struggle for the control of economic resources; the lack of international action on climate change.

The course will comprise both traditional lectures and seminar sessions, in which students will present readings assigned by the instructor. Students are expected to read the required material before coming to class. All classes will consistently refer to current instances of international economic conflict or cooperation.

Course's objectives

The course's objective is to get students to analyse critically the main determinants of international economic relations: actors' preferences and strategies, methods of interaction, outcomes of conflict and cooperation. At the end of the course, students will be able to interpret rationally the current international issues concerning trade, financial regulation, central banks' policies, inequality, environmental policies.

Grading

Grading is different for attending and non-attending students. To be considered an attending student, one must attend at least 80% of the course – which amounts to 16 out 20 classes.

Attending students

For attending students, the grading will be as follows:

- 40% a term paper of maximum 3,500 words, on a topic chosen in agreement with the instructor;
- 40% a 5-question (to be chosen out of 7 proposed questions; answers of max. 10 lines) written exam to be taken at the end of the course (the exam will cover the material presented in class lectures);
- 20% class presentation and participation.

Non-attending students

- 40% a term paper of maximum 3,500 words, on a topic chosen in agreement with the instructor;
- 60% a 10-question (answers of max. 10 lines) written exam to be taken at the end of the course (the exam will cover the material presented in class lectures);

How to write the term paper

The term paper must include the following parts:

- title
- abstract (max. 150 words)
- 3 to 5 keywords

- at least 4 sections (each one with its title), including an introduction, 2-3 sections in which the argument of the paper is developed, a conclusion
- a reference list

The word limit of 3,500 words is comprehensive of all the above mentioned parts.

The paper must be sent to the instructor within the day before a student takes the exam – for example, if the student takes the exam on 30th June, the paper must be sent by 29th June at 11.59pm.

How to prepare class presentations

Presentations of readings will be assigned during the first sessions of the course. Assignment will follow a first-come-first-served rule. Students are expected to thoroughly read and understand the readings before preparing the presentation. If some aspects of the assigned readings are not clear, students can ask the instructor for clarifications. Students must prepare a presentation to be projected in class, which will be evaluated together with the oral presentation.

Presentations should have the following structure:

- an introduction that illustrates the general topic of the reading, and the phenomenon (or phenomena) it seeks to explain;
- a summary of the argument developed in the article;
- a (possibly critical) reflection on what is argued, and on whether it explains or fails to explain some current developments (in this part, students can present data, graphs or analyses that are additional to the content of the article).

The presentation should not last more than 15 minutes.

Organization of the course

The overall organization of the course will be as follows:

Sessions		**Topics**
1)	28/04/20	Introduction to the course
2)	29/04/20	The world of globalization. *Required reading*: Ravenhill (2016), Ch. 1.
3)	30/04/20	Theoretical approaches to global political economy. *Required reading*: Paul (2010). Drezner (2017). *Additional readings*: Ravenhill (2016), Ch. 2.
4)	05/05/20	The logics of economic globalization. *Required reading*: Ravenhill (2016), Ch. 10.

5)	06/05/20	Cooperation and conflict. *Required readings*: Ravenhill (2016), Ch. 3. Axelrod and Keohane (1985). *Additional reading*: Jervis (1978).
6)	07/05/20	The influence of domestic factors. *Required readings*: Ravenhill (2016), Ch. 4. Moravcsik (1993).
7)	12/05/20	International trade. *Required readings*: Ravenhill (2016), Ch. 5. Baccini *et al.* (2019). *Additional readings*: Baccini (2019). Krasner (1976).
8)	13/05/20	Regional trade agreements. *Required readings*: Ravenhill (2016), Ch. 6. Schneider (2017).
9)	14/05/20	Production and Global Value Chains. *Required readings*: Ravenhill (2016), Ch. 7. Neilson *et al.* (2014). *Additional readings*: Gereffi *et al.* (2005). Ravenhill (2014)
10)	19/05/20	The international monetary and financial system. *Required readings*: Ravenhill (2016), Ch. 8. Frieden (2016). *Additional reading*: Fioretos and Heldt (2019).
11)	20/05/20	Global financial crises. *Required readings*: Ravenhill (2016), Ch. 9. Helleiner (2011).
12)	21/05/20	The impact of globalization on nation states. *Required readings*: Ravenhill (2016), Ch. 11. Hay (2019). *Additional readings*: Simmons *et al.* (2006). Mann (1997).
13)	26/05/20	Students' presentations. *Readings*: Rodrik (2018). Streeck (2011). Fioretos (2019). Ikenberry (1992). Mastanduno (2009). Schwartz (2019). Frieden (1991).
14)	27/05/20	Students' presentations. *Readings*: Ravenhill (2010). Weinhardt and ten Brink (2019). Mansfield and Milner (2018). Hopewell (2019). Lechner (2016).
15)	28/05/20	Globalization, inequality between countries, and poverty. *Required readings*: Ravenhill (2016), Ch. 12. Rudra and Tobin (2017).
16)	03/06/20	The international politics of economic development. *Required readings*: Ravenhill (2016), Ch. 13. Gourevitch (2008).
17)	04/06/20	The global governance of environmental policies *Required readings*: Ravenhill (2016), Ch. 14. Hale (2020). *Additional reading*: Ross (1999).
18)	09/06/20	Students' presentations. *Readings*: Underdal (2017). Findley (2018). Clapp and Helleiner (2012). Ross (2001). Collier (2017). Dauvergne and Lister (2012).

19)	10/06/20	Students' presentations. *Readings*: Fearon (1998). **?**. Mansfield *et al.* (2002). Steinberg *et al.* (2018). Keohane (2020).
20)	11/06/20	Wrap-up and conclusion of the course.

Material

The course's textbook is Ravenhill (2016). Other articles are assigned as readings for certain classes or to be presented by the students. The written exam will be based on the chapters and articles marked as "required readings". Required readings assigned for specific classes must be read *before* coming to class.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism, as well as other forms of academic dishonesty, is forbidden both in written exams and in term papers. Plagiarism implies failing the exam. Term papers will be checked with anti-plagiarism software.

References

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