

Political Economy of International Trade: PSCI 455

Middlebury College

Spring 2016

Professor: Adam Dean

adean@middlebury.edu

Lecture: Wright Seminar

Time: Tuesday 1:30 – 4:15

Office: Munroe 305

Phone: (802) 443-5752

Office Hours: Thursday 4:00 – 5:30 PM

Friday 11:00 – 12:30 PM

The following syllabus is tentative and subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. The most current version will be available on the course's Moodle site.

Course Description

In this course we will examine the political economy of international trade with a focus on economic development and globalization. Emphasis will be placed on the distributional consequences of trade policy, as well as the relationship between trade, international organizations, and international law. Readings will explore the role of international trade in the history of industrialization, theories of development, and contemporary concerns regarding labor rights, the environment, and public health. Students will be encouraged to investigate both new and recurrent distributional issues related to economic growth. The course will assume knowledge of some basic concepts from economics and political science, but no prerequisite coursework is required.

Books for this course:

1. Karl Polanyi, *The Great Transformation*.
2. Beverly Silver, *Forces of Labor*.
3. Ronald Rogowski, *Commerce and Coalitions*.
4. Michael Hiscox, *International Trade and Political Conflict*.
5. Ha-Joon Chang, *Bad Samaritans*
6. William Appleman Williams, *The Tragedy of American Diplomacy*.

All books will be available for purchase at the Middlebury College bookstore. A limited number of copies are on reserve (1 day loan) at the Davis Library.

Reading is an essential part of this course. Students are expected to complete all assigned readings before their corresponding class session. All readings not available in the required books, listed above, will be made available on the course website.

Grades

Students are evaluated based on class participation, weekly reading responses, and a series of writing assignments that will culminate in a final research paper. Final grades will be based on the following breakdown:

Class Participation (30%)

15% Class Discussion

15% Weekly Reading Responses

Participation is extremely important. You should be prepared to answer and ask questions during every class session. Attending class is only the first step to a good participation grade. Answering questions, engaging in discussion, and asking your own questions are all necessary to receive a high participation grade.

Students are also required to write **weekly responses** to the course readings. These writing assignments can propose discussion questions, explore the material's argument or evidence, or relate the reading to other course material. These assignments are not meant to be summaries of the readings. All weekly responses must be posted to the course website by Sunday at midnight.

<u>Research Project (70%)</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Mandatory Meeting</u>
10% Research Question	Sunday, March 6 th	
10% Literature Review	Sunday, March 20 th	#1: Week 4 or 5
10% Argument	Sunday, April 10 th	
10% Methodology and Data	Sunday, April 24 th	#2: Week 8 or 9
30% Final Paper	May 20 th & May 24 th	

Students will write independent **research papers** of approximately 7,000 words. These papers will be produced one piece at a time, with deadlines for students to meet throughout the semester. Students are required to meet with me twice during the semester to discuss their progress. The first **mandatory meeting** should be scheduled after submitting the 'Research Question,' but before submitting the 'Literature Review.' The second mandatory meeting should be scheduled after submitting the 'Argument,' but before submitting the 'Methodology and Data' section. Further instructions for each assignment will be distributed during the semester.

Late assignments will be penalized 1/3 of a letter grade (e.g. from A- to a B+) for each day they are late.

Class Policies

Absence:

Attendance is required. Absences are excused in cases of illness and personal emergency with proper documentation. Absence due to a college-sponsored event or religious holiday is also excused, provided that the student informs me of the absence at least two weeks in advance. Vacation and social engagements are not excused.

Completing Coursework:

It is not possible to pass this course without completing each assignment. Students who fail to submit an assignment will fail the course.

Special Needs:

If you have special physical or academic needs, you are responsible for informing me at the beginning of the semester and pursuing the proper channels for making arrangements to handle your needs. The Americans With Disabilities Act Office provides instructors with a list of arrangements that need to be made for the student. This assessment is the responsibility of the student to obtain. All arrangements requested by the ADA Office will be provided.

<http://www.middlebury.edu/campuslife/services/ada/policy/>

Cell Phone and Laptops:

Laptops are not allowed in class unless the student has a documented special need. Cell phones and PDAs must be turned off during class.

Office Hours and Appointments:

Students are strongly encouraged to meet with me during my office hours or to make an appointment to discuss questions and address any difficulties with the course, as well as paper topics, readings, etc.

Communication and email:

The best option for discussing course material and assignments is to attend regular office hours. For questions that cannot wait for office hours, please, feel free to email me (adean@middlebury.edu). However, please keep in mind that I will not respond to email after 5 PM or on the weekends. Additionally, I will not respond to emails received the day before an assignment is due. In general, I will do my best to respond to all student emails within 24 hours.

Honor Code and Plagiarism

Middlebury's Honor Code should be strictly followed for any tests or other work submitted for this course. The Honor Code can be found at:

<http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/acadinfo/honorcode/statement.htm>

Plagiarism is a violation of the Honor Code. Using another person's ideas and information either in exact form or by paraphrasing without proper citation is plagiarism. In your papers, you are required to cite all sources, use quotations where necessary and provide a bibliography. Plagiarism will be taken extremely seriously. If you have questions, ask me before submitting work. Violation of Middlebury's Honor Code will automatically prompt me to post a failing grade for this course, and advocate for suspension from the College.

Class Schedule

Session 1: Tuesday, February 16th

- Introduction

Session 2: Tuesday, February 23rd

- Adam Smith, *Wealth of Nations*, Book IV, Chapter II
- Karl Marx, "On the Question of Free Trade"
- Jagdish Bhagwati, *In Defense of Globalization*, Chapter 1, pp. 3-27.
- David Harvey, *A Brief History of Neoliberalism*, Chapter 1, pp. 5-38.

Session 3: Tuesday, March 1st

- Karl Polanyi, *The Great Transformation*, Beacon Press, 2001.
 - Foreword & Chapters 1-10, pp. vii – xvii & 3-135.

Tuesday, March 1st
Class Dinner - Atwater Commons, 6:00 pm

Session 4: Tuesday, March 8th

- Karl Polanyi, *The Great Transformation*, Beacon Press, 2001.
 - Chapters 11-21, pp. 136-268.

Session 5: Tuesday, March 15th (class ends at 3:00 PM)

- Beverly Silver, *Forces of Labor*, Cambridge University Press, 2003.
 - Entire book, Chapters 1-5, pp. 1-179.

Session 6: Tuesday, March 22nd

- Ronald Rogowski, *Commerce and Coalitions*, Princeton University Press, 1989.
 - Entire book, Chapters 1-7, pp. 3-179.

Spring Term Recess
Saturday, March 25th - Sunday, April 3rd

Session 7: Tuesday, April 5th

- Michael Hiscox, *International Trade and Political Conflict*, Princeton University Press, 2002.
 - Entire book, Chapters 1-13, pp. 3-164.

Session 8: Tuesday, April 12th

- Adam Dean, *From Conflict to Coalition*
 - Chapters 1-2; 4-6, pp. 1-45; 67-207.

Session 9: Tuesday, April 19th

- Daniel Verdier. "Democratic Convergence and Free Trade." *International Studies Quarterly*, (1998) 42: 1-24.
- Helen Milner and Keiko Kubota. "Why the Move to Free Trade? Democracy and Trade Policy in the Developing Countries." *International Organization* 59.01 (2005): 107-143.

Session 10: Tuesday, April 26th

- Ha-Joon Chang, *Bad Samaritans*
 - Entire book, Prologue & Chapters 1-9, pp. 1-202.

Session 11: Tuesday, May 3rd

- Williams, *The Tragedy of American Diplomacy*, Dell Publishing, 1972.
 - Introduction and Chapters 1-4, pp. 1-201.

Session 12: Tuesday, May 10th

- Layna Mosley and Saika Uno, "Racing to the Bottom or Climbing to the Top? Economic Globalization and Collective Labor Rights," *Comparative Political Studies* 2007; 40; 923-948.
- Michael Burawoy. "From Polanyi to Pollyanna: The False Optimism of Global Labor Studies." *Global Labour Journal* 1.2 (2010).

Final Paper Deadlines

Graduating Seniors: Friday, May 20th

All Other Students: Tuesday, May 24th

Submit by email to adean@middlebury.edu