INTA 3301. INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY
GTE
Summer 2026

Instructor: Dr. Fei-Ling Wang
Time: TuTh 8:00-9:55
Office Hours: TBA and by appointment.
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This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Social Sciences area

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:
How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social, or geographic relationships develop, persist, or change.

Course content, activities, and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:
· Intercultural Competence
· Perspective-Taking
· Persuasion

Course Description

This class examines the relationship between the globalizing and market-oriented world economy and national sovereignty-based international politics. We will expose the links, disparities, and conflicts between the two through a historical review and case studies. We will also explore the theoretical perspectives aiming a better understanding of this relationship. A major aim of this class is for the students to demonstrate the ability to describe the social, political, and economic forces that influence nations' behaviors and the global system.

There is no prerequisite for taking this course.

A thorough understanding of history is always very important to students of international affairs, therefore, after a clarification of the concepts, we will first briefly review the historical development of IPE (international political economy). Then we will examine the major theoretical perspectives in the study of IPE: from mercantilism to Marxism. Using the historical knowledge and the theoretical perspectives learnt, we will discuss some of today's most important IPE issues including the much talked-about

financial crisis, environmental protection and international terrorism. Finally, we will conclude the course by reconsidering the relationship between the market and the sovereign states.

Course Rules

Unless the student has an official letter from the GT administration certifying a need for special accommodation, audio or video recording is not allowed in class.

Cell phones are to be placed on vibrate mode or turned off and remain out of sight, unless you are expecting an emergency call (in that case, please alert the instructor before class). No texting during class.

Class attendance is mandatory unless excused for legit reasons with proper documentation (e.g., doctor's note). Lecture slides will not be available online, nor made available unless there was an excused absence.

In addition to observation of class rules and carrying a professional conduct in classroom, Attentive and active contribution to class discussions will be awarded. All views are welcome!

University Policies

The Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts supports the Georgia Institute of Technology's commitment to creating a campus free of discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status. We further affirm the importance of cultivating an intellectual climate that allows us to better understand the similarities and differences of those who constitute the Georgia Tech community, as well as the necessity of working against inequalities.

If you are a learner that requires adaptations for you to succeed in this course or are a student with disabilities that requires accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability (404) 894-2563 or disabilityservices.gatech.edu to make an appointment to discuss your needs and obtain the appropriate accommodation letter. Any student requiring such adaptation/accommodation should make inform the instructor as soon as possible so to make the appropriate arrangement.

We have all committed to upholding the ideals of honor and academic integrity. Please consult University policies for more information (www.policylibrary.gatech.edu/student- affairs/academic-honor- code; www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/). Any student suspected of violations of honor code including but not limited to cheating or plagiarizing behavior will be automatically reported to the Office of Student Integrity, which will investigate the incident and recommend penalties for the violations.

AI Policy

Generative AI agents offer additional opportunities for learning, research and communication. It is therefore allowed in this class as long as the GT Honor Code and the guidelines below are met.

Responsibility: you are responsible for the work submitted/presented, and ensure that any factual statements produced by a generative AI tool are true and that any references or citations produced by the AI tool are correct.

Transparency: Any generative AI tools you use in the group presentation of the course should be clearly acknowledged, including not only content directly produced by a generative AI tool but also when a generative AI tool is used in the process of composition and translation.

Documentation: You should cite any content generated by an AI tool as you would when quoting, paraphrasing, or summarizing ideas, text, images, or other content made by other people.

Course Requirements

Requirement	Marks	(%)
Participation/Attendance	200	20
First test	200	20
Second test	200	20
Group Project	400	40
Total	1,000	100

First and Second Tests will be noncumulative, open- or closed-book exams. The examination will be drawn from all aspects of the course: readings, lectures, and classroom discussions.

Group Project is a collective research and presentation exercise. Each group must select one aspect of an IPE issue area to study and to present on. Sample topics include: The political economy of international terrorism; economic relations between the EU and the US; the political economy of the COVID-19 Pandemic; Is Bitcoin a new world currency? What is behind the U.S. trade wars?

Each group will make an oral presentation for about 12-15 minutes to the class, followed by a Q & A session. A written summary of each group's presentation (2-3 pages, single spaced, bibliography and footnotes additional) is due on the day of the presentation. Every member of the same group will receive the same grade for this exercise. The group leaders are expected to report any free-riding activities that may take place in the groups.

Participation/Attendance will be based on the quality and the quantity of your participation in class discussions and the Q&A sessions of the group project. The class will be a mixture of informal lecture and relaxed discussion. All views are welcome and those who participate actively will be rewarded appropriately. We all learn from each other's insights.

Course Materials.

Theodore H Cohn & Anil Hira, *Global Political Economy*, 9th Edition, paperback, 2025. ISBN-13: 978-1032781846. https://www.routledge.com/Global-Political-Economy-Theory-and-Practice/Cohn-Hira/p/book/9781032767901

Course Outline:

Week 1   Class orientation and overview
              5/19, 5/21   Cohn & Hira 1-16.

Week 2   Money, economy, market, the state, and IR
              5/26, 5/28   Cohn & Hira 24-50.

Week 3   Ideologies
              6/2, 6/4   Cohn & Hira 59-137.
              (Group Project topic due 6/4)

Week 4   International financial market
              6/9, 6/11   Cohn & Hira 145-181.

Week 5   Financial crises
              6/16, 6/18   Cohn & Hira 187-219.

Week 6   6/23   International trade
                      Cohn & Hira 230-268.
              6/25   Study & Group Research

Week 7   6/30   First Test
              7/2   Trade Regime and Policies
                      Cohn & Hira 277-312.

Week 8   TNCs/MNCs and global production
              7/7, 7/9   Cohn & Hira 324-356.

Week 9   7/14   No Class- Enjoy the Bank Holiday
              7/16   Poverty and development
                      Cohn & Hira 263-297.

Week 10   The environment and the future
              7/21, 7/23   Cohn & Hira 416-428

Week 11   7/28   Second Test
              7/30   Group project presentation