

Vesalius College
Course description

Course title: International Political Economy

Course code: POL 311E

Teacher responsible: Robert Scott Gassler

Course description:

Studies the interaction between “state” and “market” and how it affects international relations, the conflict between evolving global economic and technical interdependence and the continuing compartmentalisation of sovereign states’ political systems. Analyses the main structures of power in the world economy: trade, finance, security, and knowledge. Discusses the secondary power structures of production, energy and environment. Pre-requisite: One course each in economics and politics.

Course objectives:

By the end of the course students should be able to:

1. Describe the major theoretical models covered in class verbally, geometrically, and in some cases mathematically.
2. Apply these models to the solution of numerical problems and simple narrative cases.

Describe the limitations of the models in both theory and application.

Grade weighting scheme:

First Midterm Examination	20%
Second Midterm Examination	20%
Final Examination	30%
Term paper	30%
Proposal and Preliminary Bibliography	5%
Descriptive Outline	5%
First Draft	5%
Final Paper	15%

Used course material (handbooks, readers, readings, newspapers, magazines) and references:

David N. Balaam and Michael Veseth. *Introduction to International Political Economy*. 4th edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, 2008. ISBN: 0136155634

Jeffrey A. Frieden, David A. Lake ,eds. *International Political Economy: Perspectives on Global Power and Wealth*. 4th Edition. Routledge, 1999. ISBN: 0415222796