COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department: Communications, Arts and Social Sciences

Programme: International Relations

FHEQ Level: 6

Course Title: International Political Economy

Course Code: INR 6205

Course Leader: Dr Michael F. Keating

Student Engagement Hours:120Lectures:22.5Seminar / Tutorials:22.5Independent / Guided Learning:75

Semester: FALL and/or SPRING and/or SUMMER

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits

6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

Examines the revival of IPE since the 1970s through studying the contribution of key scholars to the discipline, then engages in a study of core problems of the contemporary international political economy. This course assumes that the separation of politics and economics is artificial and works toward a synthesis of the two to understand the globalizing world, and engages in a study of the state-of-the-art of the discipline.

Prerequisites: INR 5200 or PLT 5200 or DEV 5100 or ECN 5105

Aims and Objectives:

- To cultivate an understanding of some of the central debates, themes and contestations within the general framework of IPE.
- To develop a clear sense of IPE as an evolving discipline that continues to draw upon a range of conceptual and theoretical advances in its analyses of the contemporary world.
- To provide students with a background on the re-emergence of IPE in the 1970s, along with some of the key scholars in this intellectual moment.
- To address key contemporary issues in IPE
- To promote critical thinking about a wide and intellectually demanding range of literature
- To develop the ability to articulate thought about IPE clearly and concisely in both the written and spoken form.

Programme Outcomes:

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following programme

outcomes. 6A(i); 6A(ii); 6A(iii); 6A(iv); 6B(i); 6B(ii); 6B(iv); 6C(i); 6C(iii); 6C(iv); 6D(ii); 6D(iv)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at: https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following learning outcomes.

- Demonstrates a systematic understanding of the major thinkers and intellectual paradigms in international political economy
- Demonstrates the ability to develop critical responses to, and a systematic and historical understanding of, theoretical approaches taken in international political economy
- Demonstrates a systematic understanding of concepts of power and influence in the international political economy
- Demonstrates a systematic understanding of key texts and debates in international political economy, and the reflexive relationship between these and empirical studies of the international political economy
- Demonstrates a systematic understanding of the formal and informal institutions that exercise power and influence at the global level
- Demonstrates a systematic insight into, and an understanding of the significance of, the economic dimensions of international relations
- Demonstrates a systematic understanding of major thematic debates in international political economy
- Takes responsibility for their own learning, and completes assigned work with a degree of clarity, contextualisation, critical thinking, and reflexive normative understanding appropriate for a 6000-level course

Indicative Content:

- Key contemporary IPE scholarship (ie. Cox, Strange, Gilpin, Keohane, Krasner, Katzenstein, Kindleberger, Ruggie)
- Historical overview of IPE as a discipline and its main paradigms, particular since the revival of the 1970s
- Globalization and international political economy (ie the global division of labour, international trade, global production, international finance)
- Global economic crises
- Varieties of capitalism
- Themes and issues in contemporary international political economy (ie globalization and the state, development, energy, environment, gender, security, governance, regionalism, inequality, imperialism)

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

Teaching Methodology:

This course will be taught through a combination of lectures and seminar-type activities, including group work, sub-group activities, classroom discussion, and the showing of documentaries. The general approach to classes is informal, and discussion is viewed as an essential part of an interactive and participatory learning program. Audio-visual aids, study materials and electronic learning resources will be used as appropriate.

Lectures provide a framework for the course, and are designed to ensure students have an overview of main issues and concerns on a particular topic, receive clarification on the major points of debate understand the broad dimensions of core problems, and are aware of relevant literature in the specific area of concern. It is essential that lectures are supplemented with assigned readings; together, the readings and the lectures are designed to provide guidance for seminar discussion.

Seminar classes are based on the principle of active and student-directed learning, and are designed to be Safe, Enjoyable, Managed, Inclusive, Necessary, Academic, Respectful & Stimulating. The seminars provide an opportunity for discussion of contentious issues, addressing questions and exploring academic debates in more depth, group and sub-group discussion. They are encouraged to share their opinions freely, but must also maintain respect for the opinions of others. It is expected that students will participate regularly in discussions in a creative, competent and critical way, as the formulation of their own thoughts and clarification of their assumptions, often in contradiction to other students' thoughts and assumptions, form a crucial part of the learning process. Students are expected to come to seminar classes prepared.

Bibliography:

- O'Brien, R. and N. Williams (2010). *Global Political Economy*, (3rd ed.), Palgrave MacMillan
- Benjamin J. Cohen *International Political Economy: An Intellectual History* (Princeton University Press, 2008)
- John Ravenhill (ed.) Global Political Economy 3rd ed. (Oxford University Press, 2011)

Change Log for this CSD:

Major	Nature of Change	Date Approved &	Change
or		Approval Body	Actioned
Minor		(School or LTPC)	by
Change			Academic
?			Registry

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