

GVPT 761: Seminar in International Political Economy

Professor

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Office hours: Tu/Th 3:30-4:30 and by appointment via Zoom

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Course Description

This course is the second in a two-part sequence on international political economy (IPE) for the MAIR program. This seminar builds on GVPT 605, which developed students' knowledge of the foundations of the field and has prepared them to examine contemporary issues in IPE in greater depth. This course is based on two primary goals. The first is emphasizing the status of current research, including the topics covered, methods employed, and empirical findings. Contemporary issues covered in the course include: the economic impacts of population movements; development finance and "debt traps;" the political economy of terrorism, conflict recovery and illicit economies; and the financial system implications of digital currencies. The second goal is to help develop students' skills as scholars and researchers. To this end, the assignments in the course will mirror the experiences of the scholarly community, including identifying new areas of inquiry, serving as "discussants" of research in class presentations, and writing critical reviews of scholarship. These are transferable analytical skills that will serve students who want to continue in academia or pursue another international relations career such as policy analysis. This dual set of goals will enable successful students to build their expertise within the field of IPE and facilitate their scholarship related to the Capstone project.

Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- Understand the evolution of scholarship and enduring debates within the IPE literature;
- Identify the puzzles that are the focus of contemporary scholars in IPE;
- Evaluate and critique the research design and empirical findings of scholarly articles;
- Apply the research findings to formulate appropriate policy recommendations.

Course Structure

We will meet every Wednesday from 2:00pm-4:45pm, with a 15-minute break taken around the midpoint of the meeting. If meetings cannot be held in person due to university protocol, we will meet via Zoom. The Zoom link (and any updates to our course procedures) will be announced on the course ELMS page. The primary purpose of each class session is to discuss the assigned readings in detail, focusing on the research questions addressed, methodologies, and the empirical findings. You are expected to complete all assigned readings before the class session and prepare to participate in the

discussion. The end of class will be used to introduce background theories and concepts that are relevant to the following week's session. Your attendance and participation are critical to your success in the class. Discussion questions, with input from class discussion leaders, will be provided in advance of the class session on the ELMS page so that students can begin to prepare their contributions. In case of an emergency or illness that prevents you from participating in the class session, you will be required to submit a make-up written assignment. In addition, please review the Policy on Excused Absences Related to COVID-19 below.

Major Assignments

Class Discussion Leader

For two weeks of the course, you will be expected to serve as a discussion leader alongside 2-3 other students. You will have two responsibilities as a weekly leader: 1) You must submit 3-4 discussion questions to Dr Wallace via ELMS by the Sunday evening prior to your weekly session. Dr. Wallace will then collect the questions from all discussion leaders on Monday and post 3-4 on the ELMS page so that students can have them as guiding questions to prepare for class. Submission of discussion questions is an individual assignment. 2) The team of weekly leaders will also briefly review the main concepts and findings from the articles at the beginning of class in a group presentation of about 15 minutes. This is a group assignment. Additional details are provided in a separate file on ELMS.

Article Critiques

Students must submit two critical evaluations of scholarly articles. The first must be submitted by **October 7** and the second must be submitted by **December 2**, but you are encouraged to submit them well in advance of these deadlines. You may choose any article on the syllabus to critique that we have covered in class. An article critique simulates the process of peer-review, in which you analyze the article and point out its contribution to the field, strengths, weaknesses, and future research trajectories. Additional details are provided in a separate file on ELMS.

Take-Home Final

At the conclusion of the course, you will be asked to complete a short-essay take-home final. The questions asked will require you to consider the empirical findings of the research presented on selected topics, to consider the policy implications of this research, and to review key concepts highlighted in the course material. Take-home final questions will be provided in our last class on Dec 7 and due **December 14**.

Participation & Engagement

Your participation each week will be assessed based on your attendance and participation in our class meetings. Students can expect to earn full credit for participation by being present and punctual for each meeting, being prepared to discuss each of the assigned readings, and remaining actively engaged in class sessions. Discussion questions are provided in advance of each session by Dr Wallace (in consultation with the weekly leaders) in order to give students adequate opportunity to think about contributions that they can make to the discussion. If students are unable to attend class for any reason, a written make-up assignment will be assigned and will be the basis of the participation assessment for the week. This alternative assignment may be submitted up to two times per semester to excuse a course absence. More than two absences will necessitate a meeting with Dr. Wallace.

Grading Structure

Assignment	Percentage %
Class Discussion Leader (2 times)	25%
Article Critiques (2)	25%
Take-home Final	25%
Participation & Engagement	25%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

A+ = >97	C = 73-76
A = 93-96	C- = 70-72
A- = 90-92	D+ = 67-69
B+ = 87-89	D = 63-66
B = 83-86	D- = 60-62
B- = 80-82	F = < 60
C+ = 77-79	

Required Resources

- Course Website: elms.umd.edu
- All assigned readings will be available online or via the course website.

Course Policies

1. Attendance: Attendance in each class session is required. Students who have a reason for missing a class that aligns with university policy for excused absences should communicate with me in advance of the class when possible. Students who are unable to attend class for any reason will be required to complete a makeup assignment that is due within one week of the missed class session, unless alternative arrangements are made in advance.
2. Absence due to COVID-19/Monkeypox, etc.: Please don't come to class if you are feeling unwell! We all need to do our part to limit the spread of COVID-19 on campus. You do **not** need a medical note to miss class for any reason. Up to two times during the semester, you may make up an absence by submitting an alternative written assignment that reviews the assigned readings and should choose this option if you are feeling symptoms of illness. If more than two absences are required due to severe illness/emergency, alternative arrangements should be discussed with the professor and documentation will be required.
3. Late assignments: Assignments that are turned in past the due date will be penalized one letter grade per day for each day or a fraction thereof that the assignment is late. Students are expected to check their

assignment submissions in ELMS, as failed uploads/garbled text will not be grounds for extension and will be subject to the late submission policy.

4. Re-grading policy: Requests for a re-grade must be made in writing within 10 days of receiving feedback, clearly specifying why the feedback received that resulted in a lower grade is incorrect. Grades will only be changed if the basis for the original grade is found to be erroneous.
5. COVID-19, Mental Health and Unanticipated Challenges: Although I am hoping that the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic is behind us, a lot of us are still dealing with additional stress and anxiety. I am very open to being flexible should life events arise that make it hard for you to keep up with the class. Such events might include things happening to you personally or things happening to family members. Please know that I want to do everything I can to support you. To do this, though, I need to know about a problem when it starts, not after it has already derailed your ability to keep up with class. I don't need to know details. Whatever you are comfortable telling me is fine. Letting me know sooner rather than later, though, is key. I'm in a much better position to help you and make accommodations if you tell me when the problem arises. It is MUCH harder to do this if you wait until the end of the term or have fallen far behind. You can email me or make an appointment to discuss your needs in person or via Zoom.
6. University-wide Policies: It is our shared responsibility to know and abide by the University of Maryland's policies that relate to all courses, which include topics like:
 - Academic integrity
 - Student and instructor conduct
 - Accessibility and accommodations
 - Attendance and excused absences
 - Grades and appeals
 - Copyright and intellectual property
7. Please visit <https://www.gradschool.umd.edu/course-related-policies> for The Graduate School's full list of campus-wide policies and follow up with me if you have questions.

Course Outline

Note: This is a tentative schedule, and subject to change as necessary – monitor the course ELMS page for updates.

Week 1 – August 31

Course Overview and Review of Key Concepts and Issues in IPE

Börzel, T., & Zürn, M. (2021). Contestations of the Liberal International Order: From Liberal Multilateralism to Postnational Liberalism. *International Organization*, 75(2), 282-305. doi:10.1017/S0020818320000570

Week 2 – September 7

Contemporary Issues in Trade Policy: Rising Nationalism and Barriers to Trade

Adam Nowakowski, Do unhappy citizens vote for populism?, *European Journal of Political Economy*, Volume 68, 2021, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejpoleco.2020.101985>.

Wesley C. Marshall & Eugenia Correa (2020) Populism and (Neo) Liberalism: The Polanyian Perspective Seen from Latin America, *International Journal of Political Economy*, 49:2, 124-138, DOI: 10.1080/08911916.2020.1778862

- Klaus Gründler, Arye L. Hillman, Ambiguous protection, *European Journal of Political Economy*, Volume 68, 2021, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejpoleco.2021.102009>.
- Carter, D., & Poast, P. (2020). Barriers to Trade: How Border Walls Affect Trade Relations. *International Organization*, 74(1), 165-185. doi:10.1017/S0020818319000353\
- Yeung, Eddy S.F. and Kai Quek (2022) Relative Gains in the Shadow of a Trade War, *International Organization*, 76(3), 741-765.

Week 3 – September 14

International Debt and Financial Crises

- Schneider, C., & Tobin, J. (2020). The Political Economy of Bilateral Bailouts. *International Organization*, 74(1), 1-29. doi:10.1017/S0020818319000389
- Beramendi, P., & Stegmüller, D. (2020). The Political Geography of the Eurocrisis. *World Politics*, 72(4), 639-678. doi:10.1017/S0043887120000118
- Nelson H. Barbosa-Filho & Alex Izurieta (2020) The Risk of a Second Wave of Post-Crisis Frailty in the World Economy, *International Journal of Political Economy*, 49:4, 278-303, DOI: 10.1080/08911916.2020.1857585
- Pablo G. Bortz, Gabriel Michelena & Fernando Toledo (2020) A Gathering of Storms: The Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on the Balance of Payments of Emerging Markets and Developing Economies (EMDEs), *International Journal of Political Economy*, 49:4, 318-335, DOI: 10.1080/08911916.2020.1857586
- Ballard-Rosa, C., Mosley, L. and Wellhausen R. (2022) Coming to Terms: The Politics of Sovereign Bond Denomination. *International Organization*. 76(1), 32-69.

Week 4 – September 21

Development Finance and “Debt Traps”

- Stephen B. Kaplan (2016) Banking unconditionally: the political economy of Chinese finance in Latin America, *Review of International Political Economy*, 23:4, 643-676, DOI: 10.1080/09692290.2016.1216005
- Bernhard Reinsberg, Andreas Kern, Matthias Rau-Göhring, The political economy of IMF conditionality and central bank independence, *European Journal of Political Economy*, Volume 68, 2021, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejpoleco.2020.101987>.
- Broz, J., Zhang, Z., & Wang, G. (2020). Explaining Foreign Support for China's Global Economic Leadership. *International Organization*, 74(3), 417-452. doi:10.1017/S0020818320000120
- Johanne Døhlie Saltnes, Samuel Brazys, Joseph Lacey & Arya Pillai (2020) EU aid for trade: Mitigating global trade injustices?, *Third World Quarterly*, 41:12, 1992-2010, DOI: 10.1080/01436597.2020.1801343
- Ajit Singh (2021) The myth of ‘debt-trap diplomacy’ and realities of Chinese development finance, *Third World Quarterly*, 42:2, 239-253, DOI: 10.1080/01436597.2020.1807318

Week 5 – September 28

Population Movement Economics Part 1: Migration and Diasporas

- Fitzgerald, J., Leblang, D., & Teets, J. (2014). Defying the Law of Gravity: The Political Economy of International Migration. *World Politics*, 66(3), 406-445. doi:10.1017/S0043887114000112
- Goodman, S., & Pepinsky, T. (2021). The Exclusionary Foundations of Embedded Liberalism. *International Organization*, 75(2), 411-439. doi:10.1017/S0020818320000478
- Holland, A., & Peters, M. (2020). Explaining Migration Timing: Political Information and Opportunities. *International Organization*, 74(3), 560-583. doi:10.1017/S002081832000017X

Christina Gabriel & Laura Macdonald (2021) New architectures for migration governance: NAFTA and transnational activism around migrants' rights, *Third World Quarterly*, 42:1, 68-85, DOI: 10.1080/01436597.2020.1796482

Diego Fossati (2019) Embedded diasporas: ethnic prejudice, transnational networks and foreign investment, *Review of International Political Economy*, 26:1, 134-157, DOI: 10.1080/09692290.2018.1543721

Week 6 – October 5

Population Movement Economics Part 2: Refugees

Evan Easton-Calabria, Warriors of Self-reliance: The Instrumentalization of Afghan Refugees in Pakistan, *Journal of Refugee Studies*, Volume 33, Issue 1, March 2020, Pages 143–166, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jrs/fez062>

Solodoch, O. (2021). Regaining Control? The Political Impact of Policy Responses to Refugee Crises. *International Organization*, 75(3), 735-768. doi:10.1017/S0020818321000060

Onur Altındağ, Ozan Bakış, Sandra V. Rozo, Blessing or burden? Impacts of refugees on businesses and the informal economy, *Journal of Development Economics*, Volume 146, 2020, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2020.102490>.

Claudena Skran, Refugee entrepreneurship and self-reliance: the UNHCR and sustainability in post-conflict Sierra Leone, *Journal of Refugee Studies*, Volume 33, Issue 1, March 2020, Pages 268–298, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jrs/fez102>

Luisa F. Freier, Nicholas R. Micinski & Gerasimos Tsourapas (2021) Refugee commodification: the diffusion of refugee rent-seeking in the Global South, *Third World Quarterly*, DOI: 10.1080/01436597.2021.1956891

Week 7 – October 12

Foreign Aid Delivery and Motivations

Jonas Gamso, Farhod Yuldashev, Targeted Foreign Aid and International Migration: Is Development-Promotion an Effective Immigration Policy?, *International Studies Quarterly*, Volume 62, Issue 4, December 2018, Pages 809–820, <https://doi.org/10.1093/isq/sqy029>

Honig, D., & Weaver, C. (2019). A Race to the Top? The Aid Transparency Index and the Social Power of Global Performance Indicators. *International Organization*, 73(3), 579-610. doi:10.1017/S0020818319000122

Iliana Olivié & Aitor Pérez (2021) Whose and what aid securitisation? An analysis of EU aid narratives and flows, *Third World Quarterly*, 42:8, 1903-1922, DOI: 10.1080/01436597.2021.1939006

Yimovie Sakue-Collins (2021) (Un)doing development: a postcolonial enquiry of the agenda and agency of NGOs in Africa, *Third World Quarterly*, 42:5, 976-995, DOI: 10.1080/01436597.2020.1791698

Ratbek Dzhumashev, Abebe Hailemariam, (2021) Foreign aid and the quality of economic institutions, *European Journal of Political Economy*, Volume 68, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejpoleco.2021.102001>.

Week 8 – October 19

Sanctions and Coercive Diplomacy

Jerg Gutmann, Matthias Neuenkirch & Florian Neumeier (2021) Sanctioned to Death? The Impact of Economic Sanctions on Life Expectancy and its Gender Gap, *The Journal of Development Studies*, 57:1, 139-162, DOI: 10.1080/00220388.2020.1746277

Early B, Peksen D. Searching in the Shadows: The Impact of Economic Sanctions on Informal Economies. *Political Research Quarterly*. 2019;72(4):821-834. doi:10.1177/1065912918806412

- Liou R., Murdie A, Peksen D. (2020) Revisiting the Causal Links between Economic Sanctions and Human Rights Violations. *Political Research Quarterly*. doi:10.1177/1065912920941596
- Erickson, J. (2020). Punishing the violators? Arms embargoes and economic sanctions as tools of norm enforcement. *Review of International Studies*, 46(1), 96-120. doi:10.1017/S0260210519000329
- McLean, Elena V. and Mitchell T. Radtke. (2018). "Political Relations, Leader Stability, and Economic Coercion." *International Studies Quarterly* 62: 357-370.

Week 9 – October 26

Illicit Economies and Black Markets

- Peter Andreas. (2011) "Illicit Globalization: Myths, Misconceptions, and Historical Lessons." *Political Science Quarterly*, 126: 403–425
- Carolyn Liss & J.C. Sharman (2015) Global corporate crime-fighters: Private transnational responses to piracy and money laundering, *Review of International Political Economy*, 22:4, 693-718, DOI: 10.1080/09692290.2014.936482
- Kronick D. (2020) Profits and Violence in Illegal Markets: Evidence from Venezuela. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*; 64(7-8):1499-1523. doi:10.1177/0022002719898881
- Meehan, P. (2011). Drugs, insurgency and state-building in Burma: Why the drugs trade is central to Burma's changing political order. *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, 42(3), 376-404. doi:10.1017/S0022463411000336
- Nikos Passas, Sara Hsu & Jianjun Li (2012) Development and legitimacy of Chinese informal finance, *The Pacific Review*, 25:4, 495-511, DOI: 10.1080/09512748.2012.685091

Week 10 – November 2

The Economic Foundations of Transnational Terrorism

- Masera F, Yousaf H. (2022) The Charitable Terrorist: State Capacity and the Support for the Pakistani Taliban. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*; 66(7-8):1174-1207. doi:10.1177/00220027221079398
- Krieger, T., & Meierrieks, D. (2015). The rise of capitalism and the roots of anti-American terrorism. *Journal of Peace Research*, 52(1), 46-61. Retrieved August 27, 2021, from <http://www.jstor.org/stable/24557517>
- Blomberg, S., Fernholz, R., & Levin, J. (2013). Terrorism and the Invisible Hook. *Southern Economic Journal*, 79(4), 849-863. Retrieved August 27, 2021, from <http://www.jstor.org/stable/23809496>
- Savun B, Tirone DC. (2018) Foreign Aid as a Counterterrorism Tool: More Liberty, Less Terror? *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 62(8):1607-1635. doi:10.1177/0022002717704952
- Lee C. (2018) Oil and Terrorism: Uncovering the Mechanisms. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 62(5):903-928. doi:10.1177/0022002716673702

Week 11 – November 9

The Political Economy of Conflict Recovery

- Julian Donaubaauer, Dierk Herzer and Peter Nunnenkamp, (2019) "The Effectiveness of Aid Under Post-Conflict Conditions: A Sector-Specific Analysis," *The Journal of Development Studies*, vol. 55, no. 4, pp. 720-736
- Jacqui True & Aida A. Hozic (2020) Don't mention the war! International Financial Institutions and the gendered circuits of violence in post-conflict, *Review of International Political Economy*, 27:6, 1193-1213, DOI: 10.1080/09692290.2020.1732443

Bernd Beber, Michael J Gilligan, Jenny Guardado, Sabrina Karim, (2019) The Promise and Peril of Peacekeeping Economies, *International Studies Quarterly*, Volume 63, Issue 2, Pages 364–379, <https://doi.org/10.1093/isq/sqz012>

Thomas Edward Flores and Irfan Nooruddin, (2009) “Democracy under the Gun: Understanding Postconflict Economic Recovery,” *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, vol. 53, no. pp. 3-24

Le Billon, Philippe. (2014). Natural resources and corruption in post-war transitions: Matters of trust. *Third World Quarterly*. 35. 10.1080/01436597.2014.921429.

Week 12 – November 16

Natural Resources and Governance

Sarah M. Brooks and Marcus J. Kurtz (2016) Oil and Democracy: Endogenous Natural Resources and the Political “Resource Curse” *International Organization*, Volume 70, Issue 2, pp. 279 – 311
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0020818316000072>

Philippe Le Billon & Samuel Spiegel (2021) Cleaning mineral supply chains? Political economies of exploitation and hidden costs of technical fixes, *Review of International Political Economy*,
DOI: 10.1080/09692290.2021.1899959

Sovacool, Benjamin & Walter, Götz. (2018). Internationalizing the political economy of hydroelectricity: security, development and sustainability in hydropower states. *Review of International Political Economy*. 26. 1-31. 10.1080/09692290.2018.1511449.

Adrian J Shin, (2019) Primary Resources, Secondary Labor: Natural Resources and Immigration Policy, *International Studies Quarterly*, Volume 63, Issue 4, Pages 805–818, <https://doi.org/10.1093/isq/sqz033>

Draper, J. (2022). Labor Migration and Climate Change Adaptation. *American Political Science Review*, 116(3), 1012-1024. doi:10.1017/S0003055421001313

Week 13 – November 23

No Class – Happy Thanksgiving!

Week 14 – November 30

Political Economy of the Global Environment

Keston K. Perry (2020) Structuralism and Human Development: A Seamless Marriage? An Assessment of Poverty, Production and Environmental Challenges in CARICOM Countries, *International Journal of Political Economy*, 49:3, 222-242, DOI: 10.1080/08911916.2020.1824735

Enno Schröder & Servaas Storm (2020) Economic Growth and Carbon Emissions: The Road to “Hothouse Earth” is Paved with Good Intentions, *International Journal of Political Economy*, 49:2, 153-173, DOI: 10.1080/08911916.2020.1778866

Steve Keen (2020) The appallingly bad neoclassical economics of climate change, *Globalizations*, DOI: 10.1080/14747731.2020.1807856

Joseph Baines & Sandy Brian Hager (2022) Commodity traders in a storm: financialization, corporate power and ecological crisis, *Review of International Political Economy*, 29:4, 1053-1084, DOI: 10.1080/09692290.2021.1872039

Kennard, A. (2020). The Enemy of My Enemy: When Firms Support Climate Change Regulation. *International Organization*, 74(2), 187-221. doi:10.1017/S0020818320000107

Week 15 – December 7

Digital Currencies, Monetary Sovereignty and Financial System Implications

Hyoung-kyu Chey (2022) Cryptocurrencies and the IPE of money: an agenda for research, *Review of International Political Economy*, DOI: 10.1080/09692290.2022.2109188

Marco Fama, Andrea Fumagalli & Stefano Lucarelli (2019) Cryptocurrencies, Monetary Policy, and New Forms of Monetary Sovereignty, *International Journal of Political Economy*, 48:2, 174-194, DOI: 10.1080/08911916.2019.1624318

Léo Malherbe, Matthieu Montalban, Nicolas Bédu & Caroline Granier (2019) Cryptocurrencies and Blockchain: Opportunities and Limits of a New Monetary Regime, *International Journal of Political Economy*, 48:2, 127-152, DOI: 10.1080/08911916.2019.1624320

Sheila Dow (2019) Monetary Reform, Central Banks, and Digital Currencies, *International Journal of Political Economy*, 48:2, 153-173, DOI: 10.1080/08911916.2019.1624317

Martin Chorzempa (2021) China, the United States, and central bank digital currencies: how important is it to be first?, *China Economic Journal*, 14:1, 102-115, DOI: 10.1080/17538963.2020.1870278