

Barnard College
Political Science BC3800
Fall 2003

[Alexander Cooley](#)
Office Hours: Tue 2- 4pm and by appt.
414 Lehman Hall (Barnard Library)

“International Politics Colloquium: International Political Economy”

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Prerequisite: Political Science V1601

Welcome to “International Political Economy.” In this colloquium we will explore the major issues and debates that inform the politics of international economic relations. An introductory class in economics would be useful, but is not required. However, all students should have some background in international relations theory.

We will begin by studying how scholars from various theoretical and philosophical persuasions think about the relationship between international power and wealth. Then, we will apply these concepts and arguments to the issues of international trade, money and finance, and economic statecraft.

The final part of the course will examine relations between advanced industrial countries and the developing world (North-South relations). We will examine the role of the multinational corporation, debates over international development, the politics of the IMF and its “structural adjustment” policies, and the political consequences of globalization.

NOTE: Students who have taken the lecture class with the same title cannot take this course.

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Class: The most important requirement is that you read the weekly assignments and come to each class prepared for discussion- after all, this is your seminar and our group time is limited. The instructor’s primary role will be to introduce the week’s topic (not to lecture) and then facilitate class discussion and debate. Class participation will count 20% towards your final grade. If you are uncomfortable speaking in a public setting, please let me know as soon as possible- we’ll work something out.

Presentation: Each seminarian will be asked to sign-up and lead class discussion for a week (usually in coordination with a partner). Presentations should be no longer than 10-12 minutes each and should introduce the major themes, topics and noteworthy debates that are brought up by the readings and merit further discussion. The presentation will be factored into the class participation grade.

Research Paper: In addition, students will be required to complete a major research paper (about 25-30 pages, 60% of final grade). All papers must explore some theoretical issue in the study of

international political economy and will require additional empirical research based on primary and secondary materials. Paper guidelines and sample topics will be distributed during Week 3. A one-page summary of the topic and preliminary bibliography is due on Week 6. At that point, we will schedule individual meetings to discuss research proposals. The papers are due on Friday, December 12th by 5:00pm. Please note that I do not grant incompletes.

Memos: Finally, in addition to the research paper, every student must turn in TWO memos during the course of the semester. The memos (about 1.5 pages single-spaced) should present your reactions to and assessments of the week's key issues and/or debates. ONE of the memos must be turned in by Week 6 (Oct. 13th). All memos are due by 10:00am on the day of class (Monday). Together, they will constitute the final 20% of your grade.

READINGS: The following books are required and are available for purchase at the Columbia University bookstore:

- Rawi Abdelal, *National Purpose and the World Economy: The Post-Soviet States in Comparative Perspective*. Ithaca: Cornell U. Press, 2001.
- Theodore Cohn, *Global Political Economy: Theory and Practice*. 2nd edition. New York: Longman, 2003.
- Robert Keohane. *After Hegemony*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984.
- Robert Bates. *Markets and States in Tropical Africa*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1981.
- Jonathan Kirshner, *Currency and Coercion: the Political Economy of International Monetary Power* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995)
- Joseph Stiglitz, *Globalization and its Discontents*. New York: WW Norton, 2002.

All other readings are available in hard copy on reserve at Barnard College Reserves and may be available electronically through Barnard College Library E-reserves. However, access to the readings will be restricted to Columbia UNI ID holders who are actively registered in the course. If you cannot get a reading via Courseworks/Reserves, then look for it individually under the journal title in E-journals (if you don't understand what this is, ask a librarian!). If for some reason you still can't find it, then go to the library and get a hard copy from the reserve desk.

Part I. Theoretical Approaches to International Organization

Week 1 (Sept. 8): *Course Overview and Introduction*

Week 2 (Sept. 15) *Collective Action, Hegemonic Stability and Declinism*

Public Goods, Cooperation and the "Collective Action" Problem

Mancur Olson, *The Logic of Collective Action: Public Goods and the Theory of Groups*. (Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University, 1971), pp. 1-22, 33-65.

The Theory of "Hegemonic Stability" and Decline

Charles Kindleberger, *The World in Depression* (Berkeley: University of California

Press, 1984 [1973]), Chapters 1, 14.
Stephen Krasner "State Power and the Structure of the International Trading System,"
World Politics Vol. 28:3 (April 1976), pp. 317-43. Available on-line through **JSTOR**
Robert Keohane, *After Hegemony*. (Princeton: Princeton U. Press, 1984), Chapter 3.

Week 3 (Sept. 22): *Neoliberal Institutionalism and Economic Regimes*

Robert Keohane, *After Hegemony*, Chapters 4 and 6. Skim case studies.
Joseph Grieco, "Anarchy and the Limits of Cooperation: A Realist Critique of the
Newest Liberal Institutionalism," *International Organization* Vol. 42:3 (Summer 1988),
pp. 485-507. **JSTOR**
Michael N. Barnett and Martha Finnemore, "The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of
International Organizations," *International Organization* Vol. 53: 4 (Autumn 1999),
pp. 699-732. **EBSCO**
Robert Wade, "US Hegemony and the World Bank: the fight over people and ideas," *Review
of International Political Economy* Vol. 9:2 (Summer 2002), pp. 215-243.

Week 4 (Sept. 29) *Domestic Actors and the International Economy*

The Influence of Private Firms on Foreign Economic Policy

Susan Strange, "States, Firms, and Diplomacy," *International Affairs* Vol. 68:1 (January
1992), pp. 1-15. **JSTOR**
Ronald Cox, "Explaining Business Support for Regional Trade Agreements," in Ronald Cox
ed. *Business and the State in International Relations* (Boulder: Westview Press, 1996).

State vs. Societal Pressures on Trade Policy: The Case of U.S. Trade Policy

Helen Milner, "Resisting the Protectionist Temptation," *International Organization* Vol.
41:4, (Autumn 1987), pp. 639-665. **JSTOR**
Judith Goldstein, "Ideas, Institutions, and American Trade Policy," *International
Organization* Vol. 42:1 (Winter 1988), pp. 179-217. **JSTOR**

Week 5 (Oct. 6) *Identity, Nationalism and Foreign Economic Policy*

Rawi Abdelal, *National Purpose and the World Economy: The Post-Soviet States in
Comparative Perspective* (Ithaca: Cornell U. Press).

PART II. Current Problems and Issues in International Political Economy

Week 6 (Oct. 13) *The Politics of International Trade*

Liberal, Nationalists and the Debate over Competitiveness

Theodore Cohn, *Global Political Economy*, Chapters 8 and 9.

James Brander, "Rationales for Strategic Trade and Industrial Policy," in Paul Krugman ed., *Strategic Trade Policy and the New Economics* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1987).

Paul Krugman, "Competitiveness: A Dangerous Obsession," *Foreign Affairs* Vol. 73:2 (March/April 1994), pp. 28-44. **Proquest**

Clyde Prestowitz, et. al.. "The Fight Over Competitiveness: A Zero-sum Debate?" , *Foreign Affairs* Vol. 73:4 (July/August 1994), pp. 186-203 (rebuttals to Krugman; Krugman's Response). **Proquest**

The Politics of the WTO

Jagdish Bhagwati, "After Seattle: Free Trade and the WTO," *International Affairs* Vol. 77:1 (Jan. 2001), pp. 15-29. **EBSCO**

Ken Conca, "The WTO and the Undermining of Global Environmental Governance," *Review of International Political Economy* Vol. 7:3 (Autumn 2000), pp. 484-494. **EBSCO**

Week 7 (Oct. 20) *The Politics of International Monetary Systems*

What is an International Monetary System? A Historical Overview

Theodore Cohn, *Global Political Economy*, Chapter 6.

John Ruggie, "International Regimes, Transactions, and Change: Embedded Liberalism in the Postwar Economic Order," *International Organization* Vol. 36: 2, (Spring 1982). **JSTOR**

The Politics of the Euro

Kate McNamara, *The Currency of Ideas: Monetary Politics in the European Union* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1999), pp. 43-71.

Sheri Berman and Kathleen McNamara. "Bank on Democracy: Why Central Banks Need Public Oversight," *Foreign Affairs* Vol. 78:2 (Mar/Apr 1999), pp. 2-8. **EBSCO**

TBA Article/Analysis of Euro's first two years.

Week 8 (Oct. 27) *Economic Statecraft and the Sanctions Debate*

Jonathan Kirshner, *Currency and Coercion: the Political Economy of International Monetary Power* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995), Selections.

Robert Pape, "Why Economic Sanctions do not Work," *International Security*, Vol. 22:2 (Fall 1997), pp. 90-136. **JSTOR**

David Baldwin, "The Sanctions Debate and the Logic of Choice," *International Security* Vol. 24:3 (Winter 1999/2000), pp. 80-107. **EBSCO**

November 3, Academic Holiday: NO CLASS

Week 9 (Nov. 10) *International Investment, Sovereignty and the Multinational Corporation*

Theodore Cohn, *Global Political Economy*, Chapter 10.

Stephen Krasner, *Defending the National Interest* (Princeton, 1978), chaps. 1-3. **R**

David Fieldhouse, "A New Imperialism? The Role of the MNC Reconsidered," in W. Mommsen and J. Osterhammel, eds. *Imperialism and After* (Allen & Unwin, 1986), pp. 225-240. **R**

Deborah Spar, "The Spotlight and the Bottom Line," *Foreign Affairs* Vol. 77, No. 2 (March/April 1998), pp. 7-12.

Week 10 (Nov. 17) *Development and Dependency*

Theodore Cohn, *Global Political Economy*, Chapter 11.

Robert Bates, *Markets and States in Tropical Africa* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1979), pp. 1-30, 81-132. Skim 31-80.

Theotonio dos Santos, "The Structure of Dependence," *The American Economic Review*, Vol. 60 (1970), pp. 231-236. **JSTOR**

Robert Wade, "East Asia's Economic Success: Conflicting Perspectives, Partial Insights, Shaky Evidence," *World Politics* Vol. 44: 2, pp. 270-320. **JSTOR**

Week 11 (Nov. 24) *Debt and The Politics of the IMF*

Theodore Cohn, *Global Political Economy*, Chapter 7.

Joseph Stiglitz, *Globalization and its Discontents*. New York: WW Norton, 2002.

Week 12 (Dec. 1) *The Politics of Economic Globalization*

Benjamin Cohen. "Phoenix Risen: the Resurrection of Global Finance," *World Politics* Vol. 48 (January 1996), pp. 268-296. **JSTOR**

Dani Rodrik, "Sense and Nonsense in the Globalization Debate," *Foreign Policy* No. 107 (1997), pp. 19-37. **Proquest**

Linda Weiss. "Globalization and the Myth of the Powerless State," *New Left Review* no. 224 (July/August 1997), pp. 3-27.

Roland Paris, "The Globalization of Taxation? Electronic Commerce and the Transformation of the State," *International Studies Quarterly* Vol. 47, No. 2 (June 2003), pp. 153-182.

OPTIONAL FIRST DRAFT OF PAPER DUE

Week 13 (Dec. 8) Individual Conferences on Rough Drafts

Final Draft Due: Friday, December 12th, by 5:00pm. No extensions or incompletes!

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