Course Profile - Department of International Relations

| Course Number : IR 550 | Course Title : International Political Economy |
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| Required / Elective: elective | Pre / Co-requisites : - |
| Catalog Description: Intersection of international politics and economics. Important economic issues in the global world context. The roles of state institutions in the development of the international political economy. Openness of international markets, factors that shape economic policies, causes and consequences of economic globalization, the role of multinational companies in the international political economy, states' strategies to increase their power and wealth in the new international world order, the impact of the global market upon state policies, the inequalities in the international political-economic system and their impact on national development alternatives and strategies. | Textbook / Required Material : Reader provided by the instructor |

Course Structure / Schedule : (3+0+0) 3 / 7 ECTS

Extended Description: This course explores the economic impact of collective political decisions. These decisions can be local based such as tax rates or welfare payments or they may have international influence such as tariffs and quotas, migrant workers or foreign aid. The leading agents of these decisions typically include local governments and business groups but they also include international actors such as international organizations including IMF, WB or WTO as well as multinational corporations (MNCs).

An important goal of this class is to teach the different theoretical approaches in international political economy including liberalism, realism, marxism, constructivism, and feminism. In addition, we will examine some of the important debates in global political economy such as migration, sweatshops, and international trade and consider how different theoretical perspectives view these issues.

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| Design content : n/a | Computer usage: required |

Course Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Connect economic and political variables
- Develop a general understanding of global economy
- Learn about realist, liberal, and critical perspectives to global economy
- Review important issues including migration, sweatshops, foreign aid, and environmentalism from the perspective of major theories in the field

Teaching methods: Lectures, class discussion, videotapes/slides

Course Outline

| Week | Topics |
|------|---|
| 1 | Course Description |
| 2 | An International Perspective to Political Economy |
| 3 | Global Economy since WW2 |
| 4 | The Realist Perspective to Political Economy |
| 5 | The Realist Perspective, cont. |
| 6 | The Liberal Perspective to Political Economy |
| 7 | The Liberal Perspective, cont. |
| 8 | Critical Perspectives |
| 9 | Critical Perspectives, cont. |
| 10 | Migration |
| 11 | WTO and Environmentalism |
| 12 | Sweatshops |
| 13 | Trade |
| 14 | Foreign Aid |
| 15 | Review |

Assessment methods:

Class participation: 10% Quizzes: 30% Take-home essay: 15% Final exam: 45%

Contribution of Course Learning Outcomes to Program Outcomes

| | Program Outcomes | *Level of Contribution | | | | |
|------|--|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| MIR1 | Possess in-depth knowledge about the fundamental concepts and theories of the discipline of International Relations | | | | X | |
| MIR2 | Be aware of the theoretical approaches related to the issues of the system, nation-state, institutions, culture, and power in world politics | | | X | | |

| MIR3 | Follow closely the contemporary world conjuncture | | | | X |
|-------|--|---|---|---|---|
| MIR4 | Be able to question the well-established knowledge and causal relationships in the field of International Relations | X | | | |
| MIR5 | Be aware of the shortcomings and gaps in the International Relations literature and be able to carry out research that addresses these gaps and shortcomings | X | | | |
| MIR6 | Comprehend various scientific research methods and be able to use these methods effectively | X | | | |
| MIR7 | Be able to produce an original, scientific study in the field of International Relations | | X | | |
| MIR8 | Be able to think independently, creatively, and critically | | | | X |
| MIR9 | Embrace work ethics and behave accordingly | | | X | |
| MIR10 | Be open-minded towards new phenomena that emerge in world politics and the politics of states | | | | X |
| MIR11 | Have self confidence and acquire the ability to deliver presentations in public | | | | X |
| MIR12 | Be able to work together with individuals from different cultures, beliefs, and opinions | | | | X |

*1 Lowest, 2 Low, 3 Average, 4 High, 5 Highest

Student workload:

Reading 95 hrs
Lectures and discussions 40 hrs
Written assignment 30 hrs
Examinations 10 hrs

Prepared by: Seda Demiralp Revision Date: 30.10.2013