This course is a research seminar in international political economy. It considers major areas in the politics of foreign economic policy. It is not a general survey course, although the range of issues covered is quite broad. The emphasis of the course is on contemporary research topics, rather than “classics” in IPE or the historical development of the field, in the hope that this helps you generate ideas for your own research.

*Readings:* Readings are posted on the course website.

*Course requirements:* Students must come to class having done the readings and prepared to discuss the topics in depth. Some weeks, some readings (those marked with an asterisk) will be divided among class members, who will circulate a brief report on them in advance of class. The written requirement for this course is an article-length research paper, due **May 2**. A one-page statement of your research question, argument and/or empirical strategy is due **April 6**.

Students are urged to complete their papers in time to receive credit for the course (i.e., by May 2), to avoid getting an incomplete. Students who do not complete their papers by the beginning of the Fall 2020 semester will have to provide strong justification for further delay (for example, the need for field research or time to collect data).
January 27  Introduction: Interests, Interactions, Institutions

February 3  IPE: Theory and History


February 10  International Trade – Interests


Anna Maria Mayda and Dani Rodrik, “Why are some people (and countries) more protectionist than others?” *European Economic Review* 49 (2005)


**February 17 Presidents’ Day – No class**
February 24  International Trade – Institutions and Interactions


March 2  Money and Exchange Rates – Interests

Maurice Obstfeld and Alan Taylor, “International Monetary Relations: Taking Finance Seriously,” Journal of Economic Perspectives 31, No. 3 (Summer 2017), pages 3-28


March 9  Money and Exchange Rates – Institutions and Interactions


**March 16**  
Spring break – No class

**March 23**  
**Foreign Direct Investment**


March 30       Finance and Debt -- Theory and History


***One-page outline of research paper due April 6***

**April 6**  
**Alternative views of the IPE: Social Constructivism**
*(Guest presentation: Rawi Abdelal, Harvard Business School)*


**April 13**  
**Finance and Debt – Empirical Studies**


Stefanie Walter, “Crisis Politics in Europe: Why Austerity Is Easier to Implement in Some Countries Than in Others,” *Comparative Political Studies,* 47, no. 7 (2016)


**April 20 Immigration**


April 27 Backlash against globalization


May 4 (reading period)