

# **POLI-4615-WA: Global Political Economy**

## **Course Outline**

Winter 2017

Instructor: Zubairu Wai

Office: RB 2041

Office Hours: Tuesday 12:30pm-2:30pm, or by appointment

Email: zubawai@lakeheadu.ca

Days: Wednesday, 11:30am-02:30pm, RB-3049

### **Course Description**

This course is designed as an advanced critical introduction to global political economy, both as an academic field of study and a site of power and politics. It seeks to provide students with a broad historical and theoretical overview of the field by focusing on some of the key issues and debates, the historical constitution and transformation of the global economy, the environment in which global relations are produced and regulated, and the forces and process that guide them. This course aims to help students develop critical conceptual and analytical tools to understand the dynamics of global political economy as a site of conflict, cooperation, domination and the production of global power and (dis)order. The course will be divided into two parts. The first part will focus on the theoretical and historical issues. It will examine the historical emergence/constitution of the global economy as well as the ideas and theoretical debates that have guided it. The second part will focus on processes and issues relating to the nature and functioning of the global economy and the profound changes in global power relations in the current era of neoliberal globalisations and the implications that these have for states, societies, the environment and world ecology.

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of the course, students should:

- Have a critical understanding of global political economy as a subfield of international relations, its history, the ideas which guided its emergence, and the major theoretical perspectives used to explain;
- Understand the nature of the global economy, its structural features, historical transformations, and their implications for states and societies;
- Be conversant with the dominant discourses on and about global political economy and have the conceptual and theoretical language to critically analyse and research issues relating to the field;
- Understand the nature of contemporary processes of globalisation, and the relationships between states, markets, social forces and global power
- Have a critical understanding of the power-knowledge regimes or politics of knowledge in the field global political economy
- An appreciation of the historical connections between North and South and the implications for contemporary North-South, as well as south-south relations.

### **Course Structure, Requirements and Evaluation**

This course comprises 12 weekly seminars based on student-led presentations of the readings. Each class will begin with these student-led oral presentations on the assigned readings of the

week, the order of which will be decided on the first day of class. We will meet on Wednesday from 11:30am to 2:30pm in RB-3049. Those registered on the course are required to regularly attend classes, do the assigned readings before coming to class, do at least one class presentation on the weekly assigned readings, and take part in class discussions. They are also required to complete a short critical review essay, and submit a final research paper.

The final grade will be calculated in the following manner:

Attendance:	20%
Presentation:	20%
Short critical Review Essay:	25%
Research Essay:	35%

### **1. Attendance & Participation: (20%)**

Attendance and participation are crucial for the success of the course. Students are required to regularly attend classes, do the assigned readings before coming to class and take part in class discussions. A register of attendance will be kept throughout the duration of the course. As well, each student should submit at least one question each week based on the readings.

### **2. Seminar Presentation: (20%)**

Each class will be organised around student-led presentations. Every student must do at least one oral presentation in class. The order of presentations will be decided on the first day of class. Typically, oral presentations should be between 15 and 30 minutes per presenter (depending on enrolment and the number of students presenting). The main focus of class discussions will be the assigned readings and related issues. The presentations will be evaluated based on grasp of the material/topic, quality of analysis, success in synthesising the readings and relating them to the themes of the week and the course.

### **3. Short Review Essay (25%):**

The short critical review essay addresses the themes and issues relating to the readings of a week other than the one the student is presenting on. It is intended to test knowledge of some of the conceptual and theoretical issues covered in the course. The essay should critically and competently elaborate on and synthesise the various perspectives and arguments that emerge in that particular week's reading. **The short review essay should be 5, and no more than 7 pages (double-spaced)**, excluding the title page and list of reference of cited work. It is due two weeks after the oral presentation.

### **5. Research Paper (35%):**

The final assignment is a research essay on any topic in Global Political Economy. **It should be 12 and no more than 15 pages (double-spaced)**, excluding the title page and list of reference of cited work. It will be evaluated based on grasp of the topic and literature, quality of argument, depth of analysis and originality of approach, as well as structure, organisation, grammar, referencing and formatting.

#### **Please Note:**

- While it is the responsibility of all students to choose their own topics based on their individual interests, such topics should be cleared with the course director.

- All written work should have a title page indicating the title of the paper, the name of the student and his/her student number, as well as the name of the instructor, the department, course and date submitted.
- In terms of formatting, all written work should be doubled-spaced, Times New Roman 12 point fonts, 1-inch margin and should be handed in on the due date in class. (Manipulating the margins or font size will be penalised).
- Barring any extenuating circumstance, all written assignments **must** be submitted on or before the due date, otherwise a 2 per cent per day penalty will apply each day the assignment is late for up to a week, after which, it will not be accepted.
- Essays exceeding the maximum length will not be accepted.
- For citation and referencing, please refer to either the Harvard or the Chicago referencing style for all written work.
- **Failure to follow these instructions will result in a 10% deduction from the total points scored for the assignment.**

**Required texts:**

John Ravenhill (ed.) *Global Political Economy* 4e. (Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2014)

David Harvey, *A Brief History of Neoliberalism* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005)

POLI-4615 GPE Course Kit

**Students with Special Needs**

Students with special needs can request accommodations in accordance with the Senate Policy on Students with Disabilities. Please endeavour, at the earliest opportunity, to advise the Student Accessibility Services (formerly the Learning Assistance Centre) and the instructor of your special needs so that appropriate arrangements can be made to accommodate such needs. Those who encounter extenuating circumstances which may interfere with the successful completion of the course should, as soon as possible, discuss these circumstances with the instructor and the Student Accessibility Services.

**Lakehead Policy on Academic Dishonesty**

As academic integrity is crucial to the pursuit of university education, students are expected to uphold the academic honour code at all times and are advised to familiarise themselves with the university's policy on academic dishonesty, especially in relation, but not limited, to plagiarism, cheating, impersonation, recycling old essays etc. In order to make sure that a degree awarded by Lakehead University is a reflection of the honest efforts and individual academic achievement of each student, Lakehead University treats cases of academic dishonesty very seriously and severely penalises those caught in violation of the university's policy on academic honesty.

**Policy on Electronic Devices**

Cell phones are distracting and therefore should be turned off and kept out of sight during lectures. A visible phone will be assumed to be used. In such a scenario, the instructor may ask the offending student to leave the class. Except where prior permission is sought from the instructor, no audio or video recording of lectures is allowed. Where permission is sought and granted, such recordings should be solely for private use.

## Course Schedule

### **Week 1 (Jan 11): Introduction to the Course**

- Introductions: aims and objectives of the course; discussion of grading and allocation of presentations

### **Week 2 (Jan. 18): The Study of Global Political Economy**

#### Required Readings

John Ravenhill, 'The Study of Global Political Economy' Chapter 1 in Ravenhill (ed.) *Global Political Economy* 4e. Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2014; pp. 3-24

Robert Gilpin, *The Political Economy of International Relations* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1987), pp. 1-64

Robert O. Keohane, *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1984), Part II, pp. 49-109

Robert Cox, 'Social Forces, States and World Orders: Beyond International Relations Theory' *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* vol. 10, no. 2 (1981):126-155

**[Note: Remember Friday, 20 January, 2017 is the final date of registration]**

### **Week 3 (Jan 25): Historical Roots I: 'Classical' Political Economy**

#### Required Readings

Mathew Watson, 'The Historical Roots of Theoretical Traditions in Global Political Economy' Chapter 2 in Ravenhill (ed.) *Global Political Economy*; pp 25-49

Adam Smith, Excerpts from *An Inquiry into the Nature and the Causes of the Wealth of Nations* (Book I: Chapters 1, 2 & 3)

David Ricardo, Excerpts from *The Principles of Political Economy and Taxation* (Chapter VII)

Friedrich List, Excerpts from *The National System of Political Economy* (Chapters 12 & 26)

### **Week 4: (Feb 1): Historical Roots II: Marxism as a Critique of Classical Political Economy**

#### Required Readings

Karl Marx, Part 8 of *Capital*, vol. 1: 'Primitive Accumulation'

Frederick Engels, 'Outlines of a Critique of Political Economy' In Marx and Engels Reader Vol. 3

Vladimir I. Lenin, 'Imperialism, as a Special Stage of Capitalism,' Chapter VII of *Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism* (Sydney: Resistance Books)

## **Week 5 (Feb 8): What is Left Out? Race, Gender and Coloniality**

### Required Readings

Frantz Fanon, 'Concerning Violence' in *The Wretched of the Earth* (New York: Grove, 1963), pp. 35-106

Silvia Federici, *Caliban and the Witch: Women, the Body and Primitive Accumulation* (New York: Autonomedia, 2004), pp. 61-132

Aníbal Quijano, 'Coloniality and Modernity/Rationality', *Cultural Studies*, vol. 21 nos. 2-3 (2007), pp. 168-178

Chandra Mohanty, 'Women Workers and Capitalist Scripts: Ideologies of Domination, Common Interests, and the Politics of Solidarity' in M. Jacqui Alexander and Chandra Talpade Mohanty, *Feminist Genealogies, Colonial Legacies, Democratic Futures* (New York: Routledge, 1997), pp. 3-29

## **Week 6 (Feb 15): The Rise of the Global Economic System**

### Required Readings

Giovanni Arrighi, *The Long Twentieth Century: Money, Power and the Origins of Our Times* (London: Verso), Chapter 1, pp. 28-75

Karl Polanyi, *The Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Time* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1944), Chapters 4, 5, 6).

Enrique Dussel, 'The "World-System": Europe As "Centre" and Its "Periphery" Beyond Eurocentrism,' in Eduardo Mendieta and Pedro Lange-Churión (eds.) *Latin America and Postmodernity: A Contemporary Reader*, (Atlantic Highlands, N.J.: Humanities Press, 2001), 93-112

Mike Davis, 'The Origins of the Third World', in *Late Victorian Holocausts: El Niño Famines and the Making of the Third World* (London: Verso, 2001), pp. 279-310

Eric Williams, *Capitalism and Slavery* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1944), pp. 51-84

## **Week 7 (Feb 22): No Class [Study Break 16 - 20 February]**

## **Week 8 (March 1): The Bretton Woods System**

### Required Readings

John M. Keynes, Selections from The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money in Alex Hulsemeier, *International Political Economy: A Reader*; pp. 35-46

Stephen McBride and John Shields, 'The Post-War Canadian State' Chapter 2 in *Dismantling a Nation: The Transition to Corporate Rule in Canada* (Halifax: Fernwood, 1997), pp. 35-51

John G. Ruggie, 'International Regimes, Transactions and Change: Embedded Liberalism in the Post-war Economic Order,' *International Organization*, Vol. 36, no. 2 (1982), pp. 379-415

Philip McMichael, 'The Development Project' Chapter 3 in *Development and Social Change: A Global Perspective 4e* (Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press, 2008), pp. 55-84

Panitch, Leo and Sam Gindin, *The Making of Global Capitalism: The Political Economy of American Empire* (London: Verso 2012); Introduction, pp. 1-21

### **Week 9 (March 8): Neoliberalism**

#### Required Readings

Friedrich von Hayek, 'The Principles of a Liberal Social Order' in *Studies in Philosophy, Politics and Economics* (New York: Touchstone: 1969), pp. 160-177

David Harvey, *A Brief History of Neoliberalism* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005); Introduction, chapters 1, 2, & 3, pp. 1-86

Eric Helleiner, 'From Bretton Woods to Global Finance: A World Turned Upside Down' in Richard Stubbs and Geoffrey Underhill (eds.) *Political Economy and the Changing Global Order* (Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 1994), pp. 163-75

Peter Gowan, 'The Evolution of the DWSR from the 1970s to the 1990s' Chapter 5 in *Global Gamble: Washington's Faustian Bid for World Dominance* (London: Verso, 1999), pp. 30-59

**[Note: Remember, Friday 10 March, 2017 is the final date for withdrawal without academic penalty]**

### **Week 10 (March 15): The Globalisation Project**

#### Required Readings

Philip McMichael, 'Instituting the Globalisation Project' Chapter 6 in *Development and Social Change: A Global Perspective 4e* (Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press, 2008), pp. 149-189

Anthony McGrew, 'The Logic of Economic Globalization', Chapter 9 in Ravenhill (ed.) *Global Political Economy*; pp. 225-254

Goran Therborn 'Globalizations: Dimensions, Historical Waves, Regional Effects, Normative Governance,' *International Sociology* Vol. 15, no. 2 (2000): 151-179.

Giovanni Arrighi, 'Globalisation and Historical Macrosociology' In Janet Abu-Lughod, ed., *Sociology for the Twenty-First Century: Continuities and Cutting Edges*. (Chicago: Chicago University Press 2000), pp. 117-133.

Stephen Gill, 'Globalisation, Market Civilisation and Disciplinary Neoliberalism', *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* Vol. 24, no. 3 (1995); 399-423

### **Week 11 (March 22): Global Integration of Production, Finance and Trade**

#### Required Readings

Eric Thun, 'The Globalization of Production', Chapter 11 in Ravenhill (ed.) *Global Political Economy*; pp. 283-302

Gilbert R. Winham, 'The Evolution of the Global Trade Regime', Chapter 5 in Ravenhill (ed.) *Global Political Economy*; pp.109-138

Eric Helleiner, 'The Evolution of the International Monetary and Financial System', Chapter 7 in Ravenhill (ed.) *Global Political Economy*; pp. 173-197

John Ravenhill, 'Regional Trade Agreements' Chapter 6 in Ravenhill (ed.) *Global Political Economy*; pp. 139-170

Raimo Vayrynen, 'Regionalism: Old and New' *International Studies Review* Vol. 5, no. 1 (2003), pp. 25-52

### **Week 12 (March 29): Global Inequality and the Politics of Aid and Development**

#### Required Readings

Robert Hunter Wade, 'Growth, Inequality and Poverty: Evidence, Arguments, and Economists' in Ravenhill (ed.) *Global Political Economy*; pp. 305-343

Nicola Phillips, 'Globalization and Development' in Ravenhill (ed.) *Global Political Economy*; pp. 344-371

Mike Davies, 'SAPing the Third World,' Chapter 7 in *Planet of the Slums* (London: Verso, 2006), pp. 151 –173

Stephen Gill, 'Constitutionalizing Inequality and the Clash of Globalizations,' *International Studies Review*, Vol. 4, no. 2 (2002), pp. 47-65

Fahimul Quadir, 'Rising Donors and the New Narrative of 'South–South' Cooperation: what prospects for changing the landscape of development assistance programmes?' *Third World Quarterly*, Vol. 34, no.2 (2013), pp. 321-338

### **Week 13 (April 5): World Ecology and the GPE of the Environment**

#### Required Readings

Peter Dauvergne, 'Globalization and the Environment', Chapter 14 in Ravenhill (ed.) *Global Political Economy*; pp. 372-397

Farshad Araghi, 'Accumulation by Displacement: Global Enclosures, Food Crisis, and the Ecological Contradictions of Capitalism' *Review* (Fernand Braudel Centre), Vol. 32, no. 1, (2009), pp. 113-146

Bikrum Gill, 'A Decolonial World-Ecological Reading of the Global Land Grab: Gambella, the River and the Fall of Karuturi' In Zubairu Wai and Marta Iniguez de Heredia (eds.) *International Relations and Discourses of Africa's Nonfulfilment* (London & New York: Routledge, 2017 forthcoming)

Jason W. Moore, 'The Capitalocene Part I: On the Nature & Origins of Our Ecological Crisis' Fernand Braudel Center June 2014)  
[http://www.jasonwmoore.com/uploads/The\\_Capitalocene\\_Part\\_I\\_June\\_2014.pdf](http://www.jasonwmoore.com/uploads/The_Capitalocene_Part_I_June_2014.pdf)

**[Note: Final research paper due at the end of class on 10 April]  
April 10 – 23 is the Examination Period. There will be no exam for this course**