INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

An Introduction to Ideational Roots, Theories, Disciplinary Development and the History of Globalisation

WINTER TERM 2016/17

Module: MA-IB-GPOE-IP

Participants: MA students, First Year (1. Fachsemester)

Language of instruction: English

Dates:

Part I (Stefan Robel): Tuesdays, 4:40 pm – 6:10 pm (6. DS); first half of semester, as indicated below

Part II (George Robert Lambie, PhD): Dates in January t.b.a.

Enrolment: https://bildungsportal.sachsen.de/opal/auth/RepositoryEntry/107157913

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Course Description

The term "International Political Economy" does mean different things to different people. This seminar introduces it a two-fold way: First, as a specific sub-discipline of
International Relations (as it is understood mainly in the United States and, by and large, in Germany), and secondly, as an endeavor to bridge the – academic – divide between politics and economics (an understanding often favored in Britain, Canada and the Netherlands, among other places). Both perspectives are mirrored in the first part of the seminar where the focus will be on the role of theory and theory building in IPE. The second part will apply a ‘British approach’ (developed at Warwick University, among other places) to the analysis of the history of globalization from an IPE perspective.

The seminar aims at giving an introduction to the intellectual roots, major theories and fields of studies and disciplinary development and variants of IPE. The course “Critical Theory and Global Political Economy” in the upcoming summer term will build and expand on the foundations provided by this course.

**Seminar Requirements**

a) **Previous study** in one or more of the following: economics; international relations; political economy; politics and any subject that is deemed by the tutors to be relevant

b) Regular and active **attendance and participation**

c) A **presentation** on one of the topics identified below. This will usually be undertaken as a member of a group with each individual addressing a different sub topic of the main subject. See below for tutorial subjects.

d) A **literature review** of not more than two DinA4-pages. Alternatively, Individual students perform the role of a **discussant** to a certain presentation (a short, to-the-point comment to the plenum on the presentation just witnessed; 5-10 minutes time, not more).

**Seminar Assessment**

1) **Seminar Presentation** – 50 percent of total mark

2) **Active participation** - 25 percent of total mark

3) **Literature Review or role as Discussant** – 25 % of total mark.

**Course Contents**

**PART I. INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY:**

**IDEATIONAL ROOTS, THEORETICAL AND DISCIPLINARY DEVELOPMENT**

(Lecturer: Stefan Robel)
1. Introductory session (TUE, 25.10.16, 16:40 – 18:10)

2. International Relations and International Political Economy: Susan Strange’s critique of IR theory and her rationale for IPE (TUE, 08.11.16, 16:40 – 18:10)


3. Traditional schools of thought as roots of Modern IPE I: Mercantilism, Liberalism (TUE, 15.11.16, 16:40 – 18:10)


4. Traditional schools of thought as roots of Modern IPE II: Marxism (TUE, 29.11.16, 16:40 – 18:10)


   t.b.c.

5. Neo-Gramscian Approaches to International Political Economy I (TUE, 13.12.16, 16:40 – 18:10)


6. ‘Neo-Gramscian Approaches to International Political Economy II (TUE, 20.12.16, 16:40 – 18:10)


~ more literature to be added here ~

Literature t.b.a.

PART II. THE HISTORY AND PRACTICE OF GLOBALISATION – THE EVOLUTION OF CAPITALISM FROM AN IPE PERSPECTIVE. FROM INCEPTION TO THE EMERGENCE OF GLOBALISATION

(Lecturer: George Robert Lambie)

Please note: Dates from 9th - 28th in January 2016 yet t.b.a.

Structure of Part II:
This section will be composed of six lectures of approximately one hour, four tutorials of 45 -60 minutes and videos. Additional notes will be supplied after each lecture.

Reading
Indicative texts, articles and web links are given below each tutorial. More comprehensive reading, including notes provided by the tutor, will be supplied nearer the time of the seminar.

7. Session One

Introductions and Questions

Lecture 1 - ‘The evolution of capitalism. Accumulation systems from feudalism to laissez-faire’ (From feudalism to capitalism; colonialism: the making of the world in the image of Europe; the First World War; the Great Depression)
8. Session Two

Lecture 2 – ‘The demise of laissez-faire and the Pax Britannica’ (The crash of 1929, the Great Depression and Bretton Woods)

Tutorial One – The Evolution of Capitalism from an IPE perspective


9. Session Three

Lecture 3 – ‘Embedded Liberalism: formation, structure and organisation’

Tutorial Two - The demise of laissez faire and the Bretton Woods ‘solution’

5) Martin, Jamie, 2013. Review of Stiel, The Battle for Bretton Woods - http://www.lrb.co.uk/v35/n22/jamie-martin/were-we-bullied

10. Session Four
Lecture 4 – ‘Developing countries after the Second World War’. (A separate model of development? Modernisation theory, structuralism, dependency theory, the Cuban Revolution)

Tutorial Three – The formation and practice of ‘Embedded Liberalism’.


11. Session Five

Lecture 5 – ‘Early Challenges to ‘embedded liberalism’. (The Eurodollar Market; MNCs; international finance; neo-liberal ideas; deregulatory pressures; the Nixon shock)

Tutorial Four – The Development debate


12. Session Six

Lecture 6 - ‘The Demise of Embedded Liberalism and the Rise of Globalisation’. (OPEC and the ‘Petro-dollar’; the fall of structuralism and development economics; the hegemony of capital and the rise of the political ‘Right’.)
Tutorial Five – Challenges to the post-war social democratic experiment


13. Session Seven

Lecture 7 - ‘The Rise of the Transnational Corporation (TNC) and the Globalisation of Production’ (From Multinational Corporation to Transnational Corporation the rise of a borderless world. Foreign direct investment – a developmental model?)

Tutorial Six – Globalisation empowered. The hegemonic shift from nation states and embedded liberalism to transnationalisation


14. Session Eight

Lecture 8 - ‘Modernity and IPE. Conceptulising change though evolving visions of progress and uncertainty. Is globalisation postmodern’?

Tutorial Seven – From Multinational Corporation (MNC) to Transnational Corporation (TNC). Transnationalisation and the global production chain.


~~~ to be continued in Spring/Summer 2017 ~~~