The aim of this short course is to provide an introduction to the approaches that political scientists have taken to the study of trade and financial matters under the auspices of the IMF. The first three weeks focus on issues surrounding trade, moving from a focus at the national/domestic level on to the international politics of this issue — structurally and then institutionally. Those interested in international institutions should find the weeks on the GATT/WTO and then the IMF of value. We conclude with a broader debate on the relationship between globalization, nation states, and democracy.

You may find it interesting and/or helpful to read an introductory overview of the sub-field of IPE. To that end, I suggest:


Assessment

10% — Class participation

Class participation requires contributing to class discussion, including listening to others, and having questions for discussion, demonstrating that contributions are based on a thorough understanding and detailed knowledge of all the required readings for the week.

30% — Response papers

Students are required to write two response papers over the course. Response papers are not summaries, but demonstrate an understanding and provide a critique of, or response to, the week’s readings. They can be written about either one or several of the week’s required readings (and, if desired, additional readings, but not to the exclusion of the required readings). Response papers should be at least one but no more than three double-spaced pages long and must be submitted through turnitin.com by midday (Irish Time) on the Tuesday preceding the Wednesday class. When you submit a response paper, you are also particularly expected to actively participate in the discussion that week and the grade for the response paper will take this into account. You should come to the seminar expecting to talk about the views expressed in the response paper of your own volition, or as a result of explicit questioning from me.

60% — End of module assignment

Note that there are two possible end of module assignments. Which you must complete depends on whether you take this module in combination with ‘The Politics of Foreign Aid and Investment’ (PO8011) or not. Specifically,

- If taking this module (PO8013) without PO8011, you must complete the ‘Critical Literature Review’ assignment (detailed below).

- If taking this module (PO8013) and PO8011, you must complete one ‘Research Design Paper’ assignment (detailed below), which will constitute your ‘end of module assignment’ grade for both modules.

Note that word counts do not include the bibliography but do include all other words (e.g. footnotes etc). Please include a word count on your submitted work. Late work will be penalized at a rate of 5 points per day late. Late submissions will be excused if backed by a medical certificate or other compelling evidence.
Critical Literature Review (approx. 2,000 words)
Due midday Thursday February 21st

Students should choose one theme from the course and write a paper offering a critical review of the literature. This should be based on required and further readings, with additional readings if desired. Beyond a summary of the state of the literature, this should also include analysis of contradictions both within and between papers, methodological short-comings, and conceptual discrepancies. In developing such critiques, you will likely find some arguments or evidence more persuasive than others. Outlining your reasoning for such conclusions will tend to raise your grade. Should you wish, you may also use the essay to develop suggestions for possible research designs that may help to rectify any of the shortcomings that you perceive in the literature. Note that while the course is divided into five distinct weeks, several of the topics have considerable overlap with each other and, while you are not required to draw from the readings of multiple weeks, you are certainly not constrained not to. Indeed, you are welcome to draw from readings you have covered in other modules in the programme, as well.

Research Design Paper (approx. 3,500 words)
Due midday Thursday April 11th

Students should write a paper that develops or applies a theoretical framework that is then used to produce hypotheses. Substantively, this can be related to the topics covered in either POS011 or POS013, or both. The testing of these hypotheses should then be discussed in detail. Conceptually, what sort of data could be used to falsify the theory? Practically, what sort of data is (or is likely to be) available that might serve this purpose? Would this data allow for causal claims, or merely show correlation? Finally, while completion of the proposed empirical work is not necessary, illustrations of the plausibility (or otherwise) of the argument are likely to be helpful to clarify both theoretical and research design aspects of the paper. It is strongly suggested that students contact either Tim Hicks or Jeff Weber no later than the end of week 9 to discuss this assignment.

Plagiarism

You are reminded of your obligations as a student at Trinity College to avoid plagiarism and respect the highest standards of academic honesty. This is particularly important in terms of reviewing academic literature where it is important that the review is based on your own reading and assessment of any literature discussed.
Turnitin

All written work must be submitted via http://www.turnitin.com/. This makes it easier to manage submissions, as well as taking advantage of a plagiarism detector. In order to submit your essay on http://www.turnitin.com/, you need to register yourself with http://www.turnitin.com/ registration for the module separately for both Tim’s classes and Jeff’s classes. (Please submit response papers for Koji’s week to Jeff’s class.)

Class Name: Tim’s Classes
Course ID: 5946724
Enrollment Password: trader

Class Name: Jeff’s Classes
Course ID: 5946727
Enrollment Password: trader

Further Information

Finding Readings

- The reading list (below) includes full bibliographic references to each article, chapter, book, or other reading. As such, you should be able to use the library services to find them yourself.

- Where available, I have also included the URL based on the DOI (standing for Digital Object Identifier) of the reading. This will link you to one place where the reading is published online.

- The DOI links will only provide you with access when you are connected to the TCD network. If you are off-campus, you should use the Library’s off-campus facility by visiting http://www.tcd.ie/Library/ and clicking on the link for “E-Journals only”.

- Note, however, that the DOI link may not be the place through which the TCD subscription provides access. (This is not in my control.) If this occurs, you will often find that http://www.jstor.org/ will work for you, subject to you being on-campus or having explicitly signed-in to the Library’s off-campus service.

- Again, where available, I have also tried to provide URLs for readings that are not constrained by off-campus and/or login restrictions. This is often via the web sites of the authors of the readings and will tend to be the easiest way of retrieving items.
Some readings may only be available in hard copy. In these cases, I will endeavour to make them available as scanned PDFs via the module’s Blackboard site found via http://mymodule.tcd.ie/. These are marked with the  symbol in the reading list.

Some of the readings listed below are a little more challenging. I have marked these with the * symbol.

Some of the ‘readings’ in the ‘Short/Popular’ category are actually podcasts or other types of audio or video. I have marked these with the "" symbol.

Acknowledgements

We are extremely grateful to the following for their help in preparing this course and reading suggestions: Tessy Huss, Justin Leinaweaver, and Will Phelan.
Week 1 (Jan 16): The Domestic Politics of Trade — Tim Hicks

In this first week, we will focus on how and why the issue of international trade (in goods) can be important in terms of domestic politics. In order to do this, a little economic theory is necessary, which comes from Oatley (2008, Chapter 3). Bradsher and Cardwell (2012) provide a recent news article that exhibits examples of several aspects of the politics of trade nearly in one story. Can you see what they are? Rogowski (1987) and Hiscox (2001) provide most of the intellectual meat in a political science sense. Margalit (2012) introduces a slightly different dimension to matters relating to individual-level preferences over trade.

Required Readings


  doi: 10.1162/002081801551405.
  url: [http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~hiscox/HiscoxIO01.pdf](http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~hiscox/HiscoxIO01.pdf)


Recommended Readings

  url: [http://www.pkarchive.org/trade/ricardo.html](http://www.pkarchive.org/trade/ricardo.html)


Week 2 (Jan 23): The International Politics of Trade — Tim Hicks

This week, we build on our understanding of the politics of trade by studying how it impinges on the interactions between countries, rather than within them. Oatley (2008) provides background on the international trade system. Krugman (1993) offers a somewhat polemical account of the motivations for NAFTA. The remaining readings discuss how and why various trade agreements and systems have been created.

**Required Readings**


  URL: http://www.pkarchive.org/trade/ForeignPolicyStupid.html

  URL: http://www.indiana.edu/~gradipe/docs/krasner.pdf

  DOI: 10.1016/0014-2921(95)00089-5

  DOI: 10.2307/2586014

**Recommended Readings**


  DOI: 10.1146/annurev.polisci.2.1.91


Week 3 (Jan 30): The GATT and The WTO — Koji Kagotani

Required Readings


Recommended Readings


Week 4 (Feb 6): The IMF — Jeff Weber

Required Readings

  DOI: 10.2307/3183155

  URL: 10.2307/20049125

  DOI: 10.1017/S0020818308080211

  DOI: 10.1111/j.1540-5907.2009.00417.x.

  DOI: 10.1017/S0020818306060334

  DOI: 10.1016/S0304-3878(00)00090-0

Recommended Readings

  DOI: 10.1007/s11558-008-9050-5

  DOI: 10.1016/j.euroecorev.2009.03.002


Week 5 (Feb 13): “The inescapable trilemma of the world economy”? — Tim Hicks

We conclude this module by examining the recent, and prominent, claim by Rodrik (2011) that there is a fundamental incompatibility between globalization, states, and democracy. Garrett (1998) and Mosley (2000) provide some evidence relating to this theme. O’Rourke (2011) uses Rodrik’s argument in the context of the EU.

Required Readings


Recommended Readings


• Dani Rodrik (June 2007). The inescapable trilemma of the world economy. URL: http://rodrik.typepad.com/dani_rodricks_weblog/2007/06/the-inescapable.html
