

Course Outline

EE 401 POLITICAL ECONOMICS (International)

Semester: 2/2025 (5 January 2026 – 2 May 2026)
Instructor: Dr. Brian Kennedy
Room 460 Faculty of Economics
bpk@econ.tu.ac.th
081- 442-7426
Time: Friday 2:00 – 3:30
Room: 206 Faculty of Economics

Number of Credit: 3 Credits

Prerequisite: TBD

Course Description

Foundation of international political economy; theories and approaches in international political economy; changes in global political and economic orders; power relations and bargaining processes in international politics and their impact on allocation and distribution of economic resources; transnational factor and resource mobilization.

Course Objectives:

This course is designed to give the students the tools necessary to understand how the economic systems of the world effect both the domestic economies and politics of countries, and how these interact on the world stage. While the class will address the political landscape, systems, and the leadership that they produce, the primary (not sole) approach will be economic. That is to say, it will usually assume that the economic structure in turn determines the political structure. The other causality you should have addressed already.

Text:

International Political Economy, Seventh edition, Thomas Oatley. A link to a legal copy is available in Teams.

Notes, Note taking, and Attendance:

I DO NOT use power point for the most part, I lecture and use the board. I give each lecture off of prepared notes, which will be available before class, via Teams. I would recommend that you print out a copy of them for yourselves, or have them available on your tablet/laptop, many students find they help to follow the lecture. DO NOT assume

that the notes are a substitute for the lecture, I use the notes to remind myself of what points I want to cover, in what order. But parts of the notes are not understandable without the lecture to explain them.

Microsoft Teams:

I manage notes, online makeup classes, etc. through Microsoft Teams. In the event that the Wuhan Flu returns, floods, political unrest etc., if the University shuts down again, class will then be maintained via teams and meet.

Cheating:

Don't. If you do, and I catch you, you will be reported to the program director for the appropriate punishment. At a minimum, you will receive a zero on the assignment you are caught cheating on, other punishments include automatically failing the course, and being suspended for one (or more) semesters.

Evaluation:

The class evaluations will be based on two exams, a midterm and a final. The midterm will be 2 hours in length, the final will be 3 hours in length. Students will have a choice of what questions to answer. A sample exam will be passed out before the first exam. Each exam is worth a percentage of your grade as given below. The Midterm exam will cover material from the first half of class, the Final exam will be comprehensive, though it will be weighted towards materials studied in the second half of the semester. The exam schedule is given below:

Midterm Exam:	40%
Final Exam:	60%

Friday, February 27, 2026 | 12:00–14:00 hrs.
Saturday, May 9, 2026 | 09:00–12:00 hrs.

Tentative Class Schedule:

Date Topic Readings

~~**Week 1: The Ukraine War**~~

~~Readings: Perun—YouTube video, “All Bling, No Basics” (link in Google Classroom)~~

~~Atkins, Norbert—Article in MEF, “Why Arabs Lose Wars” (Link in Google Classroom)~~

Week 1: Introduction to International Political Economy

Readings: Oatley, International Political Economy, Chapter 1

Week 2: The WTO and the World Trade System

Readings: Oatley, International Political Economy, Chapter 2

Week 3: The Political Economy of International Trade Cooperation

Readings: Oatley, International Political Economy, Chapter 3

Week 4: A Society-Centered Approach to Trade Politics

Readings: Oatley, International Political Economy, Chapter 4

Week 5: A State-Centered Approach to Trade Politics

Readings: Oatley, International Political Economy, Chapter 5

Week 6: Trade and Development I: Import Substitution Industrialization

Readings: Oatley, International Political Economy, Chapter 6

Week 7: Trade and Development II: Neoliberalism and Institutionalism

Readings: Oatley, International Political Economy, Chapter 7

Week 8: Multinational Corporations in the Global Economy

Readings: Oatley, International Political Economy, Chapter 8

Week 9: The Politics of Multinational Corporations

Readings: Oatley, International Political Economy, Chapter 9

Week 10: The International Monetary System

Readings: Oatley, International Political Economy, Chapter 10

Week 11: Cooperation, Conflict, and Crisis in the Contemporary International Monetary System

Readings: Oatley, International Political Economy, Chapter 11

Week 12: A Society-Centered Approach to Monetary and Exchange-Rate Policies

Readings: Oatley, International Political Economy, Chapter 12

Week 13: A State-Centered Approach to Monetary and Exchange-Rate Policies

Readings: Oatley, International Political Economy, Chapter 13

Week 14: Developing Countries and International Finance 1:: The Latin American Debt Crisis

Readings: Oatley, International Political Economy, Chapter 14

Week 15: Communism, Liberalism, Mercantilism

Readings: TBD

Week 16 TBD, Review for Final Exam

Readings: TBD