Welcome to International Political Economy. This course seeks to provide an introductory overview of the history, current status, and likely prospects of the IPE. During this term we will focus on contending theoretical approaches to understanding and explaining a variety of events in the IPE, for example, British mercantilism in the 1700's, NAFTA, EU-US trade disputes, the WTO, and the North-South development gap. I hope to supply the theoretical groundwork so that you can follow current news debates about these issues, know what is at stake for whom, and have some idea what kind of policies are more or less likely.

Course Requirements:
The course requirements are that you take two exams (40% and 60%). Please note that Exam I will be held on Tuesday 21st October during class time. The final exam, Exam II, will be held during final exam week. Students have the option of writing a research paper (20 pages) instead of taking Exam II. The substitute research paper is due by 4pm on the last day of class. Late papers will not be accepted.

Please check exam dates. If, due to exceptional circumstances, a student cannot take the midterm (Exam 1) she/he should contact Prof McGillivray asap. The makeup format for the midterm is a 15 page research paper.

Extra copies of power-point lecture presentations are available outside my office door.

There are two books required for the course. These are available from the University bookstore.


Lecture 1  What is International Political Economy?

Lecture 2  Case Examples: British-American Trade Under the Articles of Confederation, the US-EU Banana Trade Dispute and, the North-South Poverty Gap.
Cohen, chs 1 & 3.

Lecture 3  Background Economics: Some of the Basics.
Cohen, p149-156
Frieden and Lake ch. 22 (Freeman)

Lecture 4  Background Economics: Why Protect?
Cohen, p225-230
Frieden and Lake, ch. 19 (Coughlin & Chrystal and Wood)

Lecture 5  Theories of IPE
Cohen, chs 4 & 5.

Lecture 6  Globalization: Cause and Effect
Frieden and Lake, ch 31 (Rodrik)

Post-War International Institutions

Lecture 7  International Trade Regimes: The GATT and WTO
Cohen, p231-263

Lecture 8  Rise of Administered Protection and Regional Trade Blocs
Cohen p41-45
Frieden and Lake, ch 24 (Cox)

Lecture 9  The European Union
Cohen, ch 9

Lecture 10  International Monetary Regimes: the Gold Standard to EMU.
Cohen, ch 6: p156-171
Frieden Chapter 16 (Frieden)

Lecture 11: Explaining the Turnover of Monetary Regimes
Frieden and Lake, ch. 14 (Eichengreen)

Note: Midterm Exam Tuesday 21st October.
Economic Development: The North

Lecture 12: The Rise of Europe 1500's-1700's
Cohen p25-31
Frieden and Lake, chs. 7 (Frieden)

Lecture 13: Mercantilism, 1700s
Frieden and Lake, chs. 2&6 (Eichengreen &Gourevich)

Lecture 14 Pax Britannica, 1815-1914
Frieden and Lake, ch. 5&8 (Kindleberger and Lake)

Lecture 15 Development Strategies, 1800's.
Frieden and Lake, ch. 20 (Rogowski)

Economic Development: Third World

Lecture 16 The Development Gap.
Cohen, ch 11

Lecture 17 Debt, the IMF and the World Bank.
Cohen, ch 7

Lecture 18 Film: Life and Debt
Frieden and Lake, chpt 27 (Williamson).

Lecture 19 Financial Crises and Sovereign Risk: Asia and Argentina.
Frieden and Lake, ch 18 (Goodman and Pauly)

Lecture 20 The Development Gap: Africa
Frieden and Lake, ch. 25 (Stiglitz and Squire)

Lecture 21 When Economic Reform Goes Wrong: Chashews in Mozambique
Read McMillan, Rodrik and Welch.. Paper available from
http://papers.nber.org/papers/W9117

Lecture 22 Financial Aid

Lecture 23 Foreign Direct Investment
Cohen, ch 10,
Frieden and Lake, ch. 11 (Fieldhouse).

Lecture 24 MNC’s: Good or Bad for the Developing World?
Frieden and Lake, chs. 9, 10 (Caves, Tarzi)
Lecture 25  Democracy, corruption and Growth

Frieden and Lake ch 26 (Broad et al)

Lecture 26  Democracy and Development, continued…

Cohen, ch 12.

Lecture 27  Globalization, the environment and human rights.

Frieden and Lake, ch. 29 (Butler)

Lecture 28  Review.

Those students who chose to write a research paper instead of sitting the final exam must turn in their research paper on this, the last day of class.

Exam II during exam week (check time and location).