

# POLS3550 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL ECONOMY (Fall 2019)

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Lectures: Mondays/Thursdays @ 3:30pm (Waleed C145)

Office Hours: Sundays 10:00-11:00 and Mondays 13:00-14:00

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**Aims and Objectives** The objective of this course is to develop a better understanding of the linkages between politics and economics. Until recently, these two disciplines were largely studied as being independent but the disciplinary divide began to fade in the 1970s because of a multitude of factors including economic crises that impacted on politics and political crises that impacted on the economy. Political economy assumes that the two disciplines are in many ways interdependent and we will explore some of the key themes, issues and forces that have shaped relationships between states and markets.

**Expectations** Learning is an interactive process and I encourage you to actively participate in class discussion. Class participation will be well rewarded. I assume you will come prepared to class having done some of the assigned reading. Ask questions and be prepared to provide answers. You will need to shed any inhibitions you have about speaking out and defending your views. Remember that in the social sciences there are no right or wrong answers and it is the responsibility of each of us to seek out what for us is the correct answer. This can only be done when we are comfortable enough to debate the issues. I do not claim to know all the answers and my goal is for all of us to reach a higher plane of understanding based on a clash of ideas. Attendance is not mandatory but if

you miss too many classes, you will lose heavily on participation marks. If you miss more than 6 classes, you risk failing the course.

Cheating and Plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the assessment item. Heavier penalties may apply.

**Assessment** This will be based on a combination of participation, written and exam skills.

- *Essay.* A 1500 word essay on a topic of your choice will be due in the third week of November. I am flexible with essay deadlines so there is no need to ask for an extension if you are likely to be a few days late. However, no essay will be accepted after the last day of November. You are free to choose and develop the topic as long as it is relevant to this course and the topic is covered in lectures. **I will not accept essays on rentierism.** I encourage you also to have case studies outside of the Middle East region, so you can therefore write about democracy and/or political economy of Indonesia but not of Egypt or Turkey etc. The cover page of essay must include the **title of essay, full course details, and your own name and student number.** The essay must be based on research although it can be a descriptive, analytical or a research essay. Follow proper rules of citation for social sciences. My preference is for in-text citations, which should include the last name of author, year of publication, and page number in the following format (author, year: page) with a list of references at the end. The list of references must have, in order, last name, initials, year of publication, title of book or journal article, followed by publisher details or journal name. Only use physical copies of books and journals in the library. No web based sources will be accepted. **YOU MAY USE WIKIPEDIA FOR BACKGROUND RESEARCH BUT USE ONLY THAT INFORMATION WHICH IS CORROBORATED IN THE PRINT MEDIUM. DO NOT CITE WIKIPEDIA. RELY ONLY ON PRINT SOURCES THAT HAVE BEEN REFEREED. LECTURE NOTES ARE ALSO UNACCEPTABLE, AS ARE DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS. NOTE ALSO THAT PLAGIARISM IS A SERIOUS OFFENCE AND WILL RESULT**

**IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION.** The essay will be graded for clarity of expression; research evidence; logical structure; and proper citation style. Be very mindful of what I am looking for in your essay.

- There will be one mid-term and a final examination.
- Participation is voluntary but grade-relevant. There should be plenty of opportunity to provide input and you have to get out of your comfort zone. There are no marks allocated for attendance but please be aware of University's attendance policy. If you miss more than six lectures in the course of the semester, you are advised to withdraw, failing which you may incur penalty that may include a grade of F for the course. I do not take attendance every class but it is **your responsibility to make sure you are marked present** when I do take attendance. No changes will be made to my attendance sheet afterwards.

Assessment will be as follows:

Participation:	10 per cent
Essay:	30 per cent
Mid term:	30 per cent
Final:	30 per cent

The grade cut-offs will be as follows: A (94 and above), A- (90-93), B+(87-89), B (84-86), B- (80-83), C+ (77-79), C (74-76), C- (70-73), D+ (61-69), D (50-60).

**Textbook** The textbook is Clark, B. (2016), *Political Economy*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Praeger.

## **Lecture Topics**

**Lecture 1: Introduction to Course**

**Lecture 2: Introduction to Political Economy**

Clark, B (2016), *Political Economy*, chapter 1, pp. 1-18.

Sackrey, C. et al (2005), *Introduction to Political Economy*, chapter 1.

### **Lecture 3: Classical Political Economy: The End of Mercantilism**

Clark (2016), chapter 3.

Sackrey (2005) chapter 2.

### **Lectures 4 and 5: Marxist Political Economy: Critique of Liberalism**

Clark (2016), chapter 4.

Sackrey (2005), chapter 3.

### **Lecture 6: Modern Liberal Political Economy: A Reprieve for Liberalism**

Clark (2016), chapter 6.

Sackrey (2005), chapter 5.

### **Lecture 7: Conservative Political Economy**

Clark (2016), chapter 5.

### **LECTURE 8: ESSAY WRITING (O9)**

### **Lecture 9: Capitalist Political Economy**

Sackrey (2005), chapter 8.

### **Lecture 10: Social Democracy**

Sackrey (2005), chapter 9.

### **Lecture 11: MID TERM EXAMINATION**

### **Lecture 12: Capitalism and Democracy**

Moore, B., *The Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*.

**Lecture 13: Authoritarian Political Economy**

Greene, K.F., 'The Political Economy of Authoritarian Single-Party Dominance', *Comparative Political Studies*, Vol. 43(7), 2010

**Lecture 14: Liberal and Marxist Theories of State**

**Lecture 15: Civil Society and NGOs in Political Economy**

Gellner, E., *Conditions of Liberty*, Allan Lane, 1994.

**Lecture 16: Political Economy of Gender**

Clark (2016), chapter 12.

**Lecture 17: Social Policy: Discrimination, Poverty, & Labor**

Clark (2016), chapter 11

**Lecture 18: Capitalism and Inequality**

Piketty, T., *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*, 2014. Chaps 7 & 14.

Hing, Leanne S Son, Anne E Wilson, Peter Gourevitch, Jaslyn English and Parco Sin, 'Failure to Respond to Rising Inequality: Processes that Legitimize Growing Disparities', *Daedalus*, Vol. 148, No. 5, Summer 2019, pp.105- 135.

**Lectures 19 and 20: Political Economy of Environment**

Clark (2016), chapter 14.

Maswood (2008), *Int. Political Economy and Globalization*, chapter 7.

**Lecture 21: Political Economy of Foreign Investment**

Gilpin, R. (2001), *Global Political Economy*, Princeton Univ, chapter 11.

**Lectures 22: Trade and Protectionism**

Clark (2016), chapter 15.

**Lecture 23: Regionalism**

**Lectures 24: Political Economy of Development**

Johnson, C. (1982) *MITI and the Japanese Miracle*, Stanford, chapter 1.

**Lecture 25: REVIEW**