

2012

Calvin College International Political Economy

Evangelical Advocacy: A Response to Global Poverty

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Recommended Citation

Evangelical Advocacy: A Response to Global Poverty, "Calvin College International Political Economy" (2012). *Syllabi*. Book 1.
<http://place.asburyseminary.edu/engaginggovernmentsyllabi/1>

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CALVIN COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLS 319: International Political Economy

Spring Semester, 2012

[A] Monday, Wednesday, & Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Instructor: Joel H. Westra

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Office: 261H DeVos Center

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an introduction to the study of international political economy. It examines both theoretical issues and historical and current debates. Topics include the role of international economic institutions in addressing problems of cooperation under anarchy, state and societal approaches to international trade and international monetary relations, the role of multinational corporations and other investors, and opportunities and challenges of international finance and development.

The course consists of three parts. *Part I* introduces basic analytical concepts and frameworks necessary for understanding international political economy today. *Part II* considers the politics and economics of international trade and introduces students to related policy debates. *Part III* considers the politics and economics of international monetary relations and introduces students to related policy debates. *Part IV* considers the politics and economics of international finance and development and introduces students to related policy debates.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course readings, writing assignments, and examinations are intended to achieve three objectives. Firstly, they are intended to introduce students to basic concepts of international political economy. Secondly, they are intended to provide students with a basic understanding of important issues and debates shaping international economic policy. Thirdly, they are intended to assist students in developing analytical skills such that they can provide thoughtful and coherent arguments in oral and written form. The first and second objectives are necessary for careers or continued study in the field of international relations and political economy, while the third is essential to the idea of a liberal arts education. All three help to equip students for work as agents of redemption and renewal within the world. *SOLI DEO GLORIA.*

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students must complete all assigned readings (approx. 65 pages per week) before each class period and be active and engaged participants throughout the semester. The instructor will circulate a seating chart for students to fill out, which will be used throughout the semester to record attendance and to facilitate classroom interaction.

There will be two short policy papers of eight to twelve double-spaced pages in length, which will be due on the dates listed below (students to choose from two of three policy areas). In addition to the policy papers, there will be a midterm examination and a final examination.

COURSE GRADES

Course grades will be based on the course objectives listed above, as determined by students' class participation and engagement, writing assignments, and examinations.

Participation and Engagement

Participation and engagement will be weighted as 20% of the final course grade. This is a real course at a real college, and as such you will be expected to read all of the assigned readings before class, with your participation and engagement attesting to how carefully you have read them. You will not necessarily be expected to agree with the

readings, your fellow students, or the instructor, but you will be expected to be engaged participants, so as to learn from the lecture and discussion each day. In doing so, you will become part of an ongoing conversation.

Your participation and engagement grade will be based on your contribution to that conversation. More than simply engaging in classroom “chatter”, making a meaningful contribution to the conversation will require that you arrive in class (and/or come to office hours) prepared to give an account of what you understand from the course readings and discussion and what you do not understand. There is no excuse for having nothing to say; learning requires preparation. If necessary, the instructor will call upon students who do not participate in class or demonstrate engagement with the course material in other ways (such as through email, etc.)

Ideally, students would be so motivated by the intensity of the readings and the perspicacity of the instructor that attendance would not need to be required. But because these are not ideal times, attendance will be included in assessing class participation and engagement. Every student will be allowed two unexcused absences (i.e. one full week), after which a penalty of 5% per day will be deducted from the final course grade. Please see the instructor as soon as possible if you know in advance of an absence due to an extracurricular activity or other excusable reason (at the instructor’s discretion; documentation may be required). Other than illness, most absences will not be excused, so plan accordingly.

Writing Assignments

The two policy papers each will be weighted as 20% of the final course grade. The instructor will distribute the writing assignments in advance, as well as a guide to analytical writing. Students should consult the writing guide as a way of avoiding basic mistakes. Student must use Chicago–A (footnotes), Chicago–B (author–date), or APA style citations (not MLA). Please refer to <http://www.calstatela.edu/library/styleman.htm> for help with these citation styles.

Papers will be due on the dates listed below. Students must submit both printed and electronic versions of all papers. Printed and electronic versions must match exactly. Electronic versions of papers must be submitted via email as MS Word documents [.doc] in a serif font (such as Times New Roman) of size 11 or 12 with 1” margins on all sides. The filename of the electronic version should include the name of the student submitting it.

Grades will be based on analytical rigor, empirical evidence, and writing skill, and will be determined as follows.

A	Excellent; Clear, thorough, and well-supported	C	Vague and unsupported
A-	Very good, with few shortcomings; or Clear, but incomplete	C-	Very unclear and confusing; or No argument
B+	Generally clear, but some gaps; or Good, though somewhat unclear	D+	Unclear and misunderstood; or Incorrect/missing citations throughout
B	Gaps in logic and evidence; or Disordered; or Undeveloped	D	Very poor
B-	Multiple gaps and unclear parts; or Containing contradictions	D-	Extremely poor
C+	Unclear throughout; or Wrong question	F	Insufficient effort; or Dishonesty

The instructor will not accept late papers in the absence of a medical or other substantial excuse. Students seeking to submit a late paper should contact the instructor before the deadline and may be required to provide documentation and/or accept a grade reduction. Papers submitted electronically before the deadline will not be counted as late, provided that a printed version is submitted to the instructor’s office within 24 hours. The instructor will only grade papers submitted both electronically and in hard copy. *DIXI*.

Examinations

The mid-term and final examinations will be weighted as 15% and 25% of the final course grade, respectively. Both examinations will be comprised primarily of short answer questions and will be given on the dates noted below. Students may opt to take an oral final examination, which will cover a narrower range of topics in greater depth than the written examination. The instructor will not administer makeup exams in the absence of a medical or other substantial excuse. Students may be required to provide appropriate documentation and/or accept a grade reduction. No early exams will be given, except as required for extracurricular activities. The instructor will

distribute handouts throughout the semester, which together with the syllabus, will help students to prepare for the examinations.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

The student–faculty relationship is based on trust and mutual respect, which can be seriously undermined by the suspicion or reality of academic dishonesty. If you are in doubt about whether some form of assistance or use of materials constitutes academic dishonesty, please see the instructor. In general, the instructor expects that students will adhere to the following guidelines.

1. Students will not take words from any source without putting quotation marks around such words and giving credit to the source. This includes sentences and phrases, as well as significant single words, such as those that express opinion or judgment.
2. Students will not take findings, concepts, or ideas from any source without giving credit to the source. In paraphrasing, students will not use words so close to those contained in the source that, if a student’s work were placed next to the source, it would be obvious that the student could not have written what s/he did except by borrowing directly from the source with only superficial changes.
3. Students will organize their thoughts and ideas according to a plan of their own creation and will not simply appropriate the plan of organization contained within another source. To the extent that a student’s plan of organization is based upon another source, s/he will give credit to that source.
4. Students will neither ask nor allow someone else to write, revise, or otherwise modify their work in any way, nor reuse papers submitted in other courses or written by other students.

Any violation of these guidelines and/or other rules contained within the *Student Conduct Guide* will result in an *F* for the assignment and/or other appropriate disciplinary action, at the instructor’s discretion.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The college will make reasonable accommodation for students with documented disabilities. Students seeking accommodation should notify both the instructor and Student Academic Services at the beginning of the semester and make appropriate arrangements.

REQUIRED TEXTS

The following are required texts for this course and are available for purchase at the bookstore.

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. *Global Political Economy: Understanding the International Economic Order*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. *International Political Economy: Interests and Institutions in the Global Economy*. 3rd ed. New York: Pearson Longman.

In addition, you may wish to purchase the following text, also available at the bookstore. This text contains some of the readings for Part I of the course, although these reading are also available [online](#).

Lipson, Charles, and Benjamin J. Cohen, eds. 1999. *Theory and Structure in International Political Economy*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Other supplemental journal articles and book sections are available [online](#) as noted in the syllabus. Access to certain websites is available only via a Calvin College internet connection. The instructor will distribute supplemental news articles throughout the semester as well as instructions for finding online journal articles.

COURSE READINGS

[Please note the page numbers listed below, as only selected pages of certain articles or book sections are assigned.]

January 30 – Introduction and Course Overview

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. “The Nature of Political Economy” and “Comparison of Economics and Political Economy.” In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 25–31, 38–41, and 74–6.

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. “What Is International Political Economy?” In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 2–7.

Part I: Analytical Frameworks

February 1, 3 – Neo-Classical Economics, Its Limits and Its Critics

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. “The Neoclassical Conception of the Economy.” In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 46–69.

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. “Traditional Schools of International Political Economy.” In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 8–12.

February 6, 8 – Anarchy, Uncertainty, and Incomplete Information

Stein, Arthur A. 1982. “Coordination and Collaboration: Regimes in an Anarchic World.” *International Organization* 36(2). Read pages 301–319. Available online from [JSTOR](#).

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. “Interests and Institutions in International Political Economy” and “The Global Economy in Historical Context.” In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 12–19.

February 10 – States as Non-Unitary Actors

Putnam, Robert D. 1988. “The Logic of Two-Level Games.” *International Organization* 42(3). Read pages 427–430 and 434–450. Available online from [JSTOR](#). [or Lipson/Cohen, pp. 347–350 and 354–370]

February 13 – Externalities, Public Goods, and Social Cost

Olson, Mancur. 1965. “A Theory of Groups and Organizations.” In *The Logic of Collective Action*. Read pages 5–16 and 33–36. Available online from [Moodle](#).

Coase, Ronald. 1960. “The Problem of Social Cost.” *Journal of Law and Economics* 3. Read page 1–8 and 15–19. Available online from [JSTOR](#).

February 15, 17 – Hegemony and International Institutions

Axelrod, Robert, and Robert O. Keohane. 1985. “Achieving Cooperation under Anarchy.” *World Politics* 38(1): 226–254. Available online from [JSTOR](#).

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. “The Politics of International Regimes.” In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 82–93.

February 20 – Distribution and the Problem of Relative Gains

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. “Distribution of Wealth and Economic Activities” and “National Autonomy.” In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 78–82.

Grieco, Joseph M. 1988. “Anarchy and the Limits of Cooperation.” *International Organization* 42(4). Read pages 492–501. Available online from [JSTOR](#). [or Lipson/Cohen, pp. 16–25]

February 22 – Power, Interdependence, and Bargaining

Krasner, Stephen D. 1991. "Global Communications and National Power: Life on the Pareto Frontier." *World Politics* 43(3). Read pages 336–342. Available online from [JSTOR](#).

Keohane, Robert O., and Joseph S. Nye. 1989. *Power and Interdependence*. Read pages 8–19. Available online from [Moodle](#).

February 24 – National Systems of Political Economy [Guest Lecture]

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. "National Governments and Domestic Economies" and "National Systems of Political Economy." In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 129–130, 148–155, 156–164, and 168–171.

February 27 – Domestic Systems, Bargaining, and Credibility [Guest Lecture]

Putnam, Robert D. 1988. "The Logic of Two-Level Games." Reread pages 440–441 and 448–450. [or Lipson/Cohen, pp. 360–361 and 368–370]

Cowhey, Peter F. 1993. "Domestic Institutions and the Credibility of International Commitments." *International Organization* 47(2). Read pages 299–307 and 315–318. Available online from [JSTOR](#). [or Lipson/Cohen, pp. 399–407 and 415–418]

February 29 – MID-TERM EXAMINATION

Part II: International Trade

March 2 – The Economics of International Trade

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. "The Economic Case for Trade." In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 48–60.

March 5– The Economics of International Trade (cont'd)

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. "Revisions of Conventional Trade Theory." In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 206–210.

March 7, 9 –Power, Preferences, and the Structure of International Trade

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. "Embeddedness of the Economy" and "Theory of Hegemonic Stability." In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 41–5 and 93–102.

Krasner, Stephen D. 1976. "State Power and the Structure of International Trade." *World Politics* 28(3). Read pages 318–323 and 341–343. Available online from [JSTOR](#).

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. "Power and Interests in the World Trade System." In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 29–34.

March 12 – The GATT/WTO Trading System

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. "Postwar Trade Regime." In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 217–224.

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. "The World Trade Organization and the World Trade System", "The Politics of Trade Cooperation", and "Organizing Interests." In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 23–29, 34–40, 60–69, and 81–83.

[TOPICS FOR POLICY PAPER #1 (OPTIONAL) ARE DUE BY THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS PERIOD.]

March 14 – Political Cleavages, Sectoral Conflict, and Trade Preferences

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. "A Society-Centered Approach to Trade Politics." In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 73–80.

Rogowski, Ronald. 1987. "Political Cleavages and Changing Exposure to Trade." *American Political Science Review* 81(4). Read pages 1122–1127. Available online from [JSTOR](#).

March 16 – Political Cleavages, Sectoral Conflict, and Trade Preferences (cont'd)

Rogowski, Ronald. 1987. "Political Cleavages and Changing Exposure to Trade." Read pages 1132–1133. [see above]

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. "A Society-Centered Approach to Trade Politics." In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 80–92.

March 19, 21, 23 – SPRING BREAK

March 26 – Dominance, State Power, and Strategic Trade Theory

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. "Strategic Trade Theory" and "From Comparative to Competitive Advantage." In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 122–127 and 210–214.

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. "State Strength: The Political Foundation of Industrial Policy" and "Industrial Policy in High-Technology Industries." In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 101–7.

March 28 – Competitiveness, Relative Gains, and Strategic Rivalry

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. "Strategic Rivalry in Semiconductors and Commercial Aircraft." In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 107–111.

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. "Do Nations Compete with One Another?" and "Trade and the Economy." In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 180–183 and 202–206.

Mastanduno, Michael. 1991. "Do Relative Gains Matter?" *International Security* 16(1). Read pages 73–75 and 110–113. Available online from [JSTOR](#).

March 30, April 2 – Industrialization, Import Substitution, and Protectionism [Guest Lecture]

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. "The Debate over Free Trade" and "The Rise and Demise of Development Economics." In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 198–202 and 306–312.

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. "States and Industrial Policy," "Import Substitution Industrialization," and "The East Asian Model." In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 96–100, 116–137, and 139–151.

April 4 – Regionalism and Other Challenges to the GATT/WTO System

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. "Regional Trade Arrangements and the WTO." In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 40–44.

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. "New Threats to an Open Trading System." In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 224–232.

April 6 – GOOD FRIDAY

Part III: International Monetary Relations

April 9, 11 – The Economics of International Monetary Relations

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. "The Economics of the International Monetary System." In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 216–225.

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. "Embedded Technical and Political Issues" and "Devising an International Monetary System." In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 242–250.

[POLICY PAPER #1 (OPTIONAL) DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS PERIOD ON APRIL 11.]

April 13 – The Rise, Decline, and Fall of the Bretton Woods System [Guest Lecture]

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. "The Rise and Fall of the Bretton Woods System." In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 225–235.

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. "The Postwar International Monetary System" and "The End of Fixed Exchange Rates." In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 235–239.

April 16 – Post-Bretton Woods Monetary Arrangements and the Changing Role of the IMF

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. “Contemporary International Monetary Arrangements.” In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 237–258.

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. “The Financial Revolution and Monetary Affairs,” “Reform of International Monetary Affairs,” and “Unity or Fragmentation of the Monetary System?” In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 239–242 and 250–258.

[TOPICS FOR POLICY PAPER #2 (OPTIONAL) ARE DUE BY THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS PERIOD.]

April 18 – Monetary Policy and Exchange Rate Stability

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. “Monetary and Exchange-Rate Policies.” In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 260–266 and 283–303.

April 20 – Monetary Policy, Exchange Rate Stability, and Domestic Politics

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. “Society-Based Models of Monetary and Exchange-Rate Policies.” In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 266–283.

Part IV: International Finance, Investment, and Development

April 23 – Financial Crises, the Changing Role of the IMF, and the Rise of the G-20

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. “The International Financial System.” In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 261–277.

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. “A Decade of Crises.” In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 333–348.

April 25 – ACADEMIC ADVISING

April 27 – Capital Controls and Other Tools of Financial Management

Goodman, John B., and Louis W. Pauly. 1993. “The Obsolescence of Capital Controls?” *World Politics* 46(1). Read pages 50–60. Available online from [JSTOR](#).

Bhagwati, Jagdish. 1998. “The Capital Myth: The Difference between Trade in Widgets and Dollars.” *Foreign Affairs* 77(3): 7–12. Available online from [JSTOR](#).

Edwards, Sebastian. 1999. “A Capital Idea? Reconsidering a Financial Quick Fix.” *Foreign Affairs* 78(3): 18–22. Available online from [JSTOR](#).

[POLICY PAPER #2 (OPTIONAL) DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS PERIOD.]

April 30 – The Debt Crisis, IMF Conditionality, and Structural Adjustment

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. “The Debt Crisis and Structural Adjustment.” In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 313–316.

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. “Structural Adjustment and the Politics of Reform,” “The Latin American Debt Crisis,” and “The Heavily Indebted Poor Countries.” In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 151–160, 315–331, and 349–354.

May 2 – FDI and Multinational Corporations

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. “The State and the Multinationals.” In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 278–294.

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. “Multinational Corporations in the Global Economy.” In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 176–189.

[TOPICS FOR POLICY PAPER #3 (OPTIONAL) ARE DUE BY THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS PERIOD.]

May 4 – Environmental Degradation, Inequality, and the “Race to the Bottom”

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. “Globalization: Consequences and Controversies.” In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 357–381.

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. “Alleged Consequences of Economic Globalization” and “Debate over the MNC and the Nation-State.” In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 366–369 and 294–300.

May 7, 9 – Regulating Multinational Corporations

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. “The New Trade Agenda” and “The State and the Multinationals.” In *Global Political Economy*. Read pages 225–231 and 300–304.

Oatley, Thomas. 2008. “The Politics of Multinational Corporations.” In *International Political Economy*. Read pages 191–213.

May 12 – FINAL EXAMINATION [1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.]

[POLICY PAPER #3 (OPTIONAL) DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE EXAMINATION PERIOD]

GAUDEAMUS