

## Course Outline

### Part I

<b>Programme Title</b>	: All Undergraduate Programmes
<b>Programme QF Level</b>	: 5
<b>Course Title</b>	: Global Political Economy
<b>Course Code</b>	: SSC3212
<b>Department</b>	: Social Sciences and Policy Studies
<b>Credit Points</b>	: 3
<b>Contact Hours</b>	: 39
<b>Pre-requisite(s)</b>	: Nil
<b>Medium of Instruction</b>	: English
<b>Course Level</b>	: 3

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### Part II

The University's Graduate Attributes and seven Generic Intended Learning Outcomes (GILOs) represent the attributes of ideal EdUHK graduates and their expected qualities respectively. Learning outcomes work coherently at the University (GILOs), programme (Programme Intended Learning Outcomes) and course (Course Intended Learning Outcomes) levels to achieve the goal of nurturing students with important graduate attributes.

In gist, the Graduate Attributes for Sub-degree, Undergraduate, Taught Postgraduate, Professional Doctorate and Research Postgraduate students consist of the following three domains (i.e. in short "PEER & I"):

- Professional Excellence;
- Ethical Responsibility; &
- Innovation.

The descriptors under these three domains are different for the three groups of students in order to reflect the respective level of Graduate Attributes.

The seven GILOs are:

1. Problem Solving Skills
2. Critical Thinking Skills
3. Creative Thinking Skills
- 4a. Oral Communication Skills
- 4b. Written Communication Skills
5. Social Interaction Skills
6. Ethical Decision Making
7. Global Perspectives

### 1. Course Synopsis

This course offers an overview of the field of global political economy (GPE) and provides a disciplinary foundation for students to engage in further inquiries in global studies. It introduces the historical context of contemporary international political economy and the different theoretical approaches and perspectives of GPE before turning to the key issue areas, including trade, production, investment, finance, development, and resources. It transcends the divide between international and domestic levels of analysis, and analyses the roles of actors like interest groups, multinational corporations, governments, and international institutions in the evolutions of global/regional trade regimes, production and investment networks, and development institutions. It also explores the relationships between state power and globalization and possible future developments.

### 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

*Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:*

- CILO<sub>1</sub> analyze issues of international political economy from different theoretical perspectives;
- CILO<sub>2</sub> understand the interplays between the international and domestic political economic forces in different issue areas (such as trade, development and resources);
- CILO<sub>3</sub> assess the aims and performance of key global trade and financial institutions;
- CILO<sub>4</sub> conceptualize various aspects of globalization and their social, economic and environmental implications.

### 3. Content, CILOs and Teaching & Learning Activities

Course Content	CILOs	Suggested Teaching & Learning Activities
Historical context of contemporary international political economy and theoretical approaches and perspectives of GPE, including realist, liberal, Marxist; rationalist and constructivist.	<i>CILO</i> <sub>1,2,4</sub>	Textual inquiry; group discussions; case studies.
Domestic politics of international trade; evolution of international trade regime from the GATT to WTO and ongoing policy controversies (e.g. agricultural subsidies, non-tariff trade barriers).	<i>CILO</i> <sub>1,2,3</sub>	Textual inquiry; debates; case studies.
Globalization of production and investment: The roles of	<i>CILO</i> <sub>1,2,3</sub>	Textual inquiry; group discussions; case

multinationals corporations and socio-economic implications for and responses of host countries.		studies.
Governance of global financial market: Roles of the international financial institutions and contemporary challenges from developing economies and recent crises.	<i>CILO 1,2,3</i>	Textual inquiry; group discussions; case studies
Global development and inequality: Relevance of state policy choices and development institutions like the World Bank in promoting national development	<i>CILO 1,2,3,4</i>	Textual inquiry; debates; case studies
Political economy of resources and environment: Global resource depletion and competition and governing responses from firms, states and international regimes.	<i>CILO 1,2,3,4</i>	Textual inquiry; debates; case studies

#### 4. Assessment

Assessment Tasks	Weighting (%)	CILO
(a) Individual Paper (of about 1500 words) on selected topical issues	30 %	<i>CILO 1,2,3,4</i>
(b) Participation and Film Critique (of about 1000-1200 words)	30 %	<i>CILO 1,2,3,4</i>
(c) In-class test	40 %	<i>CILO 1,2,4</i>

#### 5. Use of Generative AI in Course Assessments

Please select one option only that applies to this course:

- ☐ **Not Permitted:** In this course, the use of generative AI tools is not allowed for any assessment tasks.
- ☒ **Permitted:** In this course, generative AI tools may be used in some or all assessment tasks. Instructors will provide specific instructions, including any restrictions or additional requirements (e.g., proper acknowledgment, reflective reports), during the first lesson and in relevant assessment briefs.

## 6. Required Text(s)

- Frieden, Jeffrey A., and David A. Lake. (2015). *International Political Economy: Perspectives on Global Power and Wealth* (4<sup>th</sup> ed). New York: Routledge.
- Cohn, Theodore, & Anil Hira (2020). *Global political Economy: Theory and Practice* (8<sup>th</sup> ed). New York: Routledge.

## 7. Recommended Readings

- Abdelal, Rawi, and Adam Segal (2007). "Has Globalization Passed Its Peak?" *Foreign Affairs* 86, no. 1, pp. 103-114.
- Clapp, Jennifer, and Peter Dauvergne (2005). *Paths to a Green World: the Political Economy of the Global Environment*. Cambridge: MIT Press.
- Cohen, Benjamin (2008). "The International Monetary System: Diffusion and Ambiguity." *International Affairs* 84, no. 3, pp. 455-470.
- Frieden, Jeffrey (2006). *Global Capitalism: Its Fall and Rise in the Twentieth Century*. New York: W. W. Norton.
- Frieden, Jeffrey (2009). "Global Imbalances, National Rebalancing, and the Political Economy of Recovery." Working Paper for Council on Foreign Relations.
- Gereffi, Gary, John Humphrey and Timothy Sturgeon (2005). "The Governance of Global Value Chains." *Review of International Political Economy* 12, no.1, pp. 78-104.
- Gilpin, Robert (2001). *Global Political Economy: Understanding the International Economic Order*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.
- Hatton, Timothy J. and Jeffrey G. Williamson (2008). "The Impact of Immigration: Comparing Two Global Eras." *World Development* 36, no. 3, pp. 345-361.
- Helleiner, Eric (2011). "Understanding the 2007-2008 Global Financial Crisis: Lessons for Scholars of International Political Economy." *Annual Review of Political Science* 14, pp. 67-87.
- Mahbubani, Kishore (2011). "Can Asia Re-legitimize Global Governance?" *Review of International Political Economy* 18, no. 1, pp. 131-139.
- Margulis, Matias E., Nora McKeon, and Saturnino M Borras Jr. (2013). "Land Grabbing and Global Governance: Critical Perspectives." *Globalizations* 10, no. 1, pp. 1-23.
- Narlikar, Amrta. (2010). "New Powers in the Club: The Challenges of Global Trade Governance." *International Affairs* 86, no. 3, pp. 717-728.
- Newell, Peter (2008). "The Political Economy of Global Environmental Governance." *Review of International Studies* 34, no. 3, pp. 507-529.
- Payne, Anthony (2010). "How Many Gs are there in 'Global Governance' after the Crisis? The Perspectives of the 'Marginal Majority' of the World's States." *International Affairs* 86, no. 3, pp. 729-740.
- Strange, Susan (1970). "International Economics and International Relations: a Case of Mutual Neglect." *International Affairs* 46, no. 2, pp. 304-315.
- Stiglitz, Joseph E. (2008). "Making Globalization Work." *The Economic and Social Review* 39, no. 3, pp. 171-190.
- Wade, Robert (2010). "After the Crisis: Industrial Policy and the Developmental State in Low-Income Countries." *Global Policy* 1, no. 2, pp. 150-161.
- Weiss, Linda (2005). "Global Governance, National Strategies: How Industrialized States make Room to Move under the WTO." *Review of International Political Economy* 12, no.5, pp. 723-49.

## 8. Related Web Resources

- Asia Times  
[www.atimes.com](http://www.atimes.com)  
Asian Development Bank

[www.adb.org](http://www.adb.org)  
Brookings Institution  
[www.brookings.edu](http://www.brookings.edu)  
Business Week  
<http://www.businessweek.com/>  
Council on Foreign Relations  
[www.cfr.org](http://www.cfr.org)  
Financial Times  
[www.ft.com](http://www.ft.com)  
Fung Global Institute  
[www.fungglobalinstitute.org/index.php](http://www.fungglobalinstitute.org/index.php)  
International Monetary Fund Periodicals  
<http://www.imf.org/external/pubind.htm>  
McKinsey Global Institute  
<http://www.mckinsey.com/insights/mgi>  
The Economist  
[www.economist.com](http://www.economist.com)  
The Financialist  
<http://www.thefinancialist.com/category/news/>  
The World Bank Group  
<http://www.worldbank.org/>

## 9. Related Journals

*Asian Survey.*  
*Foreign Affairs.*  
*Foreign Policy.*  
*International Organizations.*  
*International Studies Quarterly.*  
*Journal of Contemporary Asia.*  
*Journal of Environmental and Development.*  
*New Political Economy.*  
*Open Economies Review.*  
*Pacific Affairs.*  
*Pacific Review.*  
*Review of International Political Economy.*  
*Review of International Studies.*  
*Third World Quarterly.*  
*World Development.*

## 10. Academic Honesty

The University upholds the principles of honesty in all areas of academic work. We expect our students to carry out all academic activities honestly and in good faith. Please refer to the *Policy on Academic Honesty, Responsibility and Integrity* (<https://www.eduhk.hk/re/uploads/docs/000000000016336798924548BbN5>). Students should familiarize themselves with the Policy.

## 11. Others

Nil

*Updated July 2025*