INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

The purpose of this seminar is to read and discuss recent research in international political economy with an emphasis on directed empirical work. The seminar covers five types of cross-border flows and the policies that regulate them: the flow of goods (trade policy), the flow of capital (financial and exchange rate policy), the flow and location of production (foreign investment policy), the flow of people (immigration policy), and the flow of pollutants (environmental policy).

Substantively, the course as much a specialized graduate seminar as a field seminar in that the reading list is relatively concise and largely empirical. Nonetheless, it offers a broad overview of relevant approaches and empirical topics. Analytically, the seminar draws as much from modern political economy as from traditional international relations and comparative politics in that it emphasizes the relevance of economic theory as a starting point for explaining politics and policy outcomes relevant to any cross-border flow. Yet it does not stop there, but seeks to consider also the role of ideas, institutions, and bargaining power—both domestic and international—as analyzed by economists, political scientists, and sociologists.

Formal requirements, in addition to full participation in class discussion on the basis of the readings, are:

(A) one five-page paper on an assigned topic and a 15-page research proposal,

-- or --

(B) four five-page papers on assigned topics.

Written work composes 75% of the course grade. The remaining 25% are earned by seminar participation.

Some background in international relations, comparative politics, and international economics is surely helpful but not required. Students will need a basic international economics textbook, and one will be available for purchase at the Coop. All other readings will be available. All readings will also be on reserve at Littauer Library. Some readings are available online. Use links from the online syllabus at www.courses.fas.harvard.edu/~gov2755 (Note: JSTOR works with Netscape only).


2/17 INTERNATIONAL TRADE: THE DEMAND SIDE


TRADE: THE SUPPLY SIDE


TRADE: THE ROLE OF INTERSTATE BARGAINING POWER


3/10 TRADE: THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS


CAPITAL MOBILITY AND MACROECONOMIC POLICY


INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SYSTEMS


FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT


4/28  ENVIRONMENT


Dale Murphy, “Interjurisdictional Competition and Regulatory Harmonization” (ms.).

