

INTL 102: Economics, Politics and International Change: The Modern World  
Economy  
**Syllabus for Discussion Section**

Winter 2019

Sections: A07 (Monday 1-1:50am) and A08 (Monday 2-2:50pm)

Teaching Assistant Lauren Ferry

- Office: SSB 446
- Office Hours: Tuesday 12-1pm
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- Website: <https://www.laurenleeferry.com/intl-102>
  - See website for section slides, handouts, and supplementary sources

Description

This course is designed to develop an understanding of modern and historical economic trends, and more importantly to identify the causes and consequences of these economic patterns. We will use the basic tools of economics and apply them to our understanding of the international political economy in three stages: The Golden Age, the Interwar Interregnum, and Postwar Globalization.

Lectures (Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-11:50am) and course readings will provide an introduction to the material and a basis for discussion sections. Discussion will proceed with the assumption that students have already been introduced to the basic concepts. Section time will be reserved for reviewing and clarifying difficult concepts and applying economic concepts to the “big” questions of international politics that lack concrete answers. What explains differential growth rates across countries in time? What explains the distribution of wealth across and within countries? What can we do to encourage development? How does politics encourage or discourage economic growth? Students will have an opportunity to engage in discussion with their peers, applying their course knowledge to build rational and persuasive arguments.

Requirements

Section participation makes up 20% (or 20 points) of the final course grade. Section attendance will be monitored at the beginning of every class. Monday sections will meet 8 times, with 7 attendance points required to receive full credit. This means that students will get one “free” absence during the quarter. Every subsequent absence will receive a 10% deduction from the section participation grade.

To receive credit for attendance, there will be a check-in activity displayed every week as students enter class. Students will be responsible for responding to the check-in activity and turning in the activity to the instructor with their name and section. All responses recorded will receive full participation points.

If a student has an acceptable reason for missing a discussion section, arrangements can be made to attend a different section on a one-time basis. Please give the instructor advance notice so arrangements can be made with the other teaching assistants.

### Expectations

*Electronic Devices:* There will be no electronic devices allowed in section meetings. This includes, smartphones, tablets and laptops. Research links electronic devices with lower test scores and demonstrates that electronic devices have a strong propensity to distract nearby students. Research further demonstrates that taking notes by hand triggers higher-level thinking and leads to higher recall. See the instructor's website for more information on these studies.

*Holidays:* Section will not meet on university holidays. Class will be cancelled on January 16<sup>th</sup> (Martin Luther King Day) and February 20<sup>th</sup> (President's Day). Students are encouraged, but not required, to attend office hours or alternative sections during these weeks to seek extra help.