

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

Global Political Economy

Course List

<i>Code</i>	<i>Course Title</i>	<i>Unit</i>
I. M.S.Sc. Programme in Global Political Economy (Full-time and/or Part-time)		
GPE5001	Theories in Global Political Economy	3
GPE5002	Challenges to the Global System: Insecurity of the World	3
GPE5101	The Bretton Woods System & Aftermath: World Bank, IMF & WTO	3
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GPE5103	Global Civil Society and Global Governance	3
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GPE5202	Pan-Pearl and Pan-Yangtze River Delta Integration and the World	3
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Course Description

GPE5001

Theories in Global Political Economy

The course introduces the brief history of global political economy, by focusing on its actual application in the daily life. Various theories and perspectives relating to global political economy will be discussed, ranging from the initial proposition of the term by Montchretien, to the academic debate between liberalism, statism and the "third road". The course serves as the general introduction of the MGPE programme.

GPE5002

Challenges to the Global System: Insecurity of the World

The course not only discusses the measures and mechanisms of global security relating to war and peace, and the various factors contributing to the above, but also offers various explanations to contemporary insecurity of the world by talking about issues like regional conflict, nuclear proliferation, demographic expansion, trade war, north-south conflict, clash of civilizations, nationalism and terrorism.

GPE5101

The Bretton Woods System & Aftermath: World Bank, IMF & WTO

The course introduces the Bretton Woods System after WWII and its twin cornerstones

for global political economy, i.e. World Bank and International Monetary Fund. It also evaluates the respective merits and demerits of the two pillars, as well as the World Trade Organization, after the collapse of the System from different viewpoints on global integration, and discusses the correspondent anti-globalization arguments of various scholars.

GPE5102

Financial Crises and the Global Paradigm Shift

The course offers socio-political analyses on the various financial crises in contemporary era, especially that in 1997 and 2008 respectively. Focus would be placed on how the crises contributed to the paradigm shift in terms of our understanding towards global political economy, e.g., the concept of credit, loan and interventionism. Possible reforms to pre-empt future crises would also be discussed.

GPE5103

Global Civil Society and Global Governance

The course discusses the prospects of building a global civil society in a bottom-up manner, as well as institutionalizing global governance in a top-down manner, by focusing on NGOs like Oxfam and global institutions like the UN. Interactions between and integration of such bottom-up and top-down approaches in global civil society and global governance would be emphasized. The feasibility of promoting global integration in the non-financial arenas is also explored.

GPE5201

The Role of Greater China in Global Political Economy

The course introduces the role of Greater China in the contemporary political economic system. It will examine the bilateral relationship between Greater China and major powers in the world, including the US, EU, Russia and Japan, as well as cross-Strait relations. The interaction between Greater China and global governance and global market, by studying its role in global institutions like the UN, WTO and IMF, as well as that in regional organizations like the ASEAN and the SCO will be discussed. The course will also assess the prospects of China's "peaceful development" strategy.

GPE5202

Pan-Pearl and Pan-Yangtze River Delta Integration and the World

The course studies various political, social, economic and cultural issues relating to the Pan-Pearl River Delta and Pan-Yangtze River Delta integrations, in order to study the prospect of regional integration of the Greater China. Specific focus would be placed on the emergences of the integrations, their strategic objectives, the extent of collaboration between its constituent parts, their link with Taiwan, other regions in Asia and the world, as well as the limitations of such integrations.

GPE5203

Development of Western China and the "New Silk Road"

The course studies various political, social, economic and cultural issues relating to the development of China's Western region, and evaluates the prospect of regional integration along the "New Silk Road" that links Western China and Central Asia together. Specific topics include the east-west division in China, integration between Western China and Central Asia, global geopolitical interests in the area, and the challenge of religious extremism and ethnic separatism towards the regimes of the region.

GPE5301**Energy Resources and the Global Political Economic System**

The course offers a comprehensive review of the role of energy resources in the contemporary political economic system. Specific topics include the role of energy resources in global diplomacy and wars, petroleum dollar and the global economic system, relationship between energy resources and GDP, reasons for oil-rich developing countries to remain poor, the dilemma between energy development and environmental protection, as well as the prospects of developing alternative energy in the future.

GPE5302**Political Economy in the Islamic World**

The course studies issues relating to political economy of the Islamic World, in hope of dismissing various widespread misconceptions about the universal religion. Topics to be covered include the description of political economy in Koran, Islamic bonds and the Islamic credit system, the hawala banking system, governance crisis of the Islamic states, their modernization and democratization reforms, revival of Islamic radicalism, as well as their relationship between Islamic countries and the rests of the world.

GPE5303**The BRIC: Political and Economic Risks Analysis**

The course studies the political and economic risks of governing and participating in the developing markets in Brazil, Russia and India respectively. In addition to introducing the political and economic systems of the countries, the course also studies the various uncertainties underpinning the potential of the countries. The conditions of these three countries will be referenced by the corresponding features in China as the basis of comparison, in order to assess the overall prospect of the “BRIC” bloc. Dynamics between growth and stability would also be addressed.

Study Scheme

M.S.Sc. Programme in Global Political Economy (Full-time and/or Part-time)

1. Coursework Requirement

Students are required to complete a minimum of 24 units of courses for graduation.

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| (a) | Required courses:
GPE5001, 5002 | 6 units |
| (b) | Elective courses:
At least 18 units of courses to be chosen from the following:
GPE5101, 5102, 5103, 5201, 5202, 5203, 5301, 5302, 5303 | 18 units |

Total: 24 units

2. Other Requirements

- (a) IT Proficiency Test (Please refer to “Student IT Competence”).
- (b) Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.