

SYLLABUS_TUTORIAL	
Title of the course: International Political Economy	
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Study program: Undergraduate study of Political Science / Undergraduate study of Journalism	
Year of the study: -	
ECTS: 6	
Course description and course objectives:	This course, "Understanding Weaponized Interdependence in International Political Economy," delves into the complex dynamics of global trade, technological competition, and state coercion in the 21st century. It examines how global macroeconomic imbalances contribute to trade conflicts and explores the roles and preferences of key global actors like the US, China, and the EU. A significant focus is placed on technological competition, particularly in critical areas such as chips and artificial intelligence, and how these elements are increasingly weaponized within international political economy. The course will also cover the strategic importance of critical minerals in shaping global trade and technological flows. The primary objectives are to equip students with a comprehensive understanding of weaponized interdependence and its implications for international relations and economic policy. Students will learn to explain the functioning of global trade, identify key actors, understand technological competition parameters, engage in debates on the effectiveness of weaponized interdependence, and comprehend the role of critical minerals and industrial policy in the global AI race. Every week of classes will be composed of a lecture spanning 3 hours. Oral exam will be jointly agreed upon by professor and students.
Course enrolment requirements and entry competences:	No enrolment requirements are put in place. No specific entry competences are expected.
Learning outcomes (at the level of the course):	Students will be able to: 1.Explain the functioning of global trade and the emergence of trade conflicts arising from global macroeconomic imbalances; 2.Identify key global actors and their preferences in global trade (the US, China and the EU) 3.Understand key parameters of technological competition between the US and China, with special emphasis on chips and AI stack; 4.Engage in debates on the effectiveness of weaponized interdependence

	5. Learn how critical minerals shape global trade and technological flows 6. Understand how AI race is determined by both industrial policy and private initiative
Course content (weekly class schedule):	1. Introductory Lecture: Weaponization of Interdependence in the IPE 2. Global Macroeconomic Imbalances and Trade Wars in the 21st Century 3. Workshop: Navigating Trade War: EU-US Trade Talks in the Shadow of Trump's Liberation Day and China's Strategy 4. Cross-Network Weaponization in the Global Semiconductor Industry: US-China Tech War 5. Critical Minerals and the Great Power Competition 6. US-China AI Race: State Capitalism and Evolving Industrial Policy for AI
Required reading:	Farrell, H. & Newman, A. L. (2019) Weaponized Interdependence: How Global Economic Networks Shape State Coercion, <i>International Security</i>, Volume 44, Issue 1: 42–79. Chen, L. S. & Evers, M.M. (2023) "Wars without Gun Smoke": Global Supply Chains, Power Transitions, and Economic Statecraft, <i>International Security</i>, Volume 48, Issue 2: 164–204. Baldwin, R (2025) The Great Trade Hack: How Trump's trade war fails and the world moves on, CEPR Press, Paris & London. https://cepr.org/publications/books-and-reports/great-trade-hack-how-trumps-trade-war-fails-and-world-moves Zhang, K. H. (2024) Geoeconomics of US-China tech rivalry and industrial policy, <i>Asia and the Global Economy</i>, Volume 4, Issue 2, 100098 Malkin, A. & He, Tian (2023) The geoeconomics of global semiconductor value chains: extraterritoriality and the US-China technology rivalry, <i>Review of International Political Economy</i>, Volume 31, Issue 2: 674-699. Beaumier, G. & Cartwright, M. (2024) Cross-Network Weaponization in the Semiconductor Supply Chain, <i>International Studies Quarterly</i>, 68, sqae003. Zhou, J. & Manberger, A. (2024) Critical Minerals and Great Power Competition, SIPRI, https://www.sipri.org/sites/default/files/2024-10/critical_minerals.pdf. Xu, J., Li, J., Charles, V. & Zhao, X. (2024) Evolution of the rare earth trade network: A perspective of dependency and competition, <i>Geoscience Frontier</i>, Volume 15, Issue 3, 101653. Chan, K., Smith, G., Goodrich, J., DiPippo, G. & Pilz, K.P. (2025) Full Stack: China's Evolving Industrial Policy for AI, <i>Rand Corporation</i>. https://www.rand.org/pubs/perspectives/PEA4012-1.html. Woods, D. (2025) Escaping a weaponized network: China's reaction to the United States escalating technology controls, <i>Asian Review of Political Economy</i> 4:5: 2–24. Balbontin, R. (2025) Backfire: Export Controls Helped Huawei and Hurt U.S. Firms, <i>Information Technology & Innovation Foundation</i>,

	https://itif.org/publications/2025/10/27/backfire-export-controls-helped-huawei-and-hurt-us-firms/ .
Student participation and requirements:	Students are required to attend at least 3 out of 6 lectures. Written essay and oral exam at the end of semester are obligatory elements of grading.
Grading and evaluating student work in class and at the final exam:	Grading is based on four elements: 1) attendance; 2) active participation in classes; 3) written essay; 4) oral exam. Attendance carries maximum of 12 points (6 weeks x 2 points per week). Active participation carries maximum of 6 points (6 weeks x 1 point per week). Written essay totaling 2000-2500 words carries 22 points. Oral exam at the end of semester carries 20 points. In total there are 60 points, and 30 points are necessary to successfully finish the course. Students must collect at least 50% of points across all four elements of grading.
Grading scale:	Excellent (5) – 54/60 points (90%) Very good (4) – 48/60 points (80%) Good (3) – 39/60 points (65%) Satisfactory (2) – 30/60 points (50%) Unsatisfactory (1) – 29 points or fewer