Columbia University: Professional Studies
Summer Sessions 2020 Student Evaluations- Session II

Course:	INAFS6820_001_2020_2-INTLPOLITICALECONOMY: INAFS6820_001_2020_2 - INTL POLITICAL ECONOMY
Instructor:	James Bisbee *
Response Rate:	7/10 (70.00 %)

1 - What is your overall assessment of this course?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%		4.71
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%		
Good	(3)	1	14.29%		
Very Good	(4)	0	0.00%		
Excellent	(5)	6	85.71%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
7/10 (70.00%)	4.71	0.76	5.00

2 - What are the course's strengths? In what ways might it be improved? In answering this question, you might address the value of readings and assignments, the structure of the course, the contribution of the course to your knowledge of the subject matter and to the development of your analytical and reasoning skills, etc. We encourage you to use specific examples where possible.

Response Rate	7/10 (70%)

• Prof. James is very knowledgable, friendly, and engaging during zoom session. We covered many interesting topics within IPE and many of us wish we could have gotten deeper. Prof. James caters to what the students need. He invited cutting-edge IPE researcher, which makes the whole course much more relevant.

• I was slightly scared to take this class with virtually no pre-knowledge in the context of IPE and really enjoyed learning so much from our instructor over the 6-week course period. I really enjoyed the engaging classroom environment, inviting students to participate and engage with content. Readings are sometimes dry / highly theoretical but that is to be expected :)

• This course assigns great weekly readings for us, and it follows a clear logic in terms of the flow of goods, the flow of capital, and the flow of labor. We are able to learn about the recent cutting-edge research topics about IPE, and discuss with the author, i.e. the guest speakers directly. The class would be better if the instructor can add more explanations about the jargon and theories of IPE, which appears in the readings. This is because not all students are with the IPE background, meaning that it takes us more time to research and understand the key findings of those assigned papers.

• I do not have a background in political science or economics, and took this course as way to fulfill a last economics requirement before completing my graduate degree. However it ended up being the best economics course I have ever taken! Jim framed economic concepts in a clear, digestible way, and provided an engaging lecture during every session. The readings were varied and interesting, and attending class was fun. My only way that this course could be improved is if it was not on Zoom, but that's out of our control :(

• The course was very engaging and content very relevant and current. The delivery methods were very pertinent which involve a series of learning activities to stimulate interesting discussions, such as debates, students' presentations on a topic of interest, guest lectures, etc.

• Easy to understand. Making complicated Theories be easy to digest. Fostered a good environment for discussion. Prompt response. Coverage is wide and good for students who are beginners. Readings are good and no need to spend money on buying textbook ahha

• The course does very well in supporting the teaching of IPE concepts using a variety of readings, link to economics, and general development of the key intuition behind IPE (interests and institutions). Every issue that is brought up in class is always reframed in the lenses of interests and institutions, which greatly helps explain the global political phenomena observed today, and gives me practice in applying that framework to my own observations in the future. The debate we had early on in the term was very helpful in helping me develop the ability to phrase the concepts I'm learning in my own words, and get used to forming my own arguments and framing my thoughts on issues, which is a good base to further learn and engage with the class later on in the term. Especially given that this course had to be held over Zoom, the debate and discussions with other classmates helped me to get to know my classmates better and feel more engage and involved in class, which is lovely. I also greatly enjoyed the guest speakers who presented on their cutting-edge research, which helped me to gain a better appreciation of what we do know and what we still don't know, hence I am better able to appreciate the nuances of what is covered in the textbooks and understand that IPE is an inherently subjective and constantly evolving topic.

3 - Please respond the following course-related statements.

The learning goals and structure were made apparent to me.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		4.86
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Uncertain	(3)	0	0.00%		
Agree	(4)	1	14.29%		
Strongly Agree	(5)	6	85.71%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
7/10 (70.00%)	4.86	0.38	5.00

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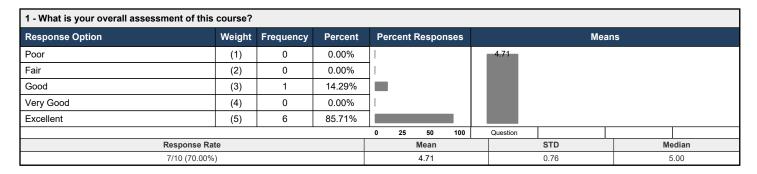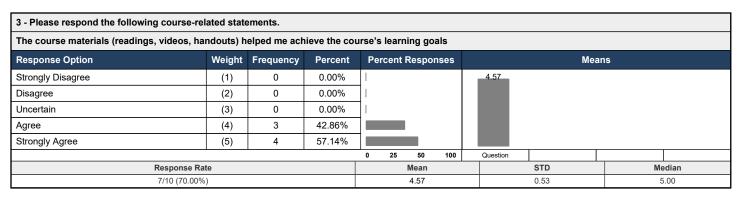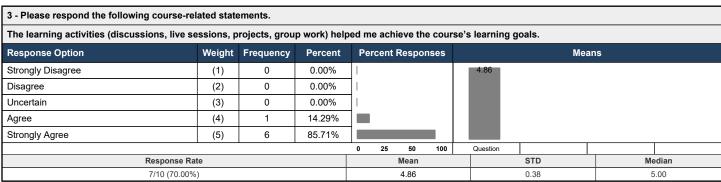
Course: INAFS6820_001_2020_2-INTLPOLITICALECONOMY: INAFS6820_001_2020_2 - INTL POLITICAL ECONOMY

Instructor: James Bisbee *

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3 - Please respond the following course-related statements.

The course materials (readings, videos, handouts) helped me achieve the course's learning goals

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		4.57
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Uncertain	(3)	0	0.00%		
Agree	(4)	3	42.86%		
Strongly Agree	(5)	4	57.14%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
7/10 (70.00%)	4.57	0.53	5.00

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3 - Please respond the following course-related statements.

The learning activities (discussions, live sessions, projects, group work) helped me achieve the course's learning goals.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		4.86
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Uncertain	(3)	0	0.00%		
Agree	(4)	1	14.29%		
Strongly Agree	(5)	6	85.71%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
7/10 (70.00%)	4.86	0.38	5.00

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3 - Please respond the following course-related statements.

Course assignments (exams, quizzes, papers) helped me to achieve the course's learning goals.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		4.71
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Uncertain	(3)	0	0.00%		
Agree	(4)	2	28.57%		
Strongly Agree	(5)	5	71.43%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
7/10 (70.00%)	4.71	0.49	5.00

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3 - Please respond the following course-related statements.

I would recommend this course to another student.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		4.86
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Uncertain	(3)	0	0.00%		
Agree	(4)	1	14.29%		
Strongly Agree	(5)	6	85.71%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
7/10 (70.00%)	4.86	0.38	5.00

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4 - What did you learn - in terms of knowledge, skills or perspectives - in this course?

Response Rate	7/10 (70%)

• I learned what happened throughout 19th and 20th century. This is an amazing course to add on top of macroeconomic class. I delved deeper into the dynamics of exchange rate, monetary policy, and capital mobility. Trade is a big chunk of the class that was also very interesting. We learned why countries trade and how institutions affect trade policies.

• Theoretical concepts and practical implications / consequences of international political economy; Developing a better intuition on everyday interaction with political decisions or monetary policy

• IPE is a new field of study for me, meaning that the majority of the theories and terms learned in this class are added into my knowledge basement.

• I learned a great deal about International Political Economy (a subject that I had no previous experience in). I found that the theories we learned in class actually applied to my personal and professional interests, and helped me to better understand international trade politics especially.

• I do feel confident in speaking, understanding, and explaining the fundamental concepts and theories underpinning International Political Economy.

• Trading is definitely a major part. And the most important outcome is to understand what the governments are doing while we are not really aware of it.

• I learnt that everything we see in the IPE space can be explained by interests and institutions at the end of the day, and that has led me to develop a rich understanding of why different countries have different outcomes. Being able to appreciate the "Why" has enabled me to view global phenomena through a more objective lens, and understand how we got where we are now. Even the next step of the question of "How" to get where is most optimal can be viewed through the same interests and institutions framework -- is there such as a thing as best outcome for all interest groups, and what are the challenges to getting there? Overall, I enjoyed how the knowledge I gained from this class has supplemented my existing economics knowledge, and helped me to use that economics knowledge to gain a new perspective in the field of politics.

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5 - How many hours a week did you devote to this course? (Note: Please include all time spent on this class outside of class time - readings, assignments, studying, etc.)

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
0-2	(1)	0	0.00%		
2-4	(2)	2	28.57%		3.14
4-6	(3)	3	42.86%		
6-8	(4)	1	14.29%		
8+	(5)	1	14.29%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
7/10 (70.00%)	3.14	1.07	3.00

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6 - What is your overall assessment of the effectiveness of the instructor?

James Bisbee

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%		5.00
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%		
Good	(3)	0	0.00%		
Very good	(4)	0	0.00%		
Excellent	(5)	7	100.00%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
7/10 (70.00%)	5.00	0.00	5.00

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7 - Please evaluate your faculty instructor. What are the instructor's strengths? In what ways might their teaching be improved? In answering this question, you might address the clarity of the lectures or presentations and their relationship to the other elements of the course, the ability of the instructor to generate enthusiasm and facilitate discussion, the quality of feedback, availability, the timeliness of the return of assignments, etc.

James Bisbee

Response Rate	7/10 (70%)

• Prof James is very constructive and open to discussion. He would not mind spending hours discussing materials outside the class content. Prof. James keeps the class alive with cold-calling and engaging in many intellectually stimulating discussions.

• Excellent teaching skills, especially in transforming sometimes dry theories from the textbook into more intuitive, relatable concepts; Great multimedia use allowing students to follow visuals by drawing together etc; Interesting and engaging lecture setup of mixing lecture times with student presentations, discussions and guest lectures sharing recent research; Extremely timely feedback on assignments and overall great availability via e-mail; Fun times with the wheel of fortune Thanks for an amazing course!

• Jim is good at coordinating the lecture and is flexible to adjust the class structure. It's great to have two guest speakers with us during this summer course to discuss their cutting-edge research topics. In terms of the feedback, I would say that both the quality and effectiveness are wonderful. In particular, Jim always encourages everyone to speak out and guide us to answer some difficult questions. However, this course is a little bit intensive with readings and exams. Overall, this class is valuable for students who are interested in exploring IPE.

• Jim is an excellent instructor! He is passionate about the subject area, clearly an expert in IPE, and seems to enjoy teaching. He cared about our understanding of the subject matter and attempted to make the most of a challenging class structure (Zoom). This class is the first time I've seen an in-class group activity on Zoom be successful (our debate). He engaged each student during every class, but not in a way that felt pressured. My only feedback is that I wish we had not changed direction in the second half of the course to focus so much on exchange rates/monetary policy, but I understand that the rest of the class appeared interested in this area. Thank you Jim for a great course!

• The professor was very encouraging and motivational. He had a very comprehensive grasp of the subject matter and delivered well. An excellent professor.

• Perfect. One of the best professors ever! Pay him moreeeeeeeee! He deserves it more and I will feel like my tuition goes to a right place haha

• James is great at framing complicated concepts with lots of linkages in a simple, accessible way. Especially for economic concepts and graphs, which can be hard to grasp for the first time, James approaches this is a very intuitive way. I appreciate that he makes sure that everyone is on the same page and understands what is going on before moving on to the the next concept, and constantly engages us to answer questions and challenge our thinking. It is not easy to hold a class that relies on discussion over Zoom, and I appreciate the effort that James put in to make this experience as seamless and as enriching as possible for all of us.

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8 - Please respond to the following instructor-related statements.

The instructor's teaching methods helped me achieve the course's learning goals.

James Bisbee

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.00
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Uncertain	(3)	0	0.00%		
Agree	(4)	0	0.00%		
Strongly agree	(5)	7	100.00%		
				0 25 50 100	Question

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
7/10 (70.00%)	5.00	0.00	5.00

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8 - Please respond to the following instructor-related statements.

The instructor was knowledgeable in the subject area.

James Bisbee

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		4.86
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Uncertain	(3)	0	0.00%		
Agree	(4)	1	14.29%		
Strongly agree	(5)	6	85.71%		
				0 25 50 100	Question

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
7/10 (70.00%)	4.86	0.38	5.00

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8 - Please respond to the following instructor-related statements.

The instructor encouraged useful participation and collaboration with fellow students through discussion and other activities.

James Bisbee

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.00
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Uncertain	(3)	0	0.00%		
Agree	(4)	0	0.00%		
Strongly agree	(5)	7	100.00%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
7/10 (70.00%)	5.00	0.00	5.00

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8 - Please respond to the following instructor-related statements.

I understood how the instructor graded my assignments.

James Bisbee

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		4.86
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Uncertain	(3)	0	0.00%		
Agree	(4)	1	14.29%		
Strongly agree	(5)	6	85.71%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
7/10 (70.00%)	4.86	0.38	5.00

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8 - Please respond to the following instructor-related statements.

The instructor provided timely and useful feedback on my assignments.

James Bisbee

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.00
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Uncertain	(3)	0	0.00%		
Agree	(4)	0	0.00%		
Strongly agree	(5)	7	100.00%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
7/10 (70.00%)	5.00	0.00	5.00

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8 - Please respond to the following instructor-related statements.

The instructor was available via email and/or office hours for one-on-one consultation.

James Bisbee

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.00
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Uncertain	(3)	0	0.00%		
Agree	(4)	0	0.00%		
Strongly agree	(5)	7	100.00%		

0 25 50 100	Question	

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
7/10 (70.00%)	5.00	0.00	5.00