Course Title:
Problems in International Relations: The Politics of the Global Financial Crisis

Course Number:
PSC 5550-490

Course Description:
The global financial crisis of 2008-9 has risen to the top of agendas across governments and international organizations worldwide. Pursuit of other critical transnational objectives, such as a global agreement to combat climate change and the UN Millenium Development Goals to attack extreme poverty have been supplanted by the need to establish global financial stability. What are the causes of the current crisis? What lessons can we extract from earlier episodes of global economic turmoil? Is there adequate global leadership to address the crisis at a time when the global distribution of power has shifted dramatically, marked by a retreat from US economic preeminence and the rise of China, India, Brazil, Russia and other developing countries?

Course Dates:
October 17-28, 2011
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: September 18, 2011

Site Director:
This is a three-credit hour online course. Please see your local Site Director or e-mail our online site coordinator at aponline@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: Mitchell P. Smith, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: Department of Political Science
University of Oklahoma
455 West Lindsey St., Rm 205
Norman, OK 73019
Telephone Number: (405) 325-2061
Fax Number: (405) 325-0718
E-mail Address: mps@ou.edu
Virtual Office Hours: Please contact professor for virtual office hour times
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students during the above listed Virtual Office Hours and other methods by arrangement.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Student materials are available at the Follett/AP Bookstore located in the Oklahoma Memorial Union, 900 Asp Ave., Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahomaunion bkstr.com or by telephone at 866-369-9713 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-5960 (outside the U.S.). E-mail orders may be sent to oklahomaunion @ bkstr.com. Representatives are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST on Friday. Summer hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. CST. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day to 866-223-5607 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-1557 (outside the U.S.).

02 Blustein, P. (2006). *And the money kept rolling in (and out): Wall Street, the IMF and the bankrupting of Argentina*. New York: PublicAffairs. ISBN 9781586483814. (Text prices are available online.)


04 Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: Access D2L at http://learn.ou.edu; enter your OU NetID (4+4) and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

Note: The Follett/AP Bookstore is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through the Follett/AP Bookstore.

**OU E-Mail:**
All official correspondence from distance learning instructors will be sent only to students’ ou.edu address.

**Online Learning Resource Center:**
The Online Learning Resource Center of the University of Oklahoma’s College of Arts and Sciences Online Program is here to serve you and assist you with any questions, problems, or concerns you may have. For assistance go to http://casweb.ou.edu/olr/ or contact us by telephone at: (405) 325-5854 or Email: casonline@ou.edu

**Assignments, Grading, and Due Dates:**

This is a 3 credit hour course. The course is divided into three segments. Each segment involves a set of readings, a writing assignment, and a discussion topic. Students will complete the assigned readings, submit their written work, and then participate in a virtual discussion on the D2L course management system during a pre-specified 72-hour window; the instructor will participate in the discussion during each period. The instructor will post each discussion prompt on D2L well in advance of the discussion window, so that students can formulate views and questions prior to each discussion.

The instructor will be available for consultation via e-mail or telephone not only during, but also in advance of the course, so that students wishing to write one or more of their papers before the beginning date of the course may do so.

**Schedule of Assignments and Discussions**

1. The Great Depression, Japan’s lost decade, and other crises
   d. First essay assignment due on Monday, October 17.
   e. Discussion window: October 17, noon (CST) to October 21, noon (CST)

2. The Impact on the Developing World and Less Developed Countries
   d. Second essay due on October 22.
   e. Discussion window: October 23, noon (CST) to October 26, noon (CST)
   a. Krugman, all.
   e. Third essay due on October 27
   f. Discussion window: October 27, noon (CST) to October 28, noon (CST)

Grading: This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

Each paper of 1500 words (approximately 6 double-spaced pages) will count for 25% of the grade. Participation will comprise the remaining 25%. The participation grade will be based on quality – not simply quantity – of contributions to the discussion. This includes early contributions to the discussion that induce productive responses and exchanges.

NOTICE: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.

**Attendance Policy:**
In addition to interaction via Desire2Learn and E-mail contact, students are required to contact the instructor via E-mail or telephone BEFORE the beginning of the course term for an initial briefing. Although physical class meetings are not part of this course, participation in all interactive, learning activities is required.

Student assignments and student/instructor communications will be conducted via Desire2Learn, although students may contact the instructor via telephone, postal mail, e-mail, or fax as needed

**Incomplete Grade Policy:**
A grade of “I” is not automatically assigned, but rather must be requested by the student by submitting to the instructor a “Petition for and Work to Remove an Incompleted Grade” form. An “I” can never be used in lieu of an “F” nor can an “I” be assigned because of excessive failure to participate in class activities.

**Technical Support Information:**
If you experience technical problems, contact Information Technology by visiting their website at: http://webapps.ou.edu/it/ or contacting them by telephone at: (405) 325-HELP (4357).

**Procedures for Completion of Course Evaluation:**
Upon completion of the course students should go to the Advanced Programs Distance Learning webpage, http://www.goou.ou.edu/distance_learn.html. Students should click on the applicable semester link under “Course Evaluations” which will direct them to the evaluation. The evaluation will take approximately five minutes to complete. Completion of the online evaluation is an important tool allowing Advanced Programs to gain information and student feedback for improvement of courses.

Your responses will be kept confidential. They will be reviewed by the department and only supplied to the professor once grades for the course have been submitted.
Important information you should know about online courses:

- To sign on to Desire2Learn (D2L), log in using your 4+4 and your OU network password (note that this is the same 4+4 and password that you use to access your OU email). Once you are logged in, please look for “My Courses,” locate your course and click on it. Remember to check your course site on D2L every day.

- Students enrolled in online courses may be required to take the CAS student orientation in Desire 2 Learn. To take the orientation, sign-on to D2L and then click on “Self Registration” at the top left corner of the page. Information about and instructions for the orientation can be found at http://casweb.ou.edu/olr/public/students/orientation.htm

- If the course is using a course website, you will find a link for the website on the first page of this syllabus. Please click on this link to start your course.

- Course Materials are available at Follett/AP Bookstore. On this syllabus you will find a link to the Follett Bookstore.

- If you need to drop or withdraw from a course, please contact your Site Director. You can drop a course without a penalty up to the add/drop date. You can drop a course after the add/drop date through the first day of class with a penalty. There will be a 25% penalty if you drop 16-29 days before the start of class, 50% penalty if you drop between 15 days before and the start of the class, or 100% penalty if you drop on the first day of class or later.

- After the class has started, you can only withdraw from the course with the professor’s permission; you will not receive a refund for your tuition. You can only drop without a penalty after the add/drop date by providing proper documentation and receiving approval from the Advanced Programs Theater Director. Provide this documentation to your Site Director.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

**Note:** Attendance/absences do not apply to online courses. However, participation in all course activities is extremely important to student success in online courses.

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy.

Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the ‘I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

**Academic Honesty**

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism,
- falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the “Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity” found at [http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity](http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity)

**Accommodation Statement**

The [College of Continuing Education](http://www.gouou.ou.edu) [Advanced Programs] is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your OU Site Director.

**Course Policies**

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course.

**Copyright**

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: [http://www.goou.ou.edu/](http://www.goou.ou.edu/)
INSTRUCTOR VITA

Mitchell P. Smith, Ph.D.

Education

- 1993 Ph.D., Politics, Princeton University
- MPA Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University
- 1982 BA, Economics, University of California, Berkeley

Current Positions

- Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and International Area Studies (SIAS) University of Oklahoma July 2004-Present
- Assistant Professor, University of Oklahoma 1999 to 2004
- Advanced Programs Professor

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

- PSC 5663 Comparative Political Analysis
- PSC 5550 Problems in International Relations: Politics of the Global Financial Crisis

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- Comparative Political Analysis
- Comparative Political Economy
- International Political Economy
- Political Economy of Industrial Democracies
- Political Culture
- West European Politics
- The European Union
- Europe in the 20th Century
- Socialism, Fascism, Capitalism
- International Relations
- The Politics of Power
- Political Economy of the Welfare State
- European Social Democracy
- Elements of Politics

Representative Publications and Presentations

- States of Liberalization: Redefining the Public Sector in Integrated Europe (State University of New York Press, 2005).
- "Europe and the German Model: Growing Tension or Symbiosis?" German Politics (December 2001).
Representative Honors and Awards Received

- 2000-01  Jean Monnet Fellowship, European University Institute, Florence, Italy
- 1997    Council for European Studies Research Planning Grant
- 1997    Fulbright Intercountry Lecture Award, University of Salamanca, Spain
- 1996-97 Fulbright Research Award in European Union Affairs, Brussels, Belgium
- 1989-90 Fulbright Fellowship, United Kingdom
- 1989    Friedrich Ebert Foundation Fellowship, Bonn, Germany