

## **International Political Economy**

<b>Institution:</b>	Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals
<b>Year:</b>	Year 2
<b>Course type:</b>	Track specific course
<b>ECTS:</b>	4

### **Brief description (including learning outcomes):**

By almost any measure, we live today in the most economically internationalized era of world history. Products from previously isolated places are now transported, and consumed worldwide, firms in traditionally sheltered sectors face unprecedented levels of international competition, and capital freely flows in massive quantities across the globe. How has this process come about? To study the economic and political underpinnings of the global economic order is precisely the main purpose of the discipline of International Political Economy.

Using analytical and methodological insights from political science and economics, the young discipline of IPE has contributed to our understanding of different dimensions of the international economy: why do some countries adopt protectionist policies whereas other embrace free trade? What explains the different regulations imposed on the flow of the different factors of production across countries and periods of time? What role do domestic and international factors play in the international monetary and financial order?

This course offers a critical introduction to some of these contributions. It is structured into three blocks. The first three sessions of the course introduce the analytical tools and the theoretical approaches used in IPE, and provide a brief overview of the recent history of the world economic order. The second block (sessions 4 through 10) analyzes in detail different dimensions of the international economic policies of countries: trade, capital flows and monetary relations, and migration. The third part of the course (sessions 11-13) looks at the consequences of increasing economic integration on several dimensions of domestic and international politics.

Students are expected, by the end of the course, to

- know the key features of the contemporary world economic order

- be familiar with the main contributions to our understanding of that economic order have been made from the field of IPE: the political economy of trade policy, the regulation of international capital flows, and the choice of monetary regimes.
- engage with the current debate on the political and economic consequences of increased levels of economic integration.