The Graduate School of Political Management

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

M.P.S. in Legislative Affairs
Spring 2019
January 14, 2019 – April 29, 2019

Course Name
LGAF 6240 LH
3 Credits

Mondays 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Hall of States

BASIC INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Instructor
Brian Pomper

Contact Information
(703) 244-5980
bpomper@akingump.com

Communication
My schedule is unpredictable. I will try to be responsive to e-mail, but if you do not get a response from me after what you think is a reasonable time, please feel free to call my cell anytime.

Blackboard Site
A Blackboard course site has been set up for this course. Each student is expected to check the site throughout the semester, as Blackboard will be the primary venue for outside classroom communications between the instructors and the students. Students can access the course site at https://blackboard.gwu.edu. Support for Blackboard is available at 202-994-4948 or helpdesk.gwu.edu.

Academic Integrity
All members of the university community are expected to exhibit honesty and competence in their academic work. Students have a special responsibility to acquaint themselves with, and make use of, all proper procedures for doing research, writing papers, and taking exams. Members of the community will be presumed to be familiar with the proper academic procedures and will be held responsible for applying them. Deliberate failure to act in accordance with such procedures will be considered academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is defined as “cheating of any kind, including misrepresenting one’s own work, taking credit for the work of others without crediting them and without appropriate authorization, and the fabrication of information.” Acts of academic dishonesty are a legal, moral, and intellectual offense against the community and will be prosecuted through the
proper university channels. The University Code of Academic Integrity can be found at http://studentconduct.gwu.edu/code-academic-integrity.

University Policy on Observance of Religious Holidays
- Students should notify faculty during the first week of the semester of their intention to be absent from class on their day(s) of religious observance.
- Faculty should extend to these students the courtesy of absence without penalty on such occasions, including permission to make up examinations.
- Faculty who intend to observe a religious holiday should arrange at the beginning of the semester to reschedule missed classes or to make other provisions for their course-related activities

Support for Students with Disabilities
GW's Disability Support Services (DSS) provides and coordinates accommodations and other services for students with a wide variety of disabilities, as well as those temporarily disabled by injury or illness. Accommodations are available through DSS to facilitate academic access for students with disabilities. Please notify your instructor if you require accommodations. Additional information is available at http://disabilitysupport.gwu.edu/.

Title IX: Confidentiality and Responsible Employee Statement
The George Washington University (GWU) and its faculty are committed to helping create a safe and open learning environment for all students. If you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. GWU strongly encourages all members of the community to take action, seek support and report incidents of sexual misconduct to the Title IX Office. Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, faculty members are required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Mental Health Services through Colonial Health (counselors are available 24/7 at 202-994-5300 or you can make an appointment to see a counselor in person.). For more information about reporting options and resources at GWU and the community, please visit https://haven.gwu.edu/.

In the Event of an Emergency or Crisis during Class
If we experience some an emergency during class time, we will try to stay at this location until we hear that we can move about safely. If we have to leave here, we will meet in the front lobby of Union Station in order to account for everyone and to make certain that everyone is safe. Please refer to Campus Advisories for the latest information on the University's operating status: http://www.campusadvisories.gwu.edu/.

Attendance Policy
Attendance is entirely up to you. You are all busy people with other obligations. You have already shown you are highly motivated by taking this class at night, so I trust you will attend whenever it’s possible for you to do so. You never need to apologize to me for failing to attend or get approval from me in advance not to attend.
Out-of-Class/ Independent Learning Expectation
Over the course of the semester, students will spend at least 2 hours (100 minutes) per week in class. Required reading for the class meetings and written response papers or projects are expected to take up, on average, 7 hours (350 minutes) per week. Over the course of the semester, students will spend 25 hours in instructional time and 87.5 hours preparing for class.

Course Evaluation
At the end of the semester, students will be given the opportunity to evaluate the course through GW’s online course evaluation system. It is very important that you take the time to complete an evaluation. Students are also encouraged to provide feedback throughout the course of the semester by contacting any/all of the following:

Dr. Steven Billet
Director, Legislative Affairs Program
s billet@gwu.edu | 202-994-1149

Dr. Jack Prostko
Associate Dean for Learning and Faculty Development
College of Professional Studies
jackp@gwu.edu | 202-994-3592

Suzanne Farrand
Director of Academic Administration, GSPM
sfarrand@gwu.edu | 202-994-9309

THE COURSE

Legislative Affairs Program Objectives
Upon completion of the Master’s degree in Legislative Affairs, students will:
1. Gain both theoretical and practical knowledge related to the U.S. Congress, general issues in the legislative arena, and how to effectively advance legislation;
2. Hone their oral and written communication skills in both theoretical and technical aspects of legislative affairs;
3. Be able to conduct cutting-edge research and engage in effective problem solving by learning critical thinking skills;
4. Learn how to work effectively with others, the value of collaborative work, and will understand ethical issues involved in the legislative arena.

Graduate School Expectations
Students enrolled in a graduate program should take their academic responsibilities seriously and be prepared to meet the following expectations:

1. Utilize effective time management skills so as to complete and submit their assignments on their required due dates and times.
2. Have attained a mastery of written communication skills including proper sentence structure, grammar, spelling, and word usage.
3. Understand how to properly format in-text citations and references for resources and information integrated into their written assignments.
Course Description and Overview
This course will teach you about the substance and politics of international trade policy. You will learn how and why trade legislation is developed and considered by the Congress and the administration. You will also be required to prepare a one-pager on a trade topic of your choice, an essential advocacy tool; give a 5-minute speech to your classmates on a different trade policy topic of your choice; and write a final paper on yet a different trade policy topic of your choice.

Course Learning Objectives
• Understand the various policies at issue in international trade.
• Become familiar with international trade agreements, rules, laws, concepts, and institutions.
• Learn about the politics of trade, and the difference between the way things are supposed to work and how they really work.

Course Requirements
• This is an introductory course. You are not expected to know anything about international law or international trade coming into this class.
• Connect the dots. See the relationships between different topics, and understand the players in developing and implementing trade policy. Don’t get hung up on minutiae.
• Ask yourself why proponents of the various rules you are studying like them, and why opponents do not.

Evaluation and Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Learning Objective(s) Addressed</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One-Pager</td>
<td>To express yourself persuasively and concisely.</td>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech</td>
<td>To practice presentation skills.</td>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>To research a trade topic in depth.</td>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Following is the grade scale for all GSPM classes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade*</th>
<th>Grading Standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| A      | 94-100
        | Your work is outstanding and ready for submission in a professional environment. Your material, effort, research, and writing demonstrate superior work. |
| A-     | 90-93
        | Represents solid work with minor errors. Overall, excellent work. |
| B+     | 87-89
        | Very good. Represents well-written material, research, and presentation, but needs some minor work. |
| B      | 83-86
        | Satisfactory work, but needs reworking and more effort. Note that although not a failing grade, at the graduate level, anything below a “B” is viewed as unacceptable. |
| B-     | 80-82
        | You’ve completed the assignment, but you are not meeting all of the requirements. |
| C+     | 77-79
        | Needs improvement in content and in effort. Shows some motivation and concern. |
| C      | 73-76
        | Needs reworking, improved effort, and additional research. Shows minimal motivation and concern. |
| C-     | 70-72 (lowest grade to pass)
        | Poor performance. Major errors, too many misspellings, problems with accuracy, etc. |
| F      | Below 70
        | Unacceptable performance, or inability to submit the assignment. |

*Please note that you may be penalized for late submission of assignment(s).


Tentative Course Calendar*
*The instructor reserves the right to alter course content and/or adjust the pace to accommodate class progress. Students are responsible for keeping up with all adjustments to the course calendar.

January 14
Week 1


Reading Due Today:

- Rothgeb Chapters 1-2, pp. 1-26;
- Destler Chapters 1-2, pp. 3-37;

January 28
Week 2


Reading Due Today:

- Rothgeb Chapters 3-9, pp. 27-250;
- Destler Chapter 3, pp. 41-63;
- U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8, Clause 3; and U.S. Constitution, Article II, Section 2, Clause 2 (both available at https://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/);

February 4
Week 3

Topic and Content Covered: Origins and history of U.S. trade policy (cont’d).

Reading Due Today:

- Destler Chapters 4-5, pp. 65-136.
February 11
Week 4


Reading Due Today:

- Destler Chapter 6, pp. 137-167;


- China Retaliates in Solar Trade War: Trade claims and anti-dumping tariffs don’t always have clear and intended consequences (available at https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/china-retaliates-in-solar-trade-war);

- *REC Silicon contemplates total shutdown of US polysilicon plant due to China duties* (available at http://www.pv-tech.org/news/rec_silicon_to_shutdown_us_polysilicon_plant_due_to_china_duties);

- Fact Sheet: Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells and Modules Global Safeguard Investigation, Apr. 26, 2017 (available at https://www.usitc.gov/press_room/news_release/201_factsheet_finalasposted.pdf);


- 2018 Special 301 Report –read the first two pages, skim the rest of the report, and pick one country to read about in full (available at https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/files/Press/Reports/2018%20Special%20301.pdf);


• Remarks by President Trump at Signing of the Memorandum Regarding the Investigation Pursuant to Section 232(B) of the Trade Expansion Act, Apr. 20, 2017 (available at https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-signing-memorandum-regarding-investigation-pursuant-section-232b-trade-expansion-act/).

**February 25**
Week 5

Trade remedies and trade enforcement – AD, CVD, 201, 232, 301, 337, and 421 (cont’d).

The Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015, Trade Promotion Authority (“Fast Track”), bilateral free trade agreements, trade adjustment assistance, labor, environment, intellectual property, investment, the anti-globalization movement, and the May 10th Agreement.

Reading Due Today:

• Destler Chapters 7-12 and Appendix A, pp. 169-342;

• Presidential Authority over Trade: Imposing Tariffs and Duties (available at https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R44707.pdf);

• Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015, Section 102 (available at https://www.congress.gov/114/plaws/publ26/PLAW-114publ26.pdf – the Act begins on the second page of this document, the first page of which is the “Defending Public Safety Employees’ Retirement Act“);

• The May 10th Agreement (professor sent via e-mail to the class along with the syllabus).
March 4
Week 6

Topic and Content Covered: The Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015, Trade Promotion Authority (“Fast Track”), bilateral free trade agreements, trade adjustment assistance, labor, environment, intellectual property, investment, the anti-globalization movement, and the May 10th Agreement (cont’d).

Reading Due Today:

- Gresser pp. 115-159;
- Economic Benefits of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Fact Sheet (available at https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/TPP-Economic-Benefits-Fact-Sheet.pdf);
- Notification Letter to Congress on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (available at https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/03202013%20TTIP%20Notification%20Letter.PDF);
- Remarks by President Obama on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (available at https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/06/17/remarks-president-obama-uk-prime-minister-cameron-european-commission-pr);
- Notification Letter to Congress on the U.S.-EU Trade Agreement (available at https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/files/20181017004903138_2.pdf);
March 18
Week 7


Reading Due Today:

- Trade and Investment Framework Agreements (available at https://ustr.gov/trade-agreements/trade-investment-framework-agreements);
- Bilateral Investment Treaties background (available at http://www.ustr.gov/trade-agreements/bilateral-investment-treaties);
- Bilateral Investment Treaties and Related Agreements (available at http://www.state.gov/e/eb/ifd/bit/index.htm);
- List of U.S. Bilateral Investment Treaties in force (available at https://www.state.gov/e/eb/ifd/bit/117402.htm);
- Statement by WTO Director General Roberto Azevêdo at the Conclusion of the 9th World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference (available at https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/spra_e/spra16_e.htm);
- December 19, 2015 Nairobi Ministerial Declaration (available at https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/minist_e/mc10_e/mindecision_e.htm);
• Statement by WTO Director General Roberto Azevêdo at the Conclusion of the 10th World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference (available at https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/spra_e/spra108_e.htm);


• Statement by WTO Director General Roberto Azevêdo at the Conclusion of the 11th World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference (available at https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/spra_e/spra209_e.htm);


• Trade in Services Agreement background (available at http://www.ustr.gov/TiSA);


March 25
Week 8

Topic and Content Covered: China; regional trade groupings.

• Gresser pp. 95-106;


• Fact Sheet: 26th U.S.–China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (available at https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/fact-sheets/2015/november/us-fact-sheet-26th-us-china-joint);

• APEC Overview (available at http://www.apec.org/About-Us/About-APEC.aspx);


• APEC – A Pretty Empty Chatter, The Economist, September 12, 2007 (available at http://www.economist.com/displaystory.cfm?story_id=9788478);

• Chairman Baucus September 5, 2008 Remarks to the National Center for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (available at http://finance.senate.gov/newsroom/chairman/release/?id=3198b693-6315-4597-9338-a7a8aaa2d696);

• ASEAN Overview (available at http://www.asean.org/asean/about-asean/overview/); USTR overview of ASEAN (available at https://ustr.gov/issue-areas/trade-organizations/association-southeast-asian-nations-asean);


April 1
Week 9

Topic and Content Covered: Customs, the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (“HTS”), and the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (“MTB”); Trade Preference Programs.

Reading Due Today:

• Print out and bring to class (1) the HTS table of contents; (2) pages 1-6 of the “General Notes; General Rules of Interpretation; General Statistical Notes,” and (3) Chapter 10 (Cereals), all available at https://hts.usitc.gov/current;

• Gresser, pp. 160-197;


• Skim a few pages of the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill Act of 2018 (available at https://www.congress.gov/115/bills/hr4318/BILLS-115hr4318enr.pdf);
• Text of a Letter from the President to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate, Dec. 22, 2017 (available at https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/text-letter-president-speaker-house-representatives-president-senate-13/);


Assignment(s) Due Today: One-pager

April 8
Week 10

Topic and Content Covered: The use of trade as a foreign policy tool, and sanctions – Iran, Burma, and Cuba; Foreign investment, export promotion and export controls. Case study – the U.S.-Colombia FTA.

Reading Due Today:

• Wyden Statement on Policy Changes to Open Relations with Cuba (available at http://www.wyden.senate.gov/news/press-releases/wyden-statement-on-policy-changes-to-open-relations-with-cuba);

• Mitch McConnell Opposes Obama on Cuba (available at http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/12/22/mitch-mcconnell-cuba_n_6369428.html);


• Myths, Chapters 1-8, pp. 1-234;

• President Bush April 7, 2008 statement on Colombia (available at http://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2008/04/20080408.html);

• Speaker Pelosi and Chairman Rangel April 7, 2008 press statement on the Colombia FTA (available at https://pelosi.house.gov/news/press-releases/pelosi-and-rangel-statement-on-administration-sending-colombia-free-trade);

April 15
Week 11

Topic and Content Covered: Guest Speaker TBD.

Reading Due Today: None.

April 22
Week 12

Topic and Content Covered: The current state of play.

Reading Due Today: Begin reading T-Shirt.

April 29
Week 13

Topic and Content Covered: Speech day.

Reading Due Today: Continue reading T-Shirt.

Assignment(s) Due Today: Be prepared to give a 5-minute speech on a trade topic of your choice.

May 1
Week 14

Topic and Content Covered: Follow the t-shirt – trade in the real world; the big look ahead.

Reading Due Today: T-Shirt vii-215.

Copyright Statement

Unless explicitly allowed by the instructor, course materials, class discussions, and examinations are created for and expected to be used by class participants only. The recording and rebroadcasting of such material, by any means, is forbidden.