

The Graduate School of Political Management

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

M.P.S. in Legislative Affairs

Spring 2017

January 23, 2017 – May 3, 2017

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>.

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 <https://disabilitysupport.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
sbillet@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.

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

Assignment	Learning Objective(s) Addressed	Due Date	Weight
One-Pager	To express yourself persuasively and concisely.	March 27	12.5%
Speech	To practice presentation skills.	April 24	12.5%
Final Paper	To research a trade topic in depth.	May 12	50%
Participation			25%
Total			100%

Following is the grade scale for all GSPM classes:

Grade	Grading Standard
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.

Required Text and Learning Materials

1. *U.S. Trade Policy: Balancing Economic Dreams and Political Realities*, by John M. Rothgeb, Jr. (2001), referred to below as “Rothgeb.”
2. *American Trade Politics*, by I.M. Destler (Fourth Edition, 2005), referred to below as “Destler.”

3. *Freedom from Want: American Liberalism and the Global Economy*, by Edward Gresser (2007), referred to below as “Gresser.”
4. *The Travels of a T-Shirt in the Global Economy: An Economist Examines the Markets, Power, and Politics of World Trade*, by Pietra Rivoli (2005), referred to below as “T-Shirt.”
5. *Why American Trade Policy Has Failed: Myths of Free Trade*, by Sherrod Brown (2006), referred to below as “Myths.”

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 23

Week 1

Topic and Content Covered: Why countries trade, and why they don’t – comparative advantage, mercantilism, and the economic principles of trade. Beginnings of the origins and history of U.S. trade policy.

Reading Due Today:

- Rothgeb Chapters 1-2, pp. 1-26;
- Destler Chapters 1-2, pp. 3-37;
- Bastiat’s “Candlemakers’ Petition” (available at <http://bastiat.org/en/petition.html>).

January 30

Week 2

Topic and Content Covered: The making of trade policy – the Congress and the Executive, and the role of the states in trade policy in our federal system. Origins and history of U.S. trade policy (cont’d).

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 <http://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/>).

February 6

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 13

Week 4

Topic and Content Covered: Origins and history of U.S. trade policy (cont'd). The agencies – USTR, Commerce, CBP, Treasury, Agriculture, ITC, OMB, and the interagency process. Trade remedies and trade enforcement – AD, CVD, 201, 301, 337, and 421.

Reading Due Today:

- Destler Chapter 6, pp. 137-167;
- *Trump taps China trade critic Navarro for new White House post* (available at <http://www.politico.com/blogs/donald-trump-administration/2016/12/peter-navarro-trade-council-232897>);
- SolarWorld press release on its antidumping case against Chinese companies (available at <http://www.solarworld-usa.com/newsroom/news-releases/news/2012/anti-dumping-duties.aspx>);
- *SolarWorld Wins Again: Big Anti-Dumping Tariffs in US-China Solar Panel Trade Case* (available at <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/SolarWorld-Wins-Again-Big-Anti-Dumping-Tariffs-in-US-China-Solar-Panel-Tra>);
- Wyden: Ensure Fair Trade for Oregon Workers and Businesses (available at <http://www.wyden.senate.gov/news/press-releases/wyden-ensure-fair-trade-for-oregon-workers-and-businesses>);
- *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);

- 2016 Special 301 Report –read the first two paragraphs on page 7, skim the rest of the report, and pick one country to read about in full (available at <https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/USTR-2016-Special-301-Report.pdf>);
- Statement by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative on the Out-of-Cycle Review of India (available at <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2014/December/Statement-by-the-Office-of-the-USTR-on-Out-of-Cycle-Review-of-India>).

February 27

Week 5

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 http://americatradepolicy.com/presidential-authority-over-trade-imposing-tariffs-and-duties/#.WGFIWH1N_0u);
- 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 will send via e-mail to the class).

March 6

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). The Trans-Pacific Partnership and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership.

Reading Due Today:

- Gresser pp. 115-159;

- Trans-Pacific Partnership: Summary of U.S. Objectives (available at <http://www.ustr.gov/tpp/Summary-of-US-objectives>);
- Economic Benefits of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Fact Sheet (available at <https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/TPP-Economic-Benefits-Fact-Sheet.pdf>);
- Frequently Asked Questions of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (available at <https://medium.com/the-trans-pacific-partnership/frequently-asked-questions-on-the-trans-pacific-partnership-eddc8d87ac73#.42yb9x310>);
- Promoting Transparency in Negotiations (available at <https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/TPP-Promoting-Transparency-in-Negotiations-Fact-Sheet.pdf>);
- Look through Public Citizen’s Global Trade Watch website at <http://www.citizen.org/trade/>, and the document “Secret TPP Text Unveiled: It’s Worse Than We Thought,” available at <http://www.citizen.org/documents/release-tpp-text-unveiled-november-2015.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>);

March 20

Week 7

Trade and Investment Framework Agreements, and Bilateral Investment Treaties. The World Trade Organization, the Doha Round, the Information Technology Agreement, and the Trade in Services Agreement.

Reading Due Today:

- Trade and Investment Framework Agreements (available at <https://ustr.gov/trade-agreements/trade-investment-framework-agreements>);
- U.S.-Angola Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (available at <http://www.ustr.gov/sites/default/files/US-Angola%20TIFA%20English.pdf>);
- 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/ifa/bit/index.htm>);

- List of U.S. Bilateral Investment Treaties in force (available at <https://www.state.gov/e/eb/afd/bit/117402.htm>);
- Model Bilateral Investment Treaty (available at <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2012/04/188199.htm>);
- *The Nine-Day Misadventure of the Most Favored Nations: How the WTO's Doha Round Negotiations Went Awry in July 2008*, by Paul Blustein (available at https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/1205_trade_blustein.pdf);
- *RIP Doha Round - Another WTO Collapse in "Make or Break" Talks Shows New Direction Is Required; Victory for Small Farmers, Workers, Civil Society And Developing Nations as WTO Expansion Bid Is Again Defeated in Geneva*, Statement of Lori Wallach, Director of Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch Division (July 29, 2008) (available at <http://www.citizen.org/pressroom/release.cfm?ID=2710>);
- 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);
- Statement of U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman following the 9th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (available at <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2013/December/Froman-statement-following-Ninth-Ministerial-Conference-WTO#>);
- 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 Ambassador Michael Froman at the Conclusion of the 10th World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference (available at <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2015/december/statement-ambassador-michael>);
- Trade in Services Agreement background (available at <http://www.ustr.gov/TiSA>).
- Environmental Goods Agreement background (available at <https://ustr.gov/trade-agreements/other-initiatives/environmental-goods-agreement>).

March 27

Week 8

Topic and Content Covered: China; regional trade groupings.

- Gresser pp. 95-106;
- U.S. and Chinese delegations conclude the 27th session of the U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (available at <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2016/november/us-and-chinese-delegations>);
- U.S. and Chinese Delegations Conclude 26th Session of the U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (available at <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2015/november/us-and-chinese-delegations>);
- 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 Bogor Goals (available at http://www.apec.org/Meeting-Papers/Leaders-Declarations/1994/~/_media/Files/LeadersDeclarations/1994/1994_LeadersDeclaration.ashx);
- 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>);
- About the OECD (available at <http://www.oecd.org/about/>) ; USTR overview of the OECD (available at <http://www.ustr.gov/trade-agreements/wto-multilateral-affairs/oecd>).

April 3
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.

Assignment(s) Due Today: One-pager

April 10

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 <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/pelosi-and-rangel-statement-on-administration-sending-colombia-free-trade-agreement-to-congress-57140752.html>);
- Speaker Pelosi April 9, 2008 press statement and April 10, 2008 floor statements on the Colombia FTA (available at <http://www.democraticleader.gov/news/press/pelosi-statement-house-removing-timetable-consideration-colombia-free-trade-agreement> and <http://www.democraticleader.gov/news/speeches/pelosi-floor-statement-colombia-free-trade-agreement>).

April 17

Week 11

Topic and Content Covered: Guest Speaker TBD.

Reading Due Today: None.

April 24

Week 12

Topic and Content Covered: The current state of play.

Reading Due Today: Begin reading T-Shirt.

May 1

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 3

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.