

POL 981: Junior Workshop Syllabus

Politics, Technology, and Globalization

Helen V. Milner

Fall 2019

Office: 2-N-6 Green Hall

E-mail: hmilner@princeton.edu

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 10:30 am-12:00 pm

Workshop: Tuesdays, 1:30-3:20 pm

Location: Robertson 006

<https://blackboard.princeton.edu/>

Course Description

The substantive focus of this course is on how politics, technological change, and globalization interact. How does politics shape the impact of technological change and globalization? How do technological change and globalization affect politics? The seminar looks at the ways in which politics interacts with economic and technological change. It focuses on both domestic and international politics. The main objective is to enable students to produce research on these topics in a rigorous and systematic fashion.

Structure

The objective of this junior workshop is to introduce students to the process of writing an academic research paper within the discipline of political science. This workshop is designed to support and guide you through the process of conducting independent research. By the end of the semester you will have produced your own research prospectus. We will meet as an organized group every other Tuesday, alternating with the required plenary precepts (see schedule at a glance below). Our workshop will be a collaborative space for critical but supportive feedback and mutual help: you will be asked to discuss your research and provide your classmates with constructive feedback on their projects. I will be available to talk to you about your project and address any obstacles. Please see me during office hours at least once during the semester.

Note on Assignments. All written assignments are due on the Sunday preceding the seminar at noon. Please email the assignment to the entire class via Blackboard (instructions will follow).

Grading Breakdown

- 30% Completion of plenary assignments

- 30% Workshop participation, including class attendance, participation and completion of assignments.
- 40% Final Research Prospectus

A passing Fall JIW grade requires the submission of all graded components (e.g., workshop, plenary, Research Prospectus). If the Research Prospectus is not completed by the Department due date, a failing Fall JIW grade will be reported to the Registrar's Office without averaging the workshop and plenary components. A student who receives an F will have the opportunity to submit a Research Prospectus with a new deadline determined by the Department in conjunction with the student's residential college dean. Once the student receives a passing grade on the Research Prospectus, a second grade (which averages all three graded components) will be submitted to the Registrar's Office. Both grades will remain on the transcript.

Important Deadlines

- Tuesday, December 3, 2019: Research Prospectus Drafts are due to advisors by 5:00 pm
- Tuesday, January 7, 2020: Final Research Prospectus due online by 4:00 pm

Note: The due date for junior independent work is established by the Office of the Dean of the College and cannot be changed by me or the Department.

Final assignments will not be accepted after this time without approval from the student's residential college dean. If the student's residential college dean does approve an extension with a late penalty in conjunction with the Director of Undergraduate Studies, then a late penalty of 1/3 of a letter grade for every 48 hours that an assignment is late will be applied, beginning at 4:00 pm on the due date.

Schedule

The Junior Workshop and Plenary Precepts will meet in alternate weeks.

Tuesday, September 17	Junior Workshop
Tuesday, September 24	Plenary Precept
Tuesday, October 1	Junior Workshop
Tuesday, October 8	Plenary Precept
Tuesday, October 15	Junior Workshop
Tuesday, October 22	Plenary Precept
Tuesday, October 29	FALL BREAK (no meeting)
Tuesday, November 5	Junior Workshop
Tuesday, November 12	Plenary Precept
Tuesday, November 19	Junior Workshop
Tuesday, November 26	Plenary Precept
Tuesday, December 3	Junior Workshop

Note on Presentations. The last two sessions of our workshop will be dedicated to project presentations. These presentations provide an important opportunity for you to get constructive feedback about your proposal from me, your preceptor, and the other workshop participants.

Please note that due to time constraints, presentations will take place over two sessions: November 19 and December 3. Sign-ups for presentation dates will be first-come, first-served. You will receive an email with a link to the sign-up sheet. There is a limit of five presenters per date.

Course Readings

Session 1: Sept. 17. Introduction and Overview.

Introduce expectations for Research Prospectus.

Introduce major themes and questions of the workshop topic.

Readings:

Taylor, Mark 2016. *The Politics of Innovation*. New York: Oxford University Press, chaps. 1 and 8 (pp. 3–24, 215–242).

Plenary Precept 1. September 24.

Introduction to political science, research process, and causality.

Session 2: October 1.

Review Plenary 1 on basic elements of research design and advise on writing short proposals.

Readings:

Herrera, Geoffrey 2006. *Technology and International Transformation*. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press. chaps. 1-2, 5. (pp.1-44, 193-206).

Assignment #1 (Due Sunday, September 29th at Noon):

Submit 1-2 paragraphs on your research topic. What is the outcome of interest (i.e., the dependent variable)? Why does it interest you? How does the outcome vary? Why is this research important?

Plenary Precept 2. October 8. (Research Design and the Experimental Method).

Session 3: October 15. Library Session. Meet in Firestone B-6-F

Short proposal due!

Library Session with Jeremy Darrington. Advice on creating annotated bibliographies.

Discuss research designs relevant to short proposals.

Reading:

Gilli, Andrea, and Mauro Gilli. 2019. "Why China Has Not Caught Up Yet: Military-Technological Superiority and the Limits of Imitation, Reverse Engineering, and Cyber Espionage." *International Security* 43 (3): 141–89.

Assignment #2 (Due Sunday, October 13th at Noon):

Prepare a 2-page memo (600-700 words) about your research topic and question. Your summary should expand upon the first assignment by outlining your research question, possible explanations for the puzzle (i.e., hypotheses and mechanisms), the existing literature, and possible research strategies for addressing your topic.

Plenary Precept 3. October 22. (Collecting and Analyzing Qualitative Data)

Tuesday, October 29 – Fall Break

Session 4: November 5.

We will discuss how to write and present a research prospectus as well as review exemplary research prospecti from past years.

Assignment #3 (Due Sunday, November 3rd at Noon):

Submit an annotated bibliography.

Plenary Precept 4. November 12. (Experiments and Surveys)

Session 5: November 19.

Review and integrate research design learning from plenary precepts with substantive questions from workshop.

Plenary Precept 5. November 26. (Statistical Analysis)

Session 6: December 3.

Discuss research prospectus drafts.

Deadline (12/3). Research Prospectus Draft due by 5:00 pm

Deadline (1/7). Final Research Prospectus due by 4:00 pm