

# DC Semester Program

## Fall 2022

### *U.S. Foreign Economic Policy*

*Taught by Professor Daniel Maliniak*

The United States remains the largest global economic and political player – U.S. policy, American firms, and American consumers play an immensely important role in determining international economic policy. The way the U.S. forms its policy combines external factors, such as trends in trade and global financial markets, with important domestic interests. This DC Semester Program focuses on what factors cause and constrain U.S. foreign economic policy from within the country and from outside our borders. Students will learn in the classroom, in conversations with policy experts, and in their internships the ways by which policymaker and interests groups try to balance the domestic and foreign consequences of economic policy to meet their goals.

#### **Washington Program Internship**

- *6 credit hours: INTR 499*

Students will have the opportunity to work at a wide variety of Washington institutions that focus on foreign economic policy including: governmental organizations like **USAID**, the **Department of State**, the **Office of the United State Trade Representative**, the **Department of Agriculture**, and the **Department of Commerce**; non-governmental organizations like the **World Bank**, the **Millennium Challenge Corporation**, the **Inter-American Development Bank**, the **International Labor Organization**; and think tanks like the **Center for Global Development**, the **Carnegie Endowment for International Peace**, the **Council for Foreign Relations**, **Brookings Institution**, and the **Heritage Foundation**. Students will be graded on academic work completed in association with their internships.

#### **U.S Foreign Economic Policy in Historical and Contemporary Perspectives**

- *4 credit hours: GOVT 391 (CLV, potentially COLL 200, COLL 400?, INRL elective, PUBP elective)*

This course focuses on the political economy of American economic policy from the 18th century to the present. Why did the North and South differ so substantially in their trade preferences before the Civil War? Why did tariffs rise under Republicans and fall under Democrats prior to WWI? How have shifts in the American economy affected the two-party system? Why have, for many years, both major American parties promoted freer trade, even when elements of both parties prefer protectionism? What can we predict for the future of American trade and financial policy in the face of a rising China? This course aims to answer these questions by looking at changes in the global economic system and the way it affects American interests through the political process.

#### **Perspectives on Contemporary Foreign Economic Policy**

- *3 credit hours: GOVT 491*

This seminar brings in speakers from a number of issue areas to discuss current issues in U.S. and global economic policymaking. We will focus on domestic issues, international and foreign actors, and actors not traditionally part of high-level economic policy conversations. Speakers will come from government and non-governmental organizations, industry and labor organizations sharing how they make decisions and think about the foreign factors as they attempt to pass laws for or against economic liberalization; foreign embassies, talking about their relations working with, or sometimes against, the U.S. in economic policy on a global level; and groups related to indigenous rights, migrants and immigrants, environment and human rights, speaking to their triumphs and struggles in working within and against U.S. foreign economic policy.