Topic 1

Bringing the Issues to Life: Constructing an IO Syllabus

Tamar Gutner, American University, FACDIS Workshop, November 2017

Some goals for an IO course

✤ Historical overview

✤ Theoretical debates

✤ Concepts

✤ Evolution of the main institutions

✤ Nuts and bolts

✤ Evaluating performance

✤ Different issues areas (development, security, trade, law)

✤ Dealing with current events

Donald J. Trump ✔
@realDonaldTrump

My statement on NATO being obsolete and disproportionately too expensive (and unfair) for the U.S. are now, finally, receiving plaudits!

10:23 AM - Mar 27, 2016

💬 2,400   ↻ 6,358   ♡ 17,994

Teaching goals

✤ Develop analytical skills

✤ Develop research and writing skills

✤ Debate

✤ Presentation skills, etc.

- ✤ How to structure the class?

- ✤ What types of material?

- ✤ What types of assignments?

Some examples: themes

✤ Bring issues to life (scholarly and policy readings).

✤ Making clear that we haven't figured it out all the answers yet.

✤ Giving examples of levels of complexity.

✤ Debate is welcome in atmosphere of respect.

✤ You don't have to agree with me (but you do have to have evidence to support your arguments).

Fall syllabus

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:
- Demonstrate through discussion, assignments, and examinations, a comprehensive understanding of the concepts and theories of governance and the role of different actors in governance.
- Master the "nuts and bolts" of the individual institutions we will study. This includes historical development, structure, governance, and range of activities.
- Provide deductive and empirical critiques of course readings. This includes mastering the art of succinctly summarizing the central argument of each reading, identifying the methodology and evidence used by the author(s) to support the argument, and evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the argument.

Pedagogical Tools: Ideas for in-class activities

✤ In-class debate (NAFTA negotiations)

✤ In-class mini research project (peacekeeping mission)

✤ Group presentations

✤ "One-Minute Paper"

✤ "Three interesting points"

✤ How to find out what they discussed?

Some outside sources

https://www.cultofpedagogy.com/speaking-listening-techniques/

https://www.facultyfocus.com