Syllabus

Multinational Corporations in World Politics - 58892

Last update 26-10-2017

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: international relations

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Thauer Christian

Coordinator Email: christian.thauer@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Sunday, 13-14.30pm

Teaching Staff:
Dr. christian thauer
Course/Module description:
Multinational Corporations (MNCs) are a dominant feature and structuring element of world politics today. This course is an introduction to the debates about MNCs in International Relations and Political Economy. We will discuss the nature, importance and emergence of MNCs, and how and why they matter and exert influence.

The seminar draws on a diverse set of literature and sources: academic books and journal articles, interviews, clips, and documentaries. I recommend in particular one book as a good introduction:


Course/Module aims:
Good knowledge of MNCs and FDI in the context of globalization today; good understanding of the theoretical approaches in the context of which these phenomena are explained; analytical skills: relating empirical observations and historical data and narratives to theoretical arguments and discussions; independent research with a variety of sources

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
Critically discuss and relate theoretical approaches to FDI and MNCs to empirical observations; conduct independent research on specific topics related to MNCs in world politics; practical application of knowledge to problem-solving from the perspective of policy makers.

Attendance requirements(%):
min. 80%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Text discussion, group work, student presentations, lectures

Course/Module Content:
The course is structured in three parts. The first part serves as an introduction to the topic of MNCs in world politics and provides an overview of the empirical phenomenon. The second part deals with the main theoretical approaches and debates to MNCs in world politics. In the third part, we will look at important
empirical cases and developments and analyze them on the basis of the various theoretical perspectives and approaches we dealt with in part two of the course before.

Required Reading:
Among others:
• A. Chan, and R.J. Ross (2003): Racing to the Bottom. Industrial Trade
• Angrist, Kugler (2007): Rural windfall or a new resource curse? Coca,
• B. Kogut and U. Zander (1993). Knowledge of the firm and the
• Bthe, T., and H. V. Milner. 2008. "The Politics of Foreign Direct
• Cohen, S. D. 2007. Multinational Corporations and Foreign Direct
• Dani Rodrik (2007): How to Save Globalization from its Cheerleaders. The
• Drori, Meyer, Hwang (2009): Global Organization: Rationalization and
• J. Dunning (1995). Reappraising the Eclectic Paradigm in an Age of
• Kahler: Collective Action and Clandestine Networks: The Case of Al Qaeda.
• Krasner, S. D., and T. Risse. 2014. "External Actors, State-Building,
• L. Mosley, S. Uno (2007). Racing to the Bottom or Climbing to the Top?
• M. Kahler (2009). Networked Politics: Agency, Power, Governance, in
• Meyer, Drori, Hwang (2006): World Society and the Proliferation of
• Nobel Prize Committee on O. Williamson, 2009:
• Q. Li, A. Resnick (2003). Reversal of Fortunes: Democratic Institutions
• S. Kobrin (2001). Sovereignty@bay: globalization, multinational
• Shelley (2005): The Unholy Trinity: Transnational Crime, Corruption, and
• T. Risse (2013). Transnational Actors and World Politics. In W.
• Thauer, Christian. The Managerial Sources of Corporate Social
• UNCTAD 2014. World Investment Report, Ch 1:
• W. Henisz (2000). The institutional environment for multinational
31:11, 1471-1502.
741-76.
and Foreign Direct Investment to Developing Countries. International Organization, 57(1): 175-211.
enterprise and the international political system.

Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 15 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 25 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 60 %
paper

Additional information:
N/A