

## DRAFT SYLLABUS

**COURSE NUMBER: ITRN 602-001 and 602-002, Fall 2008**  
**Adjunct Professor D. Gianturco**

**COURSE TITLE: International Financial Institutions and Globalization**

This course focuses on the activities and programs of financial institutions in the international sphere and examines basic concepts and products available in international financial markets. Key policy issues are discussed such as the environment, ethical questions, equity issues, national interests, the debt crisis, developing countries' needs, and the differing concerns of borrowers, lenders and investors. A variety of financial instruments and loan, guarantee and insurance programs are examined. This course provides a conceptual foundation for understanding the sources of financing for international transactions, including the possibilities and limitations of different markets and organizations.

**Class Dates:** 602-001 Mondays 7:20pm-10:00pm, 602-002 Thursdays 7:20pm-10:00pm

**Room Number:** Arlington Original Building

**Course Objectives:** This course provides an introduction to, and survey of, international financial markets and institutions, particularly those based in Washington. Aside from the basic mechanics of international finance and the institutions that support it, considerable emphasis will be placed on the policy issues surrounding international lending and investment. The objectives of the course are to familiarize students with the workings of these markets and institutions, explain the practical aspects of their operations, and explore the results of their activities in recent years.

**Instructor's Telephone Number:** 703-993-3180

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**Office Hours:** Mondays through Fridays, 8:45 am -11:45 am, and by appointment, Arlington Original Building, Room 204.

**Method of Instruction:** ITRN 602-001 and 602-002 will be taught as a survey course. Topics will be covered by the instructor through lectures accompanied by visual material. Case studies will be a regular feature of classroom instruction.

**Class Preparation Requirements:** Students are required to complete all assigned readings before each class. They should also keep abreast of current issues in international finance by reading at least one newspaper with international coverage (Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, New York Times, Financial Times). Class participation is important and students are encouraged to ask questions and participate in discussions.

**Books and Materials:**– Stephen Valdez. An Introduction to Global Financial Markets. Palgrave Macmillan  
– Ian Goldin And Kenneth Reinert. Globalization for Development. Palgrave Macmillan

**Grading:** Weights for the course grade will be as follows:  
Class Participation 33%  
Mid-Term Exam 33%  
Final Examination 33%

**Statement on Special Needs of Students:** If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through the DRC.

## **SCHEDULE**

**Session 1** Globalization of International Finance: History and Issues

**Session 2** Financial Programs and Products (Loans, Guarantees, Insurance, Stocks, Bonds, Currency Transactions)

**Session 3** Activities and Role of World Bank Group (IBRD, IDA, MIGA, IFC)

**Session 4** Activities and Role of International Monetary Fund (IMF) and National Monetary Authorities (Central Banks)

**Session 5** Activities and Role of Regional Development Banks (Inter-American, Asian, African, European Banks)

**Session 6** Activities and Role of Foreign Direct Investors and Portfolio Investors (Trends, Techniques and Issues)

**Session 7** Activities and Role of Export Credit Agencies and Investment Insurers (Eximbank, OPIC, etc.) Guest Speaker

### **Mid-Term Exam**

**Session 8** Activities and Role of Overseas Development Agencies (USAID, etc.)

**Session 9** Activities and Role of Commercial Banks

**Session 10** Activities and Role of Financial Markets (Debt, Equity and Foreign Exchange)

**Session 11** Country Risk Analysis by International Financial Institutions

**Session 12** Corporate Risk Analysis by International Financial Institutions

**Session 13** Project Risk Analysis by International Financial Institutions

**Session 14** Policy Concerns of International Financial Institutions

### **Final Exam**

**SPP Policy on Plagiarism:** The profession of scholarship and the intellectual life of a university as well as the field of public policy depend fundamentally on a foundation of trust. Thus any act of plagiarism strikes at the heart of the meaning of the university and the purpose of the School of Public Policy. It constitutes a serious breach of professional ethics and it is unacceptable. Plagiarism is the use of another's words or ideas presented as one's own. It includes, among other things, the use of specific words, ideas, or frameworks that are the product of another's work. Honesty and thoroughness in citing sources is essential to professional accountability and personal responsibility. Appropriate citation is necessary so that arguments, evidence, and claims can be critically examined. Plagiarism is wrong because of the injustice it does to the person whose ideas are stolen. But it is also wrong because it constitutes lying to one's professional colleagues. From a prudential perspective, it is shortsighted and self-defeating and it can ruin a professional career. The faculty of the School of Public Policy takes plagiarism seriously and has adopted a zero tolerance policy. Any plagiarized assignment will receive an automatic grade of "F". This may lead to failure for the course, resulting in dismissal from the University. This dismissal will be noted on the student's transcript. For foreign students who are on a university sponsored visa (eg. F-1, J-1 or J-2), dismissal also results in the revocation of their visa. To help enforce the SPP policy on plagiarism, all written work submitted in partial fulfillment of course or degree requirements must be in electronic form so that it can be compared with electronic databases, as well as submitted to commercial services to which the School subscribes. Faculty may at any time submit student's work without prior permission from the student. This policy on plagiarism is supplementary to the George Mason University Honor Code; it is not intended to replace or substitute for it.