**A Collaborative (Pilot) Course on Economic Diplomacy**

**Instructor: Ahn, JaeBin**

**Class hours: Monday 14:00-17:00 (140-1, #202)[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**Office hours: by appointment only (140-1; #602)**

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**Course Description:**

**This is open to GSIS students only.**

This is a collaborative course with the OECD, HEC Montreal, Sciences Po, and University of California San Diego. As a part of the course, students are expected to gain a theoretical and practical understanding of the principles of economic diplomacy. The final simulation/case study exercise will require students to collaborate with their colleagues in their partner universities via online. On successful completion of the course, a certificate will be issued by the OECD to participating students. *In normal circumstances, the OECD has agreed to provide a limited number of internship opportunities to the best performing student(s) in the following summer*.[[2]](#footnote-2)

**Learning Objectives:**

* Theoretical understanding of economic diplomacy and its complexities
* Acquiring a multi-disciplinary and multi-layered mind-set through theoretical learning and practical case studies
* Endowing students with a holistic approach to policy analysis and their implications
* Understanding the importance of cultural awareness and the role of technology in global negotiations through working in transnational teams

**Course Structure:**

The course consists of three blocks. In the first block, students will be introduced to the basic concepts of economic diplomacy. In the second block, students will discuss a various set of particular topics chosen by the partner universities. In the third block, students are expected to perform a real-time simulation exercise provided by the OECD whereby students are grouped in transnational teams, working across time-zones and cultures, followed by in-class presentation of the final exercise results.

**Prerequisite Course:**

Although there are no official course requirements, it is highly recommended to have taken “International Economic Relations” (875.512) in advance or have a minimum knowledge of principles of international economics and international trade

**Materials and Reference:**

Students are required to read materials posted or distributed in class.

**Evaluation Method:**

* Class attendance: 10%
* Class participation and discussion: 20%
* Simulation/case study presentation by group: 40%
* Final individual writing assignment: 30%

**Lecture Plan (very tentative; subject to changes anytime in accordance with partner universities’ schedule):**

Week 1 (Sep 7): Introduction and overview

Week 2 (Sep 14): Concepts of economic diplomacy (I): What is Economic Diplomacy?

Week 3 (Sep 21): Concepts of economic diplomacy (II): The Three Tensions of Economic Diplomacy

Week 4 (Sep 28): Concepts of economic diplomacy (III): The Formats of Economic Diplomacy

Week 5 (Oct 5): Economics of bargaining and negotiation (I)

Week 6 (Oct 12): Economics of bargaining and negotiation (II)

Week 7 (Oct 19): Economics of bargaining and negotiation (III)

Week 8 (Oct 26): Special guest lecture on “Economic Diplomacy in Practice”

Week 10 (Nov 2): Cases in economic diplomacy (I): Chinese Industrial Policy and the World Trading System (by Stephan Haggard, GPS, UCSD)

Week 10 (Nov 9): Cases in economic diplomacy (II): Global Value Chains and Economic Diplomacy (by Ari Van-Assche, HEC Montreal)

Week 11 (Nov 16): Cases in economic diplomacy (III): International Capital Standards Negotiations at the Basel Committee (by Sir Howard Davies, PSIA, Sciences Po)

Week 12 (Nov 23): Cases in economic diplomacy (IV): The Role of Economic Cooperation in Regional Peacemaking—the Case of Kaesong Industrial Park in Korea (by JaeBin Ahn, GSIS, SNU)

Week 13 (Nov 30): **Final group presentation of simulation outcomes**

Week 14 (Dec 7): **Final essay assignment (take-home)**

Timeline of practice simulation exercise

* By September: transnational group/team will be formed (centrally assigned)
* By October: the topic and the instructions will be disclosed to the teams.
* Final written brief, slides, and presentation due in the week of Nov.23.
1. It is highly likely that this will be an online course via Zoom throughout the semester possibly with a couple of exceptional weeks. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. In the case of a pilot course opened in 2019 Fall, the OECD had to stop the interview process in March, 2020 due to the closure of the OECD office amid COVID-19 pandemic crisis. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)