**[M2190.001100] Economic Diplomacy: Theory and Practice[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**Instructor: Ahn, JaeBin**

**Class hours: Tuesdays 09:30-12:30 (via Zoom)[[2]](#footnote-2)**

**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. *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*.[[3]](#footnote-3)

**Keywords:** Economic diplomacy, negotiation, policy coordination, trade policy, industrial policy.

**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:**

Recommended readings

*[The New Economic Diplomacy (4](https://www.amazon.com/New-Economic-Diplomacy-Global-Governance/dp/1472483197)[th](https://www.amazon.com/New-Economic-Diplomacy-Global-Governance/dp/1472483197) [edition) by Nicholas Bayne and Stephen Woolcock](https://www.amazon.com/New-Economic-Diplomacy-Global-Governance/dp/1472483197)*

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): Motivation and background information I: current issues in international trade

Week 3 (Sep 21): No class (National Holiday)

Week 4 (Sep 28): Motivation and background information II: current issues in international finance

Week 5 (Oct 5): Motivation and background information III: current issues in international finance

Week 6 (Oct 12): Concepts of economic diplomacy (I): What is Economic Diplomacy?

Week 7 (Oct 19): Concepts of economic diplomacy (II): The Three Tensions of Economic Diplomacy and The Formats of Economic Diplomacy

Week 8 (Oct 26): Economics of bargaining and negotiation: Game theory and applications

Week 9 (Nov 2): Special guest lecture I (Guest lecturer: TBA)

Week 10 (Nov 9): Special guest lecture II (Guest lecturer: TBA)

Week 11 (Nov 16): Cases in economic diplomacy (I): Global Value Chains and Economic Diplomacy (by Ari Van-Assche, HEC Montreal)

Week 12 (Nov 23): Cases in economic diplomacy (II): International Capital Standards Negotiations at the Basel Committee (by Sir Howard Davies, PSIA, Sciences Po)

Week 13 (Nov 30): Cases in economic diplomacy (III): Chinese Industrial Policy and the World Trading System (by Stephan Haggard, GPS, UCSD)

Week 14 (Dec 7): 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 15 (Dec 14): **Final group presentation of simulation outcomes**

Timeline of practice simulation exercise

* By October: transnational team (TT)/ position team (PT) will be formed (centrally assigned) and the topic and the instructions will be disclosed to the teams.
* Joint deliverable by each TT due on Nov.30.
* Final written brief and slides by each PT due on Dec.14.
* Presentation by each PT on Dec.14

1. Last revised on Aug.2, 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 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-2)
3. In the past two years, the OECD had to stop the interview process due to the closure of the OECD office amid COVID-19 pandemic crisis. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)