Research Project in International Cooperation:
Economic Statecraft and National Security
Fall 2025

Instructor: Jisoo Hyun (jisoo28@snu.ac.kr)
Meeting Times: Tuesday 2:00 to 4:50 pm
Location: Building 140, Room 103
Office Hours: by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Economic statecraft—the strategic use of trade, finance, investment, and regulation to advance national security goals—has moved from the margins of foreign-policy analysis to center stage. Whether through sanctions on Russia, semiconductor export restrictions aimed at China, or supply-chain "friend-shoring," states now generally rely more on economic leverage than on direct military force. This course first establishes core concepts and analytical frameworks, then traces the historical milestones that transformed tariffs, foreign aid, and technology controls into structured tools of state power. We conclude with a close study of the contemporary toolkit—sanctions, advanced-tech controls, financial-network coercion, positive inducements, and industrial policy—probing the political and institutional conditions that determine whether each tool succeeds, fails, or reshapes the international order. By integrating theory, historical evidence, and contemporary casework, students will trace the evolution of economic statecraft, diagnose its effectiveness across political and institutional settings, and formulate evidence-based policy recommendations for future security challenges.

COURSE SCHEDULE (ABBREVIATED)

W1 (9/2)   An Introduction to the Course

PART I. UNDERSTANDING ECONOMIC STATECRAFT
W2 (9/9)   Concepts, Boundaries, and Definitions
W3 (9/16)   Instruments and Mechanisms
W4 (9/23)   Power and Constraints

PART II. TRACING ECONOMIC STATECRAFT
W5 (9/30)   Modern Origins, 1914-1945
W6 (10/7)   No Class (Chuseok Holiday)
W7 (10/14)   Early Cold War, 1945-1973
W8 (10/21)   Late Cold War, 1973-1991
W9 (10/28)   Post-Cold War Globalization, 1991-2008
W10 (11/4)   Research Proposal Workshop

PART III. APPLYING ECONOMIC STATECRAFT
W11 (11/11)   Sanctions and Embargoes
W12 (11/18)   Controlling Critical Technologies
W13 (11/25)   Financial Statecraft
W14 (12/2)   Positive Inducements and Strategic Industrial Policies
W15 (12/9)   Research Paper Presentation
W16 (12/16)   Final Research Paper Submission – Due by 11:59PM

**More details will be provided in the first week of class

PREREQUISITES & COURSE FORMAT

Although there are no prerequisites to attend the course, students are expected to be conversant with the major approaches and theories of International Relations. The format of this course will be based on a combination of lecture and seminar, but with a heavy focus on the latter. Thus, each student is expected to complete all the required reading each week and to contribute to the class discussion.

GRADING & ASSIGNMENTS

Grades will be based on weekly attendance and participation (25%), discussion memos (20%), presentation & discussion leading (20%), and final research paper (35%).

◦ **Attendance and class participation** (25%):

Students are expected to come to every class session. Three lateness or early departures (without prior notice) will be counted as one absence. More than three absences without valid excuse will lead to a failure of the course. Absences will be excused only in case of unavoidable professional conflicts (e.g. conference attendance, job interviews), medical or personal emergencies. Students are expected to make such issues known to the instructor as early as possible. Attendance will be taken at the start of class. Showing up 30 minutes or later to a class will count as an absence. In regards to class participation, students are expected to demonstrate their engagement with the readings by actively participating in class discussions. Students are strongly encouraged to share their thoughts and respond to each other's comments in a respectful way. I will keep notes on the quality and quantity of your participation.

◦ **Discussion memos** (20%):

To enhance your engagement with the readings and help you prepare for active participation in class discussions, you are expected to submit **a one-page memo on a weekly basis to the course eTL—a total of 9 memos over the semester.** Although memos are assigned from Week 2 onward (11 weeks in total), you are exempt from submitting two: one on the week of your presentation and one additional week of your choice. You are welcome to comment on anything in the readings that interested, inspired, confused, or frustrated you. However, the memo should clearly identify key points that you consider to be the most important arguments from the reading assignments of the given week. The memo should also present 2-3 discussion questions and/or brief critiques based on the readings. It is highly recommended that you elaborate on why you are posing these questions, rather than simply listing them.

◦ **Discussion leading** (20%):

This class requires each student (or a group of students, depending on the course enrollment) to choose a week to be a "discussion leader." Each discussion leader is expected to deliver a presentation (approx. 20-30 min.) and to facilitate class discussion by proposing 3-4 discussion points. The presentation should summarize the core arguments of the readings and provide a critical evaluation. **PPT slides for the presentation should be sent to the instructor via email (jisoo28@snu.ac.kr)** *by 2:00 PM Monday, a day before the presentation.*

If you sign up as a discussion leader more than once, you will receive extra credit equivalent to 3% of your final grade. Discussion leader groups can have a maximum of two or three students depending on the final number of students. No show-up for the week responsible for leading class discussion will result in zero points for this assignment.

- **Final Research Paper** (35%): More details will be given in class

  Research proposal (5%)
  - Your proposal should be 1-2 pages (no longer than 1,000 words) + annotated bibliography (separate, 1-2 pages)
  - A 5-min oral pitch on Week 10

  Research paper (30%)
  - Your final research paper should be roughly 12-13 double-spaced pages (3,000 words) in 12-font Times New Roman or a similar style with proper academic citations—use in-text references with reference at the end of the document (references are not included in page count), any major style (e.g., APA) can be used for refences.
  - A 10 or 15-min presentation on Week 15 (depending on the number of students)
  - Note that plagiarism will result in immediate class failure and an official report to the Graduate School of International Studies.

  ※ **Note:** Students are allowed to explore and utilize AI writing tools. HOWEVER, students are NOT allowed to submit any class assignments (including memos, proposal, and paper) created or substantially written by AI tools. Any writing assignments created or substantially supported by AI tools will be considered as plagiarism in this class.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES

Ethics
Ethical violations including, but not limited to, plagiarism, reuse of assignments, improper use of the Internet, forgery and falsification, and academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will result in class failure (F) and an official report to the Graduate School of International Studies. Document your sources. If you take text or an idea from another, cite your source material with a proper footnote and/or bibliographic entry. Citation is not only the proper thing to do, but it also establishes your position in an intellectual conversation that builds on the work of others. Unacknowledged use of another's work can result in allegations of misuse of sources and/or plagiarism. Academic honesty is expected.

Laptop and Cell Phone Policy
Laptops and other electronic devices may be used for NOTE-TAKING ONLY. Any course-unrelated activities such as web surfing, emailing, and online chatting during the class are NOT allowed. No cell phone use (including phone calls, texting messages, recording, and/or phone applications) will be permitted during the class.