

INTA 4803
Financial Markets

Fall 2026

Instructor Information

Instructor: Carly Potz-Nielsen

Email: cpotznielsen3@gmail.com

General Course Information

Description

This course examines politics and economics of global financial integration. We will cover topics ranging from the causes and consequences of foreign direct investment, exchange-rate regimes, exchange-rate politics, financial crises, regulatory harmonization, and financial statecraft in the era of financial integration. Students will learn how to approach questions using a political economy framework, to evaluate generalized explanations and propositions with empirical evidence, and to become familiar with the political and economic conditions to understand the international financial environment of countries.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand core concepts in international financial political economy
2. Analyze global financial issues using theory and evidence
3. Evaluate policy trade-offs in exchange rates, crises, and regulation
4. Assess the political and distributional consequences of financial globalization

Course materials

All readings will be available online via Canvas or the Georgia Tech Library. Throughout the seminar, the instructor may supplement required readings with news articles and other short texts.

Grading Policy:

Your final grade will be assigned as a letter grade according to the following scale:

Grade	Points	Descriptors
A	> 900	Exceptionally good performance demonstrating a superior understanding of the subject matter, a foundation of extensive knowledge, and a skillful use of concepts and/or materials.

B	800-899	Good performance demonstrating capacity to use the appropriate concepts, a good understanding of the subject matter, and an ability to handle the problems and materials encountered in the subject.
C	700-799	Adequate performance demonstrating an adequate understanding of the subject matter, an ability to handle relatively simple problems.
D	600-699	Minimally acceptable performance demonstrating at least partial familiarity with the subject matter and some capacity to deal with relatively simple problems, but also demonstrating serious deficiencies.
F	< 600	Did not demonstrate familiarity with the subject matter, nor the capacity to deal with simple problems in a manner recognizable to the consensus of mainstream academic practitioners within the field.

Final Grade Scale:

Your final grade will be assigned as a letter grade according to the following scale:

A	900 - 1000 points
B	800 - 899 points
C	700 - 799 points
D	600 - 699 points
F	0 - 599 points

The weights of the assignments are built into their point totals. This means that to calculate your grade you can simply add up the points you earned on the assignment and divide by the total potential points up to that point in the semester.

Assignments

Unless otherwise specified, all assignments should be submitted via Canvas. Deadlines are in EST.

Assignment	Points
Class Participation	450
Project Check-Ins (4 total)	200
Final Project (Paper & Presentation/Workshop)	350

Class Participation (450pts)

The concepts covered in this course build upon and speak to each other. For example, topics covered in week 10 will reference topics addressed at the beginning of the semester. Successful students will therefore regularly ask questions and engage with the course material. It should be noted that engaging with the course material is not equivalent to merely attending class. With the course run as a small discussion-based seminar, participation in the discussion is the primary vehicle

for weekly engagement with the readings. A student's participation grade is based on the quality and consistency of participation in discussion and class activities.

Final Project (350 points): Paper and In-Class Presentation/Workshop

The final project consists of a paper (250 points) and an in-class presentation/workshop (100 points) in which students present their project to the class for discussion and feedback. Further detail on paper length, format, and the presentation/workshop structure will be provided on Canvas.

Project Check-Ins (200 points; 4 at 50 points each)

Throughout the semester, students will submit four check-ins, each a draft component of the semester-long project. Check-ins are graded on effort, completeness, and engagement with instructor feedback rather than on polish. Each submission should build on the feedback received on the one before it and lead toward the final project. Specific due dates and prompts for each check-in will be provided on Canvas.

Course Policies

Attendance and/or Participation

Students are expected to attend and participate in all class meetings and attendance will be tracked via in-class activities. It should be noted that mere attendance is not equal to participation; in order to earn full credit, students should be actively engaging with the material, their classmates' work, in-class drafting activities, etc.

Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. Review [Georgia Tech's Honor Code](#) and the student [Code of Conduct](#).

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarism on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, [contact the Office of Disability Services](#) (404-894-2563) as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. [The Student-Faculty Expectations](#) articulate some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of

you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

Use of Generative AI

As the goal of this course is for students to understand and participate in the process of original social science research, generative AI usage policy is adapted from leading peer-reviewed journals relevant in this field. (This policy language is closely adapted from the *American Journal of Political Science*.)

Students cannot use generative AI to draft submissions or substantial elements of submissions. For example, students cannot have generative AI conduct the literature review on their behalf or ask generative AI to draft annotated bibliography entries. If you are uncertain whether a particular application of generative AI exceeds permitted usage, you must clarify the permissibility in advance of submission.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure the veracity and validity of any elements produced or influenced by generative AI. It is also the student's responsibility to ensure that any generative AI usage falls within permissible use cases.

When they submit each paper component and the final research paper or design, students must disclose the following:

1. What (if anything) they use AI for. Students must describe the specific tasks for which AI tools were employed, including tasks such as data collection and management, copyediting, code generation, data processing, literature search, research design, and statistical analyses. Students should indicate whether the usage directly shaped the paper's substantive contents (e.g., collecting data, generating analysis code) and tasks that indirectly supported the writing process (e.g., proofreading or formatting).
2. Which AI tools they used. Students must identify each tool by name (e.g., "Claude Opus 4, Anthropic"); in case they are unable to identify the exact version, students should report the dates during which they used the AI tool. If the student used multiple tools, they must identify which tools they used for which specific tasks.
3. How they maintained human oversight. Students must describe the degree of human review applied to AI outputs, indicating whether they reviewed, edited, or approved AI-generated content.

This disclosure should appear prior to the bibliography section in any relevant submission. If you did not use generative AI, you should write, "I did not use generative artificial intelligence at any stage in the development of my submission." This disclosure both ensures the transparency and reproducibility of scientific research and attributes appropriate credit for scientific outputs.

In case students fail to faithfully disclose generative AI usage or use generative AI beyond the boundaries permitted here, the usage shall qualify as a violation of academic integrity. Students are

encouraged to maintain detailed logs of generative AI usage (e.g., preserve drafts both before and after using generative AI for copyediting, saving genAI transcripts) to demonstrate that violations of academic integrity did not occur; in case of suspicion or when need for clarification arises, instructors and other relevant assessors may ask students to provide such detailed evidence of AI usage. The instructor will interpret failure to provide such evidence as indication that a violation occurred.

Extensions & Late Assignments

There is a penalty of 10 percentage points for every 24hr period an assignment is late (<24hrs: -10%points; 24-48hrs: -20%points, and so on.) However, late penalties will be waived for homeworks - *no questions asked* - if the student emails the instructor before the original deadline and requests an alternative date and time for the deadline. Extensions on extensions are not allowed. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of outstanding assignments.