

# Add Course Request

Submitted on: 2012-04-18 14:39:18

1. COURSE SUBJECT	HRTS/POLS
2. COURSE NUMBER (OR PROPOSED NUMBER)	3256W
3. COURSE TITLE	POLITICS AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN GLOBAL SUPPLY CH
4. INITIATING DEPARTMENT or UNIT	POLS and HRTS
5. NAME OF SUBMITTER	Shareen Hertel
6. PHONE of SUBMITTER	Phone: +1 860 486 4129
7. EMAIL of SUBMITTER	Email: shareen.hertel@uconn.edu
8. CONTACT PERSON	Matthew Singer
9. UNIT NUMBER of CONTACT PERSON (U-BOX)	1024
10. PHONE of contact person	Phone: 860 486 2615
11. EMAIL of of contact person	Email: matthew.m.singer@uconn.edu
12. Departmental Approval Date	04/02/2012
13. School/College Approval Date	04/10/2012
14. Names and Dates of additional Department and School/College approvals	04/06/2012
15. Proposed Implementation Date	Term: Fall, Year: 2012
16. Offered before next printed catalog is distributed?	No
17. General Education Content Area	
18. General Education Skill Code (W/Q). Any non-W section?	W Yes
19. Terms Offered	Semester: Fall Spring Year:
20. Sections	Sections Taught: 2
21. Student Number	Students/Sections: 19
22. Clarification: FOR THE W CLASS, SECTIONS ARE DIVIDED AS FOLLOWS: POLS section - 9 students HRTS section - 10 students * These sections will be taught simultaneously; the seat division into sections is only for purposes of equitable division between cross-listed	

departments. NUMBER OF STUDENTS FOR NON-W VARIANT: 45 (i.e., seats to be divided in half between POLS and HRTS).	
23. <b>Number of Credits</b>	3 if VAR Min: Max: credits each term
<b>24. INSTRUCTIONAL PATTERN</b> Either MWF for 50 minutes each session; OR T/Th for 75 minutes per session.	
25. Will this course be taught in a language other than English?	No If yes, then name the language:
26. Please list any prerequisites, recommended preparation or suggested preparation: Although there are no formal pre-requisites for this course, students should have a solid background in political science. POLS 1202 and POLS 1402 recommended but not required. Background in human rights is also helpful; POLS/HRTS 3212 is recommended but not required.	
27. Is Instructor, Dept. Head or Unit <b>Consent Required?</b>	No
28. Permissions and Exclusions:  Open only to Juniors or higher Open only to Majors	
29. Is this course <b>repeatable for credit?</b>	No If yes, total credits allowed: Allow multiple enrollments in same term?
30. <b>Grading Basis</b>	Graded
31. If satisfactory/unsatisfactory grading is proposed, please provide <b>rationale</b> :	
32. Will the course or any sections of the course be taught as Honors? AsHonors	
33. Additional Details:	
34. Special Attributes:	
35. <b>REGIONAL CAMPUS AVAILABILITY:</b> Storrs only.	
36. PROVIDE THE PROPOSED TITLE AND COMPLETE CATALOG COPY:  POLS/HRTS 3257W  POLITICS AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS 3 credits.  This course explores the politics and human rights implications of regulating contemporary global supply chains. Topics covered include: official regulatory frameworks; non-regulatory approaches to rule-making (such as voluntary corporate codes of conduct and industry standards); and social responses to the dilemmas of “ethical” sourcing of goods and services.	

Open to Political Science majors or Human Rights Majors/Minors; Juniors and above.

**37. RATIONALE FOR ACTION REQUESTED**

a) This new course adds to the content of both Political Science & Human Rights course offerings. It will enhance, in particular, in the development of the newly created Human Rights Major by expanding the offerings on labor rights.

b) Not applicable

c) The enrollment restrictions (i.e., to Political Science majors and to Human Rights Majors/Minors at the junior or above level) are intended to ensure that all students in this highly interdisciplinary, upper-level undergraduate seminar have the capacity to engage in focused discussion and specialized writing on the topic.

d) Effect on other departments: none.

e) Amount of overlap with existing courses: none.

f) Other departments consulted: ANTH, SOC, ECON, HRTS, Public Policy

g) Effects on regional campuses: none.

h) Specific costs approved by dean: none.

i) Rationale for cross-listing:

This course contributes both to the offerings of the Comparative Politics subfield within Political Science and to the Human Rights Major/Minor, specifically in the area of labor rights. The faculty member who has developed the course is a joint-appointee of both units.

j) Rationale for offering as experimental course: none.

**38. SYLLABUS:**

Online URL: ( [https://web2.uconn.edu/senateform/request/course\\_uploads/shh04003-1334774104-Pol & Human rights in Global Supply Chains - syllabus.doc](https://web2.uconn.edu/senateform/request/course_uploads/shh04003-1334774104-Pol & Human rights in Global Supply Chains - syllabus.doc) )

**39. Course Information: ALL General Education courses, including W and Q courses, MUST answer this question**

a. GOALS & LEARNING OBJECTIVES: The aim of this course is to expose students to the interdisciplinary literature on supply chain management in globalized production, along with more general literatures on comparative political economy and labor rights. Students will gain mastery of scholarly writing by producing a 20-page term paper on a specific good or service, tracing its production from point of origin to point of consumption. In so doing, they will learn to identify regulatory frameworks at the national, regional, and international level, along with relevant institutional structures. They will also engage in a process of critically analyzing the human rights implications of globalized production in multiple sectors.

b. **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** Students are required to read roughly 100 pages of scholarly material per week; the syllabus contains a mixture of refereed journal articles, excerpts from books, online content, and at least two books assigned to be read entirely. Students are also required to conduct independent research and to produce a 20 page term paper, drawing on at least 20 sources apart from those included in the syllabus. Course participation is also graded: students serve as discussion leaders (i.e., one pair of students per course session) over the course of the semester; all students must participate in a "mini-conference" organized over the final week of class; and there are at least two class sessions devoted to peer review of the evolving research papers.

c. **MAJOR THEMES, ETC.** The course covers the theory of global supply chain evolution and management. It also covers comparative political economy; human rights law and institutions related to labor rights; and social movement theory in conjunction with varied forms of social response to labor rights abuse (e.g., consumer boycotts; ethical consumption; popular protests, etc.).

d. Not applicable.

**40. Goals of General Education: All Courses Proposed for a Gen Ed Content Area MUST answer this question**

Not applicable.

**41. Content Area and/or Competency Criteria: ALL General Education courses, including W and Q courses, MUST answer this question.: Specific Criteria**

- a. **Arts and Humanities:**
- b. **Social Sciences:**
- c. **Science and Technology:**
  - i. **Laboratory:**
- d. **Diversity and Multiculturalism:**
  - 43. **International:**
- e. **Q course:**
- f. **W course:**

Competency area: W

A key objective of this course is to teach students to write scholarly research papers and to engage in high-level group oriented learning activities. Students are required to produce a 20 page term paper, which is produced in graded segments over the course of the semester.

Instructor feedback on each portion of the paper is extensive. The segments of the paper are divided and graded as follows: topic statement (2.5% of final grade); abstract, outline, working bibliography (2.5%); first draft (15%); second draft (20%); final draft (45%).

Students are also taught how to engage in "peer review" and critique; specialized pedagogical materials are provided and in-class coaching is extensive. Students work in small groups by theme (i.e., in line with their paper topics) extensively over the course of the semester -- not only in the course of peer review exercises but also as co-panelists in a mini-conference that all students take part in during the final week of class. The instructor draws on staff of the Writing

Center and UConn Libraries in order to enhance in-class instruction in the fundamentals of writing and scholarly research skills.

**42. RESOURCES:**

Does the department/school/program currently have resources to offer the course as proposed  
YES

If NO, please explain why and what resources are required to offer the course.

**43. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

None

**ADMIN COMMENT:**

#changedperRegistrar(from3257W)\_101612AP. Senate approved W 10.15.12 //  
GEOCWapp\_050112AP. newW\_042012AP.

***POLITICAL ISSUES:***

***POLITICS AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS***

Prof. Shareen Hertel

This course explores the politics and human rights implications of regulating contemporary global supply chains. It focuses, in particular, on manufacturing and agriculture. The course analyzes official regulatory frameworks (i.e., international, regional, and national institutions) as well as non-regulatory approaches to rule-making, such as voluntary corporate codes of conduct and industry standards. Finally, the course analyzes a range of social responses to the dilemmas of “ethical” sourcing of goods and services. Designed for upper level undergraduate students with a solid grounding in international relations and comparative politics, this is a writing-intensive course.

All students who enroll in this course are assumed to have read the Academic Misconduct section of the Student Conduct Code regarding such matters as plagiarism and cheating on examinations. If there are any students in this class who have special needs because of learning disabilities or other kinds of disabilities, please discuss these with the professor and Center for Students with Disabilities within the first week of class.

**Logistics:** The following books will be read entirely for the course are available for purchase at the UConn Co-Op:

Pietra Rivoli, *The Travels of a T-Shirt: An Economist Examines the Markets, Power, and Politics of World Trade* (Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2009, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition).

Robert Paarlberg, *Food Politics: What Everyone Needs to Know* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2010).

All other readings for the course are available through HUSKYCT.

**Requirements:**

1) A **final research paper** (20 pages, not including bibliography) will be *due on the last day of class, no extensions*. The following are deadlines for key elements of the paper:

- February 3: one paragraph “topic statement” due at the BEGINNING of class
- February 20: abstract, outline, working bibliography due at the BEGINNING of class
- March 26: first draft of papers due at the BEGINNING of class
- April 2: second draft of papers due at the BEGINNING of class
- April 27: final draft of papers due at the BEGINNING of class

*These are firm deadlines; there are NO extensions.* Students should focus the paper on a specific product or industry and related institutional and regulatory dilemmas. The paper should combine theory and empirical materials; it should be based on scholarly sources.

2) A **“mini-conference”** will be held during the last three sessions of class; students are expected to prepare individual conference presentation (5 minutes long) using multi-media and/or handouts, focused on their paper topic. Students will be divided into panels and will present in succession; the instructor will assign panels based on the topics chosen by students. Class discussion will follow each

panel. *Participation in this in-class conference is mandatory and should be taken seriously; your course participation grade is derived, in part, from your participation in the conference.*

3) **Weekly discussion questions:** The professor will post **weekly study questions** on HUSKYCT; please use these to prepare for class. Your class participation grade will derive, in part, from your engagement in discussion around these questions.

**Course grades are calculated as follows:**

Course participation:	10% of final grade
Topic statement	2.5% of final grade
Abstract, outline, working bibliography	2.5% of final grade
First draft:	15% of final grade
Second draft:	20% of final grade
Final draft:	45% of final grade
Final exam:	5% of final grade

**INTRODUCTION**

**Wednesday, January 18**

**UNDERSTANDING THE BASICS: Key concepts and institutions**

**Friday, January 20**

Timothy J. Sturgeon, "How Do We Define Value Chains and Production Networks?" in Gary Gereffi and Raphael Kaplinsky, co-editors. *The Value of Value Chains: Spreading the Gains from Globalisation*, Special issue of the *IDS Bulletin* 32, 3 (July 2001), Brighton, UK: Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex. Available in HuskyCT, under "Course Readings."

**Monday, January 23**

Please review documents on the main webpage of the the International Labour Organization (ILO) "Helpdesk for Business on International Labour Standards." Available in HuskyCT under "Course Weblinks." ALL students should come with written responses to the Discussion Questions for this session's readings.

**Wednesday, January 25**

***Class session on fundamentals of writing a research papers*** (includes discussion of the requirements for the research paper due in this course).

**Friday, January 27**

***Library research & information session with Steve Batt (Reference Librarian)***

GO DIRECTLY to Babbidge Library, Second Floor Electronic Classroom

**Monday, January 30**

Layna Mosley and Saika Uno, "Racing to the Bottom or Climbing to the Top? Economic Globalization and Collective Labor Rights," *Comparative Political Studies* 40, 8 (2007): 923-948. Available in HuskyCT under "Course Readings."

Mosely, Layna. "Free Trade Can Lift Labor Standards Abroad," *The New York Times*, 27 October 2011. Available in HuskyCT under "Course Readings."

**Wednesday, February 1**

Richard Locke, Matthew Amengual, and Akshay Mangla. "Virtue out of Necessity? Compliance, Commitment, and the Improvement of Labor Conditions in Global Supply Chains," *Politics & Society* 37, 3 (2009): 319-351. Available in HuskyCT under "Course Readings."

***\*\* HR Film Series: "Blood in the Mobile" (Konover Auditorium/Dodd Center, 4 p.m.)***

**Friday, February 3**

In class discussion of "Blood in the Mobile "(Film).

***\*\* One paragraph "topic statement" due at the beginning of class. \*\****

**POLITICAL ECONOMY APPLIED: The Manufacturing sector**

**Monday February 6**

Marsha A. Dickson, Suzanne Loker, and Molly Eckman. "Key Stakeholders for Social Responsibility" (Chapter 5), *Social Responsibility in the Global Apparel Industry* (New York: Fairchild Books/Conde Nast, 2009), Pages 129-162. Available in HuskyCT under "Course Readings."

**Wednesday, February 8**

Mark Anner, "Workers' Power in Global Value Chains: Ending Sweatshop Practices at Russell, Nike, and Knights Apparel," in *Transnational Trade Unionism: New Capabilities and Prospects*, eds. Peter Fairbrother, Marc-Antonin Hennebert, and Christian Lévesque (New York: Routledge, Taylor & Francis - forthcoming). Available in HuskyCT under "Course Readings."

**Friday, February 10**

***In class session on Abstract Writing (with Writing Center staff).***

**Monday, February 13**

Rivoli, *Travels of a T-Shirt*, Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4.

**Wednesday, February 15**

Shareen Hertel "The Paradox of Partnership: Assessing New Forms of NGO Advocacy on Labor Rights," *Ethics & International Affairs* 24, 2 (Summer 2010): 171-189. Available in HuskyCT under "Course Readings."

**Friday, February 17**

***In class peer review exercise (in small groups -- i.e., organized by panels).***

**Monday, February 20**

Rivoli, *Travels of a T-Shirt*, Chapters 5-6 (pages 77-104).

**\*\* Abstract, outline, and working bibliography due at the BEGINNING of class \*\***

**Wednesday, February 22**

Rivoli, *Travels of a T-Shirt*, Chapters 7-8 (pages 105-139)

**Friday, February 24**

Julie Elkins and Shareen Hertel, "Sweatshirts and Sweatshops: Labor Rights, Student Activism, and the Challenges of Collegiate Apparel Manufacturing," in *In Our Own Backyard: Human Rights in the USA* (Philadelphia, PA: Univ. of Pennsylvania Press). Available in HuskyCT under "Course Readings."

**Monday, February 27**

*Guest lecture by Bill Simpson (Director, UConn Co-Op)*

**POLITICAL ECONOMY APPLIED: The Agricultural Sector**

**Wednesday, February 29**

Paarlberg, *Food Politics*, Chapters 1, 3, 9

**Friday, March 2**

Paarlberg, *Food Politics*, Chapters 10, 11, 12

**Monday, March 5**

*Guest lecture by Dennis Pierce (Director, UConn Dining Services)*

**Wednesday, March 7**

Deborah Barndt, "Across Space and through Time: Tomatl Meets the Corporate Tomato" (Chapter 1), *Tangle Routes: Women, Work and Globalization on the Tomato Trail* (Lanham, MA: Rowman & Littlefield, 2008). Pages 8-62. Available in HuskyCT under "Course Readings."

**\*\* HR Film Series: "China Blue" (Konover Auditorium/Dodd Center, 4 p.m.)\*\***

**Friday, March 9**

Stacy Tessier, "Rethinking the Food Chain: Farmworkers and the Taco Bell Boycott," *Journal of Developing Societies* (2007), vol. 23, issues 1-2: 89-97. Available in HuskyCT under "Course Readings."

**WEEK OF MARCH 11 – SPRING BREAK; NO CLASS**

**Monday, March 19**

Paarlberg, *Food Politics*, Chapters 13-14.

**Wednesday, March 21**

Michigan State University Extension (Deliberative Dialogue Series). *The Rising Cost of Food: What Is Our Food Future?* (East Lansing, MI: MSU, 2009). Available in HuskyCT under "Course Readings."

**Friday, March 23**

In-class viewing/discussion of "Food, Inc." (film)

**INSTITUTIONAL REFORM: Governing global supply chains**

**Monday, March 26**

**\*\* First draft of papers DUE at the BEGINNING of CLASS \*\***

John Humphrey and Hubert Schmitz, "Governance in Global Value Chains," in Gary Gereffi and Raphael Kaplinsky, co-editors. *The Value of Value Chains: Spreading the Gains from Globalisation*, Special issue of the *IDS Bulletin* 32, 3 (July 2001), Brighton, UK: Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex. Available in HuskyCT under "Course Readings."

**Wednesday, March 28**

Kimberly Ann Elliott and Richard B. Freeman, "Globalization versus labor standards?" (Chapter 1, pages 7-25) in *Can Labor Standards Improve Under Globalization* (Washington, DC: Peterson Institute for International Economics, 2003). Available in HuskyCT under "Course Readings." [Note: this particular

reading cannot be printed out, for copyright reasons, so please read it online; all other readings in the course can be printed out.]

**Friday, March 30**

*In class peer review exercise (in small groups -- i.e., organized by panels).*

**Monday, April 2**

Catherine S. Dolan and Meenu Tewari, "From What We Wear to What We Eat: Upgrading in Global Value," in Gary Gereffi and Raphael Kaplinsky, co-editors. *The Value of Value Chains: Spreading the Gains from Globalisation*, Special issue of the *IDS Bulletin* 32, 3 (July 2001), Brighton, UK: Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex. Available in HuskyCT under "Course Readings."

**\*\* Second draft of papers, due at the beginning of class\*\***

**Wednesday, April 4**

Rivoli, *Travels of a T-Shirt*, Chapters 9-12 (pages 141-212)

**\*\* See also: April 5, HR Film Festival, "La Cosecha"**

**(4 p.m. Konover Auditorium/Dodd Center)\*\***

**Friday, April 6**

Rivoli, *Travels of a T-Shirt*, Chapters 13-15 (pages 213-256).

**Monday, April 9**

Anderson, Molly. "Rights-based Food Systems and the Goals of Food Systems Reform," *Agriculture and Human Values* 25, 4 (December 2008): 593-608.

**Wednesday, April 11**

*Individual sessions with Prof. Hertel to discuss second drafts*

**Friday, April 13**

*In class small group preparation for mini-conference (i.e., with panels).*

**Monday April 16**

***“Mini-conference on Globalization: Student Perspectives”***

Introductory remarks, Prof. Hertel

Paper presentations and discussion

Panel 1 = 3 students @ 10 minutes/each plus 10 minutes general discussion

**Wednesday, April 18**

Paper presentations and discussion

Panel 2 = 4 students @ 10 minutes/each plus 10 minutes general discussion

**Friday, April 20**

Paper presentations and discussion

Panel 3 = 4 students @ 10 minutes/each plus 10 minutes general discussion

**Monday, April 23**

Paper presentations and discussion

Panel 4 = 4 students @ 10 minutes/each plus 10 minutes general discussion

**Wednesday, April 25**

Paper presentations and discussion

Panel 5 = 4 students @ 10 minutes/each plus 10 minutes general discussion

**Friday, April 27**

***Concluding session – wrap-up and course evaluation***

***FINAL PAPERS DUE in CLASS***

**Final Exam:**

**TBA**