

**MOSCOW STATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
MGIMO UNIVERSITY**


School of Government and International Affairs

B.A. in Government and International Affairs

Department of Economic Policy and Private Public Partnership

«Approved»

Director, School of Government and International Affairs

 **Mikhail Troitsky**

«20» Nov. 2017

Russian Economy

Course Syllabus

The course “The Russian Economy” is elaborated in accordance with the MGIMO Educational Standard for the Bachelor’s Program in International Affairs (program track “Government and International Affairs”).

Author Elena B. Zavyalova, Oleg B. Pichkov



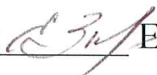
Director of the MGIMO library



Marina Reshetnikova

The program is approved by the Economic Policy Department

Head of Department



Elena B. Zavyalova, PhD in Economics

PART 1. INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION, COURSE DESCRIPTION AND TEACHING METHODS

1.1 General information

- Full course title: The Russian Economy
- Type of course: Compulsory
- Level of course B.A.
- Year of study: 2nd
- Number of ECTS credits allocated: 2
- Name of lecturer(s) and office hours:

Elena B..Zavyalova, PhD in Economics

Economic Policy Department

Office hours: Thursday – Thursday 9 AM – 9PM, office 3033

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1.2 Course aims and learning outcomes:

The course “The Russian Economy” is intended to provide knowledge of the dynamics of the Russian fundamentals and of Russian economic policy. An emphasis is placed on the current trends of the Russian economic development. Another important focus is on economic forecasts and development of students’ ability to assess and analyze the current economic policy and possible outcomes.

The main goal of the course is to provide students with fundamental (basic) knowledge of the Russian economic policy.

Course objectives are:

1. To introduce students to the modern trends of the Russian economic development.
2. To acquaint students with specific features of the Russian economic environment.
3. To provide students with practical knowledge and skills.

Learning outcomes:

The basic principle of the course is to give the students guidelines on the economic environment in Russia

Classes are generally held to promote better understanding of the current economic development in Russia, including driving forces, underlying facts and goals of development.

Teaching methods used include lectures, discussion classes, round table discussions, students' presentations.

By the end of this course students should be able to:

1. Analyze modern economic situation in Russia
2. Understand historic and economic logic of the Russian economic policy
3. Make forecasts
4. Understand basic principles of the Russian business culture
5. Comprehend driving forces of the economic growth in Russia
6. Analyze Russian external relations

1.3 Course requirements and grading plan

Course requirements

Students will be required to attend not less than 90% of classes and be prepared for class discussions. Conscientious reading of the assigned materials is compulsory.

Grading plan

- Class attendance - 2%

Students will be required to attend at least 90% of classes and be prepared for discussion classes. Conscientious reading of the assigned materials is compulsory. Students will also be required to make power point presentations.

- In-class tests – 10%

Students will write three tests during the semester. Dates of test classes are defined by the instructor and communicated to the students at the first class of the respective course.

- Essay – 10%

During the course each student is expected to write an essay (minimum 10000 characters, up to 15000 characters, Times New Roman font, size 14, 1.5 interval) on one of the topics proposed. The essay should demonstrate the level of student's knowledge of publications on the subject. The work is to be presented at least 2 weeks before the end of the course.

- Response papers – 10%

The students are expected to submit response papers to the readings at least one day before the seminar class. Such papers should include descriptions of the reading's main points, hypotheses, research strategies, and student's own point view on a topic or problem concerned. Response papers help substantially to improve discussion quality at seminars.

- In-class issue presentation – 10%

Such a presentation (up to 15 minutes) is performed by each student at least once in the term. The presentation will be based on the week's additional readings. The presenter should supply a brief summary of the argument but offer a critical interpretation of the reading by drawing out the key ideas of the text, linking them with others already covered, and registering agreements and disagreements. The presenter should also attempt to consider how the given argument could be framed differently. A few critical questions should further be offered for the class to discuss collectively. The presenter will be given a short written feedback after the presentation, including the grade, which can be followed up by consultation during office hours.

- Essay in-class presentation – 8%

The essay is to be presented and consequently discussed at a seminar.

- Written exam – 50% (in class, 120 minutes).

PART 2. COURSE CONTENTS

2.1. Course outline

Types of work	Academic hours	ECTS credits
Total	72	2
Total for lectures, seminar	32	
Lectures	16	
Seminars	16	
Homework	40	
Essay	20	
Preparation for lectures and seminars	20	
Course works	3 tests, response papers, in-class presentation	

2.2. Course content and readings by topic

Topic 1. Russian transition reforms

1.1. History of the Russian economic reforms

Summary:

Economic performance in 1969 – 1985 led to the urgent need for economic and political reform. It is essential to understand the link between economic and political driving forces of the reform. Among various scenario Perestroika model was chosen. Consequences of that reform are felt till now.

Analysis of the main reasons of the USSR collapse.

Economic performance of Russia after 1991. Privatization in Russia: history, impact, current policy. Liberalization: history, impact, current policy.

Major Challengers for modern Russia in the world economy

1.2. Fundamentals and their dynamics

Summary:

Fundamentals and their dynamics. Consequences of the last economic crisis. Influence of economic sanctions to the Russian economic development.

National wealth: structure, volume, international comparison. National accounting system.

Russia in the world economy: comparison to the main economic powers, analysis of the international trade and capital flows: geography and main goods.
Prospects of the Russian economy in a new economic and political international situation.

Topic 2. Russian real and financial sector

2.1. Russian business structure

Summary:

Correlation between private and state property. The role of big business groups in Russia. Anti-trust regulation. The role of small and middle-size business(SME). Main spheres of SME. Strategy of SME development. Influence of the latest economic crisis on SME development.

Corporate social responsibility. The specific national approach and soviet experience.

Russian business culture: main hints how to do business with Russians.

Shadow economy: volume, spheres. Official policy to curbing shadow economy.

2.2. Russian industries

Summary:

Industrial structure of GDP: current situation and long term tendencies. Major industries in the Russian economy.

Current trends in industrial structure development. Industrial policy. Modernization. Analysis of the major Russian industries. Import substitution policy.

2.3. Russian fiscal policy

Summary:

Definition, integral parts and goals of the Russian budget. Budget structure and levels of budgetary system.

Budget revenue. Taxes and tax system. Non-tax revenue. Analysis of the current Federal and consolidated budgets.

Budget expenditures: main items. Analysis of the current Federal and consolidated budgets

Fiscal reforms.

2.4. Russian financial system

Summary:

Russian financial system. Financial framework and the challengers from international competition.

Banking system. Major stages of creation. Characteristics of modern banking system. Analysis of the current monetary policy. Inflation targeting.

Russian stock market: Creation, development, major problems. Dependence

2.5. Investment in Russia

Summary:

The problem of transformation of savings into investment. Three types of Russian investors. Foreign investment in Russia. Russian investment abroad. Public debt. Capital flight. National Funds. Gold and currency reserves.

Topic 3. Regional and social policy

3.1. Regional policy in Russia

Summary:

Specific features of Russian federalism. Types of the regional units. Disputed lands.

Disproportions in economic development of the Russian regions: geographical, historical and political reasons.

Regional policies. State strategy. Analysis of the main regional development programs.

3.2. Social policy

Summary:

Main social indicators. Cultural diversity. Life expectancy, birth rates, gender issues.

Social policy. Social security reform.

Summary of the main challenges in different social spheres: Education. Science. Social insurance. Health care. Pensions. Housing conditions

Topic 4. External relations

4.1. Russian balance of payments

Summary:

Current balance of payment analysis. Main positive and negative trends.

Bilateral relations with Russian major partners. Russia and the EU. Russia and the USA. Russia in the CIS. BRICS.

Russia as a globe partner.

3.1. Essay topics/exam topics

1. Social policy
2. Russian industries
3. Russian fiscal policy
4. Russian financial system
5. Russian business structure
6. Russian balance of payments
7. Regional policy in Russia
8. Investment in Russia
9. History of the Russian economic reforms
10. Fundamentals and their dynamics
11. Bilateral relations with Russian major partners

Exam topics:

1. History of the Russian economic reforms
2. Fundamentals and their dynamics Russian business structure
3. Investment in Russia
4. Russian industries
5. Russian fiscal policy
6. Russian financial system Social policy
7. Regional policy in Russia
8. Russian balance of payments
9. Bilateral relations with Russian major partners

The final exam represents a multiple choice test:

Example:

1. Inflation rates

- a. Are growing
- b. Do not change with years
- c. Are decreasing

2. The majority of Russian people are

- a. Under working age
- b. Of working age
- c. Older working age

PART 3. FINAL REMARKS

3.2. Course requirements:

4. Plagiarism is considered as a severe violation and as an indication of incompetence in the course. Plagiarism is understood as making of one's text using compilation method for other people's publications, even connected with own phrases and sentences. Collective performance of individual tasks is also unacceptable. Proved plagiarism an F-mark is given regardless of the fulfillment of all other requirements.
5. Assignments are to be handed in on the due date. Late submissions will translate into the lowering of the grade by 1/3 of a grade for each day of delay.
6. Students are asked to keep a copy of all work submitted for evaluation.

6.1. Essay topics/exam topics

- 12.Social policy
- 13.Russian industries
- 14.Russian fiscal policy
- 15.Russian financial system
- 16.Russian business structure
- 17.Russian balance of payments
- 18.Regional policy in Russia
- 19.Investment in Russia
- 20.History of the Russian economic reforms
- 21.Fundamentals and their dynamics
- 22.Bilateral relations with Russian major partners

Exam topics:

- 10.History of the Russian economic reforms
- 11.Fundamentals and their dynamics Russian business structure
- 12.Investment in Russia
- 13.Russian industries
- 14.Russian fiscal policy
- 15.Russian financial system Social policy
- 16.Regional policy in Russia

17. Russian balance of payments

18. Bilateral relations with Russian major partners

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- Students are asked to keep a copy of all work submitted for evaluation.

Reading list:

Compulsory readings:

Bamford C., Grant S. Cambridge International AS and A Level Economics: Coursebook. – 2-nd. Ed. - Cambridge University Press, 2011

Additional readings:

Rosefielde, S. The Russian economy: from Lenin to Putin / S. Rosefielde. - Malden ; Oxford : Blackwell, 2007. - XV, 260 p.

Internet recourses

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/country#R>

<http://www.oecd.org/russia>

www.minregion.ru

<http://www.rosmintrud.ru>

www.government.ru

www.iet.ru

www.minfin.ru

www.cbr.ru

www.economy.gov.ru

www.gks.ru

www.minregion.ru

<http://www.rosmintrud.ru>