

## Discussion Questions- 1<sup>st</sup> Half of Semester

The best way you can prepare for class and, ultimately, the Critical Thought Papers, is to take notes on each of the readings/videos and outline the answers to these questions. This approach will also help you prepare for the class discussion, which should help to boost your participation grade.

**Chapter 2-** see book questions

### Theories- Mercantilism

1. What evidence do Hamilton and Gilpin provide to argue that states are central in the global economy?
2. How do they view the role/purpose of a government? What policies do they propose to seek economic security?
3. Would they argue that relations are zero-sum or positive sum? Who benefits?
4. How would or do they view international organizations like IGOs, NGOs, MNCs?
5. How do they view capitalism? What do they view as obstacles to national economic growth?
6. How do they view the relationship between politics and economics? Does one 'drive' the other?

### Theories- (Neo)liberalism

1. What do Smith and Keohane & Nye argue is the purpose of states in the global economy?
2. What policies do they propose to seek economic security?
3. Would they argue that relations are zero-sum or positive sum? Who benefits?
4. How would or do they view international organizations like IGOs, NGOs, MNCs?
5. How do they view capitalism? Why do they argue that domestic economic growth is symbiotic with global economic growth?
6. How do they view the relationship between politics and economics? Does one 'drive' the other?

### Theories- Marxism

1. How is the world divided, according to Marx? What evidence does he offer to support his argument about how this division emerged?
2. What does Lenin add to Marx's argument about this division? What evidence does he offer to support his argument about how this division emerged?
3. Would they argue that relations are zero-sum or positive sum? Who benefits?
4. Why does Marx argue that the owner and the laborer are co-dependent?
5. How would or do they view international organizations like IGOs, NGOs, MNCs?
6. How do they view capitalism? Why do they argue that domestic economic growth is symbiotic with global economic growth?
7. How do they view the relationship between politics and economics? Does one 'drive' the other?

## **AUKUS**

1. Who are the key actors?
2. What are their self-interests?
3. What are the political concerns?
4. What are the economic concerns?
5. How do they view international cooperation?
6. How would each of the three theories explain the situation?

## **IL & Norms**

1. For both the conservation and mining articles, what are the five most important things you need to know to understand the issue (such as who is involved and why, what is at stake, who are the winners and losers, what factors impede addressing any problems, etc.)
2. What commonalities do the conservation and mining situations have?
3. How are these industries a product of colonization and globalization?
4. How would a mercantilist, neoliberal, or Marxist explain this situation, thus offering remedies to addressing these issues?

## **Chapter 6- Tomatoes**

1. What are the difficulties associated with providing fresh tomatoes year-round in most areas of GN countries?
2. How does fresh versus processed tomato consumption correlate to a country's level of development?
3. What factors affect tomato prices? How do prices affect consumption and production of tomatoes?
4. Why is it difficult for GS countries like Ghana to make money from canned tomatoes?
5. What strategy does China use to export its tomatoes?
6. What is the impact of one's dietary choice (locavore v. globavore)?
7. What labor issues prompted the formation of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers and FLAI-CGIL?

## **IL & Norms- Remittances**

1. How do remittances reflect a globalized supply and demand labor market?
2. What are the benefits of remittances?
3. What are the barriers to remitting money? What have GS countries done and still need to do to decrease/dismantle these barriers?
4. What factors jeopardize obtaining remittance work?
5. In addition to the answers to the previous two questions, what are the additional disadvantages of remittance work and remittances for the workers, their dependents, and their home governments?
6. How are remittances connected to the tomato chapter issues we discussed?

## **Chapter 7- see book questions**

## **International Monetary System**

1. Applying what you learned in Tuesday's class, what can you infer about buying an iPhone in India, in comparison to the other listed countries? What do you also, now know, about the comparative cost of an iPhone in Switzerland to the Australia?
2. What are SDRs?
3. Why would China want its yuan to be included?
4. Will the yuan replace the dollar as top currency soon?
5. What are the benefits and problems of pegging a currency?
6. What are the benefits and problems of adopting a foreign currency?

## **IMS**

1. How does cryptocurrency work?
2. What are the issues associated with cryptocurrency?
3. What is El Salvador's experience with using cryptocurrency? How can this exchange conceivably help the country? What are the problems?
4. Why would someone want digital citizenship? Why would countries grant it?
5. How does mobile cash work? What are the pros and cons of this form of exchange?

## **IMS - Chapter 3 -The Spice Trade**

1. How is the spice trade connected to the creation of an international monetary system?
2. How do commodity money and representative money differ? Where do pieces of eight, clipping, and the gold standard fit in the development of the international monetary system?
3. How did the spice trade lead Europe into global monetary dominance?
4. How did the spice trade lay the foundation for MNCs?
5. What are the residual effects of colonization on the spice trade?
6. Why is reliance on cash crops, like spices, so risky?
7. Why did Vietnam enter pepper production? What was the global effect?
8. What are the pros and cons of FTAs for farmers?