

Professor David Primo
Harkness Hall 318
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<http://www.sas.rochester.edu/psc/primo/>

Spring 2021, Tues. and Thurs. 11:05 AM – 12:20 PM
Class Link: Available on Blackboard
Office Hours (Zoom): Tues. 1 – 3 PM or by appt.
OH Link: <https://rochester.zoom.us/j/948872840>

PSCI 244K: Politics and Markets: Innovation and the Global Business Environment Version 5 (April 21, 2021)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Innovation is a driving force behind the massive increases in wealth that occurred in the 20th century, and globalization is causing changes in the world's economy that we are only beginning to understand. In this course, we will spend several weeks studying how entrepreneurship and innovation are affected by government institutions. We will then spend several weeks studying business strategy in the global business environment, focusing on the role of regulations imposed by foreign governments and international organizations. Class meetings will be a mix of lecture and discussion, use real-world cases, and feature guest speakers. By the end of the course, you will have a stronger understanding of how businesses shape and are shaped by government policies. There are no prerequisites for this course, though some exposure to political science or economics is useful.

LEARNING MODULES

To match the mode of instruction in Spring 2021, PSCI 244K is structured as a set of learning modules. For each topic, there will be preparation materials such as pre-class readings and videos. Within each learning module, you will find all of the readings, assignments, and expectations for the week. Professor Primo's goal in designing the course this way is to provide a structure for the course's workload that is linear, logical, and user-friendly, and that the result will be productive class sessions and a positive overall course experience.

COURSE MATERIALS

There is one required textbook for the course: *Business and Its Environment*, 7th ed., by David P. Baron. Additional required course materials will be made available on Blackboard at least one week prior to the associated class meeting.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- There will be two open-book exams in the course (permitted materials will be discussed prior to the first exam). The first exam will go live at 11:05 AM on Tuesday, March 16

GRADING

- Each *exam* counts toward 30 *percent* of your course grade.
- *PCP Assignments* collectively count toward 30 *percent* of your course grade. They are graded out of 10 points. Your highest 9 scores are counted toward your course grade.
- *Guest Speaker Questions* collectively count toward 10 *percent* of your course grade. These assignments are graded out of 10 points on a high-pass/pass/no-credit basis, equivalent to 10, 6, and 0. The expectation is that any student submitting a question and associated explanation demonstrating that they have done the pre-class preparation will receive 10 points for that assignment. Your highest 4 scores are counted toward your course grade.
- *All exams and assignments should be completed independently.*

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

There are two teaching assistants in the course: Theu Dinh (tdinh5@ur.rochester.edu) and Fred Gui (pgui@ur.rochester.edu). They will be grading the assignments and exams, with Prof. Primo's guidance. Students may also email the either of the TAs with questions about the course material.

PROFESSIONALISM AND CLASS NORMS

Professor Primo strives to create a professional atmosphere in class where all are treated with respect. To help achieve this goal, please

- make every effort to attend and be on time for each class meeting
- keep your camera on during class unless there are extenuating circumstances preventing you from doing so
- come to class prepared to engage with others and be open to perspectives that may differ from your own.

PROFESSOR PRIMO'S PLEDGE ABOUT THE ZOOM-BASED LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

"I know your lives are complicated, and distractions are ever at hand, but here is a space in which we can do our best to put them aside and focus on learning. Every moment of this experience might not be a joyful one, but the more you are able to give your attention to your peers and the course content, the more pleasure and satisfaction you will gain from the time we spend together. I pledge my attention to you, and I hope you will pledge it back to me and to your peers."

—Source: Professor James M. Lang

RECORDING OF CLASS MEETINGS

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