

## Comprehensive Exam Spring 2017

### International Political Economy

#### CHOOSE ONE OF THREE

1. Some researchers argue that we cannot understand international economic relations without taking the preferences of domestic groups into account. These scholars point out that international economic policies help some domestic groups while hurting others, and contend that governments take these distributional effects into account when making foreign policy. Evaluate this domestic-focused research agenda. What, if anything, has it taught us about IPE, and how well can it explain variation in international economic policymaking? Your answer should draw on literature from international trade and finance.
2. A growing body of literature examines how democracy affects international economic relations. Authors have examined the impact of democracy on trade, sovereign debt, foreign direct investment, exchange rates, and foreign aid, among other topics. Write a critical review of this literature and propose avenues for future research.
3. In what areas of international political economy have scholars achieved substantial and demonstrable theoretical and empirical progress over time? In what areas has progress been more limited? What accounts for these differences? What is necessary for greater progress in the latter areas? Discuss. Refer to specific readings and evidence where appropriate.