
EC 380

International Economic Issues

Overview

The purpose of this course is to provide an understanding of the basic principles of INTERNATIONAL TRADE and FINANCE. The first goal is to develop the fundamental economic models that explain why countries trade with one another. The second goal is to discuss how government policies influence international trade and how these policies influence special interests within a country as well as the country as a whole. Examples of these policies include tariffs, quotas, and free-trade agreements. The third goal of the course pertains to INTERNATIONAL FINANCE and turns from trade in goods to trade in financial instruments. Specifically, the goal is to explain how international financial markets are structured and how currencies across countries relate to one another in foreign exchange markets. Overall the course is designed to familiarize students with issues that arise in open economy settings and provide students with the analytical skills needed to analyze such issues. In addition, we will relate these theories to current world events whenever possible.

Course Outline

1. International Trade
 - a. Theory of Trade chapters: 1, 2, 3, 4
 - b. Trade Policy chapters: 6, 7, 8, 9
2. International Finance chapters: 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Canvas

All course materials will be distributed through the Canvas course website, which can be found at <https://canvas.uoregon.edu>. Things that will be posted on Canvas include, but are not limited to, homework assignments, answer keys, presentation slides, and grades. Announcements made on Canvas should be considered modifications to this syllabus.

Office Hour Policy

My office hours are specific times set aside for you. You are welcome to stop in during these hours to ask any questions or discuss any material from the course. You should also feel welcome to stop by my office outside of my office hours; I will be glad to help you if I do not have previous obligations. If you cannot make my office hours and are uncomfortable just dropping by or would like to make sure I will be in my office, please e-mail me and we can set up an appointment.

Winter 2016
TR 2:00 – 3:20; Deady Hall 208

Instructor: Felix Friedt
E-Mail: ffriedt@uoregon.edu
Office: PLC 417
Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00am-12:00pm,
Wednesday 11:00am-12:00pm, or by
Appointment

Required Text Book

•S. Husted and M. Melvin.
International Economics. Addison-
Wesley. 9th Edition.

Important Dates

January 11th, 2016

Last day to drop without receiving a W

January 28th, 2016

Midterm #1

February 18th, 2016

Midterm #2

February 21th, 2016

Last day to withdraw from classes

March 17th, 2016

Final Exam – 12:30 PM -2:30 PM

Evaluation

Exams: This course will have three exams, two midterms and a final. The final will be cumulative. The dates for the exams are:

Midterm #1:	Thursday, January 28 th (in class)
Midterm #2:	Thursday, February 18 th (in class)
Final:	Thursday, March 17 th at 12:30pm

Please note that **no make-up exams will be given**. If any exam is missed, a type-written petition fully explaining and documenting the reason for missing the exam must be submitted to me within one week of the scheduled midterm or by Monday, March 14th for the final. If the petition is approved, the weight of the midterm will be applied to the final exam. A missed final due to an unanticipated emergency will be handled with an incomplete for the course. Petitions will only be approved for extreme extenuating circumstances. If the petition is not approved (or no petition is submitted), a grade of zero will be assigned to the missed exam.

Homework: There will be approximately five homework assignments for this class. The assignments will be uploaded to Canvas and due dates will be announced in class. Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. I reserve the right to grade any number of the homework questions. Homework keys will be posted to Canvas. No late homework will be accepted unless approved by me before the homework is due. Homework will not be accepted by e-mail unless approved by me before the homework is due.

Grades: Your final course grade will be determined as follows:

Homework (5, 6% each)	30%
Midterm #1	20%
Midterm #2	20%
Final	30%

Note that attendance is not required. However, students will be responsible for all material in the assigned chapters as well as all material covered in class. The text book should not be considered a substitute for attending class; **I will post to Canvas my class slides. However, the slides will not contain everything we cover in class.** Those who choose not to attend class will find it difficult to succeed in this course.

Grade Appeals: Any requests for re-grading an exam must be submitted in writing within one week of when the exam was handed back. If you do not pick up your exam when it is handed back, you still must submit your request within a week of when the test was originally handed back. A re-grading request should include an argument for why you feel your answer was correct. I reserve the right to re-grade the entire exam when a request to re-grade any part of the exam is made.

Academic Dishonesty Policy

Any violations of the academic integrity policy will result in a failing grade for the course and a complaint will be filed with the University's Hearing board. **Cheating of any form will not be tolerated.**

Exams: All exams will be closed-note and closed-book. Students will be permitted to have a pen or pencil, ruler or straightedge, and a non-programmable calculator on their desk during the exam. Under no circumstances will students be allowed to use a cell phone during the exam, including as a calculator. The use of any other assistance or sources of information is prohibited and will be considered cheating.

Homework: Students are allowed and encouraged to work together on homework assignments. However, each student must hand in **their own work** separately. Simply changing the name on a typed up homework assignment will not be accepted. As a general rule, I should not be able to tell who you worked with when you turn in your homework.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements with me during the first week of the term. Please request that the counselor for students with disabilities (164 Oregon Hall) send me a letter verifying your disability.

Student Engagement Inventory

According to the office of the registrar a 4 credit class should engage a student for about 120 hours over the course of one quarter. Below you can find a table that lays out the anticipated division of these hours of student engagement for our class.

Activity	Elaboration	Expected Hours
Course Attendance	Course attendance is not mandatory but highly recommended to succeed in this class	30 hours (3 hours per week)
Assigned Readings	Textbook	30 hours (3 hours per week)
Homework	5 homework assignments	30 hours (6 hours per assignment)
Tests	Two midterms and one final exam	Varies with study effort

Tentative Schedule

Below is a schedule of topics and readings that we will cover in lecture as well as anticipated homework due dates. You are expected to have read the assigned chapter(s) before lecture and be ready to discuss them in class. This schedule is subject to change given the pace of the class. I will likely assign supplementary readings as the class progresses. All changes will be announced in class and posted on Canvas. The scheduled dates for exams will not change, barring extraordinary circumstances.

Date		Date	
01/5	Introduction to Intl' Trade <i>Readings: Chapter 1</i>	01/7	Theory Tools <i>Readings: Chapter 2</i>
01/12	Classical Trade Model <i>Readings: Chapter 3</i>	01/14	Classical Trade Model <i>Readings: Chapter 3</i>
01/19	Heckscher-Ohlin Model <i>Readings: Chapter 4</i>	01/21	Heckscher-Ohlin Model <i>Readings: Chapter 4</i> <i>HW #1 due at the beginning of class</i>
01/26	Review	01/28	Midterm #1
02/2	Tariffs <i>Readings: Chapter 6</i> <i>HW #2 due at the beginning of class</i>	02/4	Nontariff Barriers <i>Readings: Chapter 7</i>
02/9	Commercial Policy <i>Readings: Chapter 8</i>	02/11	Preferential Trade Agreements <i>Readings: Chapter 9</i>
02/16	Review <i>HW #3 due at the beginning of class</i>	02/18	Midterm #2
02/23	Balance of Payments <i>Readings: Chapter 11</i>	02/25	Foreign Exchange Market <i>Readings: Chapter 12</i>
03/1	Intl' Monetary System <i>Readings: Chapter 13</i> <i>HW #4 due at the beginning of class</i>	03/03	Exchange Rates – SR <i>Readings: Chapter 14</i>
03/8	Exchange Rates – LR <i>Readings: Chapter 15</i>	03/10	Review <i>HW #5 due at the beginning of class</i>
03/17	Thursday, 12:30-2:30 pm Final Exam		