

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE:	International Economics	COURSE CODE:	ECON450
PREREQUISITES:	ECON110 & ECON120	SEMESTER:	FALL 2020
INSTRUCTOR:	R. KRYS	CREDITS:	3
EMAIL:	rkrys@groupe-igs.fr	SCHEDULE:	Wednesday 15h30-18h30

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course approaches international trade and investment from a standpoint of integrating theory and policy. The factors determining the size, composition and direction of international economic transactions are analyzed in order to provide the students with the theoretical tools essential to understanding world economic events and national policies. The government's role in regulating, restricting, promoting, or otherwise influencing the conduct of international trade and investment is investigated from a policy perspective. The study of national policies leads to the interaction of international economics and international politics traditionally designated as the international political economy.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The course objective is to cover the following topics: theories of international trade – comparative advantage and beyond comparative advantage, tariff and non-tariff trade barriers, GATT, WTO, NAFTA, TPP, exchange rates and exchange rate systems, Bretton Woods, IMF and IMF conditionality, Yen crisis, tequila crisis, Southeast Asia crisis, sub-primes, PIIGS, Greece, BRICS, Brexit.

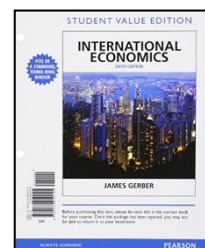
EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- explain the principles, functioning, and role of institutions of international economic policy;
- explain international economic issues and impacts of international policy instruments on them;
- interpret the theory and practice of economic policy, world economy and regional integration.

MANDATORY TEXTBOOK:

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS, James Gerber, Pearson, 6th Edition.
ISBN-978-1-29202-338-0



EVALUATIONS:

The final grade will be determined as follows:

- 30%: Midterm Examination,
- 35%: Group Project and Class Participation,
- 35%: Final Examination.

Presence in class is mandatory. More than 2 absences will lead to a failing grade.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Grades will be based on the standard ABS Grading Rubrics available on Beecome.

Written work and group presentation grades will be based on the following evaluation criteria:

SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE	SUFFICIENT PERFORMANCE	WEAK PERFORMANCE	INSUFFICIENT PERFORMANCE
There is evidence in the work of a very good ability to evaluate, criticize, and produce well-reasoned arguments in defense of a point of view. There is an analytical approach to relevant material. Work will show the ability to identify and engage in the relevant issues within a clear and very well organized structure. Presentation standards are high and the assessed task is completed with a high degree of competence.	Work is mainly descriptive but demonstrates a good coverage of relevant issues. Evidence exists of an ability to produce arguments relative to the issues under focus but with only limited, if adequate, evidence of an analytical, critical or evaluative response. Material is presented with reasonable care and has a discernible structure. The assessed task is completed competently but the work is largely descriptive and lacks originality.	Work is descriptive and covers some of the relevant material but lacks depth and offers little evidence of an analytical, critical or evaluative approach. Evidence exists of some ability to produce a limited range of arguments relative to the issues under focus. The work draws on only a very limited range of references. Material is not particularly well presented or well-structured but there is an attempt at organization. Although there is evidence of an adequate understanding, the interpretation of a topic is limited while remaining intelligible.	Work is of unsatisfactory quality lacking in structure and organization. The relevant issues are not identified or properly understood. Knowledge is superficial and sources uncited. Analysis and argument are very weak. Presentation is poor.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Dates	Reading/Homework	Session Content
Session 1 16 Sept	Read Chapter 1. Read Chapter 2.	Introduction to course. The United States in a Global Economy. The primary role of the US in the world economy. International Economic Institutions Since World War II. Global economic institutions, their history, their role in the world economy, and controversies surrounding their activities. Discussion of what constitutes high-quality class participation.
Session 2 23 Sept	Read Chapter 3.	Comparative Advantage and the Gains from Trade. Why is international trade desirable?
Session 3 30 Sept	Read Chapter 4.	Comparative Advantage and Factor Endowments. What determines comparative advantage? What is the impact of trade on income distribution?
Session 4 7 Oct	Read Chapter 5.	Beyond Comparative Advantage. Why an important share of world trade consists of countries exporting the same thing they import? Examination of industrial clustering. Is comparative advantage mutable and how can nations use their policies to shape its development?
Session 5 14 Oct	Read Chapters 6 and 7.	The Theory of Tariffs and Quotas. What are the effects of tariffs and quotas? Commercial Policy. Why nations protect their industries? REVIEW FOR MID-TERM EXAMINATION
Session 6 21 Oct		MID TERM-EXAMINATION
Session 7 28 Oct	Read Chapter 8.	International Trade and Labor and Environmental Standards. What effects does international trade have on labor and environmental standards?
Session 8 4 Nov	Read Chapter 9.	Trade and the Balance of Payments. An examination of the accounting system used to keep track of a country's international transactions.
Session 9 18 Nov	Read Chapter 10.	Exchange Rates and Exchange Rate Systems. What are fixed, flexible, and in-between exchange rate systems?
Session 10 2 Dec	Read Chapter 11.	An Introduction to Open Economy Macroeconomics. How do the current account, exchange rates, consumption, investment, and government spending interact in an open economy?
Session 11 9 Dec	Read Chapter 12.	International Financial Crises. What are the major types, causes, effects, and remedies of financial crises?



		Tying up loose ends. REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAMINATION
Session 12 16 Dec		FINAL EXAMINATION

PROPER USE OF COMPUTERS IS ALLOWED. If you are not quite sure as to what constitutes “proper use” please come and see me. Also, **PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR INTERGALACTIC COMMUNICATORS.**

The schedule of Final Exams will be confirmed and published by 31 October 2020. The last day of the semester is 18 December 2020. DO NOT PLAN ANY TRAVEL BEFORE THIS DATE AS THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS.