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Syllabus

International Economics

Overview

ECON 3500-090 ONLINE, Fall 2012, 3 Credits, Fullfills IR and QI Requirements

This is a comprehensive undergraduate course in International Economics. What this means is that we will cover micro (Real Trade Theory), macro (Int. Finance), and historical aspects of this sub-discipline of economics. We will examine theories relating to the patterns of international trade and commercial policy, as well as the relationships between national income and international trade and payments, international monetary arrangements, and foreign investment, among others. Prerequisite: ECON 2010 and 2020 (or ECON 1010 and instructors consent).

This is an online-hybrid course and will therefore use Canvas extensively. This learning format is very beneficial to students but also requires a degree of self-motivation for completing assignments and contacting your fellow students for studying. Be sure you are prepared for not only autonomous learning, but also for the level of the material. In-class discussions will be held according to the schedule. The in-class sessions are not lectures, they are for question and answer, or other discussion. If there are no questions, the sessions will not be of use to students.

Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, a student who is successful in this course will have gained an understanding of

1. Trade Theory;
2. Modern trade and open economy macroeconomics from an analysis of past events and theory;
3. The political economy of trade and commercial policy;

4. Modern international macroeconomic events and be able to formulate clearly written statements about these events;
5. International policy as it relates to trade, money, and exchange rates;

Office Hours

Because this is an online-hybrid course, office hours will be held online on Monday from 4:30PM-5:00PM in Canvas Chat; other times by appointment, or by email exchange. Further, this class will have classroom discussion roughly every other week beginning August 27th from 6:00PM to 8:00PM in OSH 113. See schedule in “Rules of the Game” document for more detail.

Textbook and Readings

In this course we will use the textbook International Economics: Theory and Policy, 9th Edition, by Krugman, Obstfeld, Melitz. This is available in the bookstore and from Amazon.com. You may use older editions, but do so at your own risk. I will create quizzes, tests, and assignments from the 9th edition and therefore make certain you understand the discrepancies between editions. A textbook is required for this course.

Grading and Requirements

Grades will be determined from quizzes, assignments, peer-reviews, a midterm exam, and a final exam; see Rules of the Game sheet for a breakdown of course requirements and expectations. Do not be discouraged with low weekly quiz scores, these quizzes are challenging for many students, which is partly why 80 percent in the course translates into an “A”. (See “Rules of the Game” Document for further detail)

Course Website

We will use Canvas for Discussion, Quizzes, Tests, submissions, and other correspondence. Also, youtube will be a resource for tutorials and other content. The Economics Department has a youtube channel which contains many ECON 3500 related materials.

Class Policies

Please feel free to talk with me during office hours, discussion sections, or by Canvas email regarding anything in the class, about economics, or the economics major in general.

Technical issues do not serve as an excuse for missed/late assignments, discussions,

tests, or quizzes. The completion window is adequate to allow students to get things done. Do not wait until the last minute to complete a requirement.

Students should speak with me in advance to request special consideration of extenuating circumstance that prevent their taking an exam or submitting an assignment at the scheduled time. Exams may only be taken during the time indicated in the course schedule.

No extra credit is given in this class; students have sufficient opportunities for learning and for demonstrating their knowledge of the subject and their effort and commitment with class material.

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and with me to make arrangements for accommodations.

Rights and responsibilities All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee.

This syllabus is not a binding legal contract. It may be modified by the instructor when the student is given reasonable notice of the modification.

Tentative Course Schedule

See “Rules of the Game” document for a schedule of topics.