



**Syllabus**  
**3500 090 International Economics Spring 2013**

*Instructor:* Diksha Arora (skype Id: diksha41)

*Office:* Room 209, Orson Spencer Hall

*Office Hours:* Online through Skype Monday 1PM-2PM, other times by appointment, or email exchange

*Optional In-Class Discussions:* 5pm-7pm, Roughly every other Monday beginning 21<sup>st</sup> Jan, Room: TBA

**Course description:** The course covers history, institutions and theory of international economic relations. You will be presented alternative theories relating to the patterns of international trade, commercial policy. In this course we will discuss the trade policies followed in the West and in the developing countries and controversies related to those policies. This course will cover the relationships between national income and international trade and payments, balance-of-payments adjustment and the relationship between exchange rate and country's output in the short run. The last part of the course will present cases of economic crises in developing countries, causes and reforms.

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 to check canvas every 2-3 days* so as to keep yourself updated with the latest activities related to the class.

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.

**Prerequisite:** ECON 2010 and 2020 (or ECON 1010 and instructor's consent); Fulfills Quantitative Intensive & International Requirement.

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

- ⤴ Trade Theory
- ⤴ The Political Economy of Trade
- ⤴ Modern Trade including Decisions on Trade Policies and Outsourcing of Production
- ⤴ Trade Policies in Developed and Developing countries
- ⤴ Open Economy Macroeconomics including National Income Accounting and Exchange Rate Model
- ⤴ International Macroeconomic policy as it relates to trade, money and exchange rates.
- ⤴ Economic Crisis in Developing Countries and Reforms

**Readings:** We are using **Krugman/Obstfeld/Melitz, "International Economics," 9<sup>th</sup> edition**. (*It is strongly recommended to get access to this [9th edition](#) of the textbook, since relevant parts have been significantly rewritten!*) The textbook can be purchased as e-text through the portal, or from the university's bookstore. Other readings (i.e., newspaper articles or other papers) will be supplied as necessary.

**Requirements: 1) A Weekly Quiz** will test your reading of the current chapter in the book. They will consist of multiple choice and/or short essay questions and must be completed independently. The quiz will be posted on canvas and you can complete it on the canvas website. Weekly quizzes will have a completion window from Monday 8:00 AM to Sunday night at 11:59 PM of the given week. Because of the large window for completion, missed quizzes cannot be made up.

**2) I will provide a Weekly Assignment** in the form of a topic for discussion, problem set or a case study based on a news article, documentary or a relevant video clip.

For the *Discussion Post*, you may write anything you wish related to the topic question, but in order to receive credit for your post must satisfy some basic requirements: Be original and relevant to the material (i.e. not a repetition of another post). No need to bring in citations; it should be your own thoughts. And write 150 to 250 words.

I will grade these discussion posts as either a 0 or 2; either the post meets the above requirements or it does not.

With respect to *Problem Sets*, I will assign numerical questions or data exercises which test your understanding of the weekly material. These should be produced electronically and submitted via Canvas. Some may be quantitative while others may be essay type.

For *Case Studies*, I will provide some questions which you have to answer based on your understanding of the text in the article, video etc. Your answers to these will be submitted electronically via Canvas. Please submit pdf files.

The weekly assignments will be announced by Monday and must be completed by Sunday night at 11:59 PM of the given week. Late assignments will not be accepted.

**3)** There is an additional requirement for case studies, **Peer Reviews**. After you submit the solutions to case studies, you will be assigned to review answers of your peers (3 reviews). You will have 3 days to provide peer reviews. In these reviews you should discuss **at least two items which the author did well, and at least one item** that could use improvement. Case study solutions and peer reviews will be graded separately. These peer-reviews will be graded on a scale of 0 to 3.

**4) Midterm Project:** This will be a group/individual project (maximum 5 members in each group) in which you are required to solve some numerical problems based on the trade models, answer questions based on a case study related to trade or global production networks, and compare and contrast some basic concepts from the material. You will have a week to complete this project; it will be posted on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

**5) Cumulative Final Project:** This will be a group/individual project (maximum 5 members in each group) in which you are required to solve some numerical problems based on the trade models and exchange rate and national income accounting, derive short run exchange rate models, answer questions based on a case study related to developing countries and economic crisis, and compare and contrast some basic concepts from the material. The final will be posted on 22<sup>nd</sup> April and it will be due in a week's time.

### **Grading:**

Grades will be determined from weekly quizzes, weekly assignments, some peer reviews, a midterm project, and a final project. The percentages are as follows:

Weekly Assignments: 20%

Weekly Quizzes: 20%

Peer-Review: 15%

Midterm Exam: 20%

Final Exam: 25%

**Course Website:** We will use canvas for discussions, assignments, submissions and other correspondence. Additional readings and a copy of the syllabus can be found on canvas.

## Course Schedule:

Week Beginning Monday	Material	Quiz (due in a week's time)	Assignment (due in a week's time)	Peer Review (due in a 3 days' time)	In-Class Discussion Venue: TBA
7th Jan	Chapter 1 and 2	Chapter 1 and 2	No	No	
14th Jan	Chapter 3	Chapter 3	Problem set	No	Yes (Monday 5-7 pm)
21st Jan	Chapter 5	Chapter 5	Problem set	No	
28th Jan	Chapter 8	Chapter 8	Case Study	No	
4th Feb	Chapter 9	Chapter 9	Discussion Post	Yes (for last week's case study)	Yes (Monday 5-7 pm)
11th Feb	Chapter 10	Chapter 10	Case Study	No	
18th Feb	Chapter 11	Chapter 11	Case Study	Yes (for last week's case study)	
25th Feb	Chapter 12	Chapter 12	Discussion Post	Yes (for last week's case study)	Yes (Monday 5-7 pm)
4th March	Mid-term project (due on 11th March, 11.59 pm)				
11th March	Spring Break				
18th March	Chapter 13	Chapter 13	Problem set	No	
25th March	Chapter 14	Chapter 14	Problem set	No	
1st April	Chapter 17	Chapter 17	Problem set	No	Yes (Monday 5-7 pm)
8th April	Chapter 17 (contd.)	Chapter 17	Discussion Post	No	
15th April	Chapter 22	Chapter 22	Discussion Post	No	Yes (Monday 5-7 pm)
22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Final Project (due on 28 <sup>th</sup> April, 11.59 pm)				

## **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, 2 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.

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.