ECON 4720-01 Syllabus

Course Title: International Economics

Hours and Location: Mon and Wed, 3:40-5:45 pm.
Pigott 305

Office Hours: Mon and Wed 2:30 - 3:30 pm.

Course Description: Pattern, organization, and promotion of U.S. and world trade. Trade theories and policies. Exchange rates, balance of payments and the operation of international monetary systems, WTO, European Integration, and Multinationals in foreign trade. Prerequisites: ECON 2110, 2130, 3100, ECON 3130 recommended. (formerly titled International Trade).

Course Objectives: The primary objectives of this course are: (i) to understand the basis theories of international economics; (ii) to analyze controversial issues in international economics using both quantitative and qualitative methodologies; (iii) to examine the principles of international political economy; (iv) to learn basic tools of statistics to conduct data analysis using the World Bank’s World Development Indicators, and (v) to foster self-learning and team-work through individual homework assignments, class discussions, and final group project.

Learning Outcomes:

ECON LOs:

- LO4: Identify key relationships between important variables a. understand the difference between correlation and cause-and-effect b. apply algebraic, graphical, and statistical tools to analyze of problems and issues in business and public policy c. identify the relationship between assumption and interpretation

- LO5: Think critically, for example, be able to: a. summarize low-level articles from professional journals b. articulate the connections between the different sub-disciplines of economics. c. automatically compare and contrast different economic theories

INBU LOs

- LO2: Identify sources of globalization and describe major effects on individuals and organizations

- LO3: Identify key management challenges presented by globalization and describe techniques for addressing them

Recommended Textbook: Christiana E. Hilmer and Michael J. Hilmer, Practical Econometrics, McGraw-Hill, 2014. (Chapter 4: Simple Linear Regression; Chapter 6: Multiple Linear Regression Analysis; Chapter 7: Qualitative Variables and Nonlinearities in Multiple Linear Regression Analysis; and Chapter 8: Model Selection in Multiple Linear Regression Analysis).

Additional Readings: Selected journal articles will be assigned to complement the lectures and reading assignments.

Exams: Exams are given in class on the scheduled exam dates. The exams will include lecture materials as well as all text materials assigned even if the assigned text materials may not have been specifically covered in the lecture. The instructor will not give makeup or early exam unless in the case of an emergency. Legal documentation must be presented to the instructor within a week for verification, and makeup exam must be completed within one week after the scheduled exam date.

- Wed 10/24 - Exam No. 1: Chapters 4, 5, 6, 8, and articles
- Wed 12/12 4:00-5:50 pm - Exam 2: 9, 11, 12, 13, 14 and articles

Group Project and Presentation: A final group project will be assigned after the first exam. Each paper should be between 10-15 pages analyzing some aspects of international economics. It can be a country case study, a policy case study, a regional trade case study, a bilateral trade agreement, financial crises, exchange rate regimes, etc. Students are required to work in groups of 4 to complete the project. Each group will present the final project during the last session of class. Students will share a single grade with their group. The paper is due on the date of the presentation.

- Mon 12/3 - Group Project Presentations (3 groups)
- Wed 12/5 - Group Project Presentations (3 groups)

Group Homework Assignments: Selected problems at the end of each chapter are assigned as group homework assignments. The assignments will be conducted in groups of 4 students (no credits for individual work). There will be no makeup group assignments.

In-Class Activities: Students will have a weekly class activity to discuss current events in international economics. No makeup class activities.

Grading Criteria: Quarter grade is determined by your overall performance as follows.

- Exam No. 1: 30%
- Exam No. 2: 30%
- Group Project Paper and Presentation: 20%
- Group Homework Assignments: 10%
- In-Class Activities: 10%

**Grade:** Letter grades are assigned as follows.

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**University Resources and Policies**

**Academic Resources**
- Library and Learning Commons (http://www.seattleu.edu/learningcommons/)
  (This includes: Learning Assistance Programs, Research [Library] Services, Writing Center, Math Lab)
- Academic Integrity Tutorial (found on Canvas and SU Online)

**Academic Policies on Registrar website** (https://www.seattleu.edu/redhawk-axis/academic-policies/)
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Grading Grievance Policy
- Professional Conduct Policy (only for those professional programs to which it applies)

**Notice for students concerning Disabilities**
If you have, or think you may have, a disability (including an ‘invisible disability’ such as a learning disability, a chronic health problem, or a mental health condition) that interferes with your performance as a student in this class, you are encouraged to arrange support services and/or accommodations through Disabilities Services staff located in **Loyola 100, (206) 296-5740**. Disability-based adjustments to course expectations can be arranged only through this process.

**Office of Institutional Equity**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) prohibits discrimination based on sex in educational programs or activities that receive Federal financial assistance. This prohibition includes sexual misconduct, which encompasses sexual harassment and
sexual violence. Seattle U remains committed to providing a safe and equitable learning, living, and working environment. Seattle U offers emergency, medical, and other support resources, as well as assistance with safety and support measures, to community members who have experienced or been impacted by sexual misconduct.

Seattle U requires all faculty and staff to notify the University’s Title IX Coordinator if they become aware of any incident of sexual misconduct experienced by a student.

For more information, please visit https://www.seattleu.edu/equity/. If you have any questions or concerns, you may also directly contact the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Institutional Equity (email: oie@seattleu.edu; phone: 206.296.2824)

University Resources and Policies

Important Announcements:

(1) The instructor will post class announcements and modules on Canvas.
(2) The instructor is not responsible for dropping enrolled students. Students are obligated to officially withdraw even though they have not attended classes. Students who fail to officially withdraw are subject to a failing grade in the course. The last day to withdraw is Friday, November 16.
(3) The instructor places a high value on class attendance. Undoubtedly you will too in order to take full advantage of the lecture material. If you must be absent from class, you are responsible for missed lecture, announcements, handouts, and any due assignments. Students are responsible to follow all the announcements post on the website.
(4) The final exam period is considered to be part of the contact hours necessary for a student to receive academic credit for a course. All students have to take the final exam on the scheduled date. The instructor will not give early exam before or make-up exam after the final exam period. If you cannot commit to take the final exam on the scheduled exam date, please consider dropping the class. Please do not make any early travel arrangements on the scheduled final exam date.
(5) Given the complexity of the material, it will be impossible to cover every detail in the chapters. Lectures will cover essential issues that the instructor believes important to a general understanding of macroeconomics.

Tentative Readings: The instructor is more interested in having students understand the materials thoroughly than in following a strict schedule. Therefore, we will try to adhere to this schedule, but may need to alter it slightly as we go along. Students are encouraged to read the assigned chapter before coming to class to participate in discussions.

Week 1: Wed 9/26
- Introduction
- Chapter 4: Specific Factors and Income Distribution

Week 2: Mon 10/1 – Wed 10/3
- Chapter 5: Resources and Trade: The Heckscher-Ohlin Model

**Week 3: Mon 10/8 – Wed 10/10**
- Chapter 6: The Standard Trade Model

**Week 4: Mon 10/15 – Wed 10/17**
- Chapter 8: Firms in the Global Economy: Export Decisions, Outsourcing, and Multinational Enterprises

**Week 5: Mon 10/22 – Wed 10/24**
- Group Project Discussion
- Exam 1 Review
- **Exam No. 1: Chapters 4, 5, 6, 8, and articles**

**Week 6: Mon 10/29 – Wed 10/31**
- Chapter 9: The Instruments of Trade Policy
- Chapter 11: Trade Policies in Developing Countries

**Week 7: Mon 11/5 – Wed 11/7**
- Chapter 12: Controversies in Trade Policy
- TPP Chapter 19: Labor, *Office of the United States Trade Representative*.
- TPP Chapter 20: Environment, *Office of the United States Trade Representative*.

**Week 8: Mon 11/12 (Veteran’s Day No Class) – Wed 11/14**
- Chapter 13: National Income Accounting and the Balance of Payments
Week 9: Mon 11/19 – Wed 11/21 (Thanksgiving Breaks No Class)
- Chapter 14: Exchange Rates and the Foreign Exchange Market: An Asset Approach

Week 10: Mon 11/26 – Wed 11/28
- Guest Speaker (TBA)
- Exam Review

Week 11: Mon 12/3 – Wed 12/5
- Group Project Presentations (6 groups)

Week 12: Wed 12/12 4:00-5:50 pm
- Exam 2: Chapters 9, 11, 12, 13, 14 and articles