

Eastern Connecticut State University
Syllabus for Economics 350 - International Economics

Spring 2008

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Course Objectives

This course will provide an introduction to International Economics. The economic tools that we will acquire in this course, are applied by managers in the business sector, policy makers in the government sector, and economic researchers in the academic arena. Students successfully completing this course should leave with an understanding of these basic international economic principles and their applicability to real world situations. You should also be able to incorporate these tools of economic analysis into your own decision-making processes as you weigh costs and benefits to make choices.

Text

The required text for the course is International Economics, by Mordechai Kreinin. (Tenth Edition. Thomson Southwestern, 2006). Additionally we will use *The Choice: A Fable of Free Trade and Protection* by Russell Roberts, Prentice Hall, 2006 (or either of the two earlier additions). Further additional required reading will be announced. You will find that the outside articles we read will help you immensely in understanding the real-world applications of the statistical analysis that we learn in class. They are found on reserve at the library.

Course Outline and Readings

TOPIC	TEXT
I. An Introduction to International Economics	Chapters 1 and 2
II. The Classic Model and Other Models of International Trade	Chapter 3
III. Barriers to Trade	Chapters 4 and 5
IV. Commercial Policies and Practices	Chapters 6 and 7
V. International Trade and Economic Growth	Chapters 8 and 9
VI. Introduction to International Finance and International Banking	Chapters 10, 11, and 12,
VII. Exchange Rate Systems	Chapters 16 and 17
VIII. International Markets, Interest Rates, Prices, and Payments	Chapters 13, 14, and 15
If extra time occurs, I may teach selected topics with remaining time	

Note: Sections from these chapters may be omitted. Omissions will be announced in class.

Exams

There will be a mid-semester exam and a final exam (or final project). There will be a mid-semester exam and a final exam. The date for the midterm exam is **March 16th. The final is Wednesday May 14th at 12:30 P.M.** *If you need to reschedule the final exam because of a conflict, university regulations require that you submit your request in writing to me two weeks in advance.*

Exam Format –Each mid-semester exam may consist of multiple choice and true/false questions along with short answer, essay, and graphical questions. More precise details of each exam design will be given prior the exam.

Makeup Exams

Makeup exams are given only for excused absences or if the student has obtained the instructor's prior approval. If you miss an exam with an unexcused absence you will receive a zero for the exam. The University defines the following as excused absences: illness of the student or serious illness of a member of the student's immediate family; death of a member of the student's immediate family; University sponsored trips; or major religious holidays. In each foreseen case, written verification will be required at least one week before the scheduled exam and permission to miss an exam must be secured before the scheduled exam time unless the cause of the absence is unforeseen. **IF YOU MISS AN EXAM FOR AN UNFORESEEN REASON YOU SHOULD CONTACT ME AS SOON AS YOU ARE PHYSICALLY ABLE TO PICK UP THE PHONE AND CALL ME.**

Makeups: Makeups for missed exams or late assignments will be arranged only with written verification under conditions approved by the University.

Evaluation Criteria

Your final grade for the course is based on the distribution below and follows a standard 100 point scale. A: 90 to 100, B: 80-89, C: 70-79, D: 60-69, E: 59 and below. If I feel that a curve is necessary it will be determined separately for each exam. Grading in the course will be based upon class participation, writing assignments, mid-semester exams, and a final exam. Assignments, quizzes, and exams will include questions and problems to be solved based on both lecture material and assigned readings. More details regarding writing assignments will be provided later during the semester.

Task	% of Course Grade
Class Participation and Homework	15%
Writing Assignments	25%
Mid-semester Exam	30%
Final Exam or Final Project	30%
Total	100%

Course Expectations

Students are expected to read assigned material prior to class and participate in class discussion and projects. If you do not get an opportunity to ask your question during class, stop by during my office hours or feel free to contact me via electronic mail.

Please note: If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact the Office of Disability Services at (860) 465-5573. To avoid any delay in the receipt of accommodations, you should contact the Office of Disability Services as soon as possible. Please understand that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from the Office of Disability Services. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Economics 350

International Economics

Paper Assignment 1 – The Research Paper

Due: April 23, 2008

Please note that this paper is 15% of your final grade.

- 1.) You are to choose a topic in international economics. Then get your topic approved and research your Approved topic.
- 2.) Use this information to write a paper that is 7- 10 pages long. The paper must be double spaced, have approximately 1 inch margins, and use a 10 or 12 inch font. Note: Although using the writing center is not required, it is recommended as it can help you write a better paper. The paper will be graded as follows:

Explanation of topic	50
Relates to class	20
Applies (to world, economy, or business)	20
Graph/Diagrams	<u>10</u>
Total Points	100

Paper Assignment 2 – Current Events

Due: May 2nd

1. Find an article that relates to what we have covered in this class. The article selected must be at least one column and 5” long. Note longer articles tend to work out better. A copy of this article must be attached to your paper when it is handed in.
- 2.) Use this article to write a paper that is 4 – 7 pages long. The paper must be double-spaced, have approximately 1 inch margins, and use a 10 or 12 font.

The first part of your paper should be a brief summary of the article. The bulk of this paper should be an explanation of how this article relates to the class. Any applicable diagrams or graphs need to be included in this paper. The last part should be how all this relates to the real world or your life.

The paper will be graded as follows:

Copy of article	05
Summary of article	10
Relates to class	45
Application to life	30
Graphs/Diagrams	<u>10</u>
Total Points	100