



蘇州大學  
Soochow University

# ECO 389 International Trade

Winter 2024

**Course Credits:** 4

**Contact Hours:** 56 hours

**Instructor:** TBA

**Email:** TBA

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

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This course provides an introduction to the key concepts and practical applications of international trade theory and policy. It explores the fundamental principles underlying global economic interactions, trade theories that explain patterns of international exchange, the role of firms in the global economy, international trade policy considerations, and the political economy surrounding trade policies. The course is designed to make complex trade models accessible through clear language and illustrative examples.

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Develop a comprehensive understanding of key concepts and theories related to international trade.
2. Utilize international economic concepts, principles, and models to analyze worldwide phenomena and the relevant policy discussions.
3. Critically analyze the process of formulating and implementing international trade policies.
4. Examine the interaction between political and economic factors in shaping trade policies.
5. Perform economic analysis of the global economy and society, and independently conduct applied research on international economic problems.

## PREREQUISITES

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ECO 205 Microeconomic Theory



## GRADING

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Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
Quizzes	20 Points
Assignments	20 Points
Midterm 1	15 Points
Midterm 2	15 Points
Final Exam	30 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F.$$

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

## COURSE MATERIALS

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### Required Texts:

Paul R. Krugman, Maurice Obstfeld, Marc J. Melitz, *International Economics, Theory and Policy*, 11th Edition, Pearson, 2018.

### Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

## COURSE TOPICS

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MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	<p><b>Topics:</b></p> <p>Topic 1: Introduction: What Is International Economics About?</p> <p>Topic 2: International Economics: Trade and Money</p> <p>Topic 3: International Trade Theory</p> <p>Topic 4: World Trade: An Overview</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b></p> <p>Assignment#1</p>



	Quiz#1
Module 2	<p><b>Topics:</b>  Topic 5: Comparative Advantage  Topic 6: Labor Productivity and Comparative Advantage: The Ricardian Model  Topic 7: The Specific Factors Model  Topic 8: Income Distribution and Gains from Trade</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b>  Quiz#2</p>
Module 3	<p><b>Topics:</b>  Topic 9: Resources and Trade  Topic 10: Empirical Evidence on the Heckscher-Ohlin Model  Topic 11: The Standard Trade Model  Topic 12: External Economies of Scale and the International Location of Production</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b>  Assignment#2  Midterm#1</p>
Module 4	<p><b>Topics:</b>  Topic 13: Firms in the Global Economy: Export Decisions, Outsourcing, and Multinational Enterprises  Topic 14: The Monopolistic Competition Model  Topic 15: The Instruments of Trade Policy  Topic 16: The Political Economy of Trade Policy</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b>  Midterm#2</p>
Module 5	<p><b>Topics:</b>  Topic 17: Trade Policy in Developing Countries  Topic 18: Developing Countries: Growth, Crisis, and Reform  Topic 19: Controversies in Trade Policy  Topic 20: Final Exam Review</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b>  Final Exam</p>

## ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow



University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

### **LEARNING REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

### **TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.



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## **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION**

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Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.