



蘇州大學  
Soochow University

# ECO 681 International Economics

Winter 2024

**Course Credits:** 4

**Contact Hours:** 56 hours

**Instructor:** TBA

**Email:** TBA

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course provides an in-depth exploration of international economics, focusing on the principles, theories, and policies that govern economic interactions among countries. It aims to equip students with a deep understanding of the interconnections between major international economics indicators and to develop their skills in interpreting, applying, and presenting reference interpretative models in the field of international economics. Students will develop a comprehensive grasp of the dynamics shaping the global economy, the interpretation of key indicators, and the application of relevant economic models.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Describe, compare and contrast different theoretical approaches to international economic issues;
2. Gain a good working knowledge of the operations and key issues surrounding cross-border movements of labor and capital, the size and direction of trade flows, and the global economic institutions;
3. Analyze the functions and responsibilities of international trade and financial institutions, such as, WTO and IMF;
4. Explain how international economic theory has been shaped by real world events.

## PREREQUISITES

ECO 337 Advanced Microeconomics



## GRADING

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

ITEM	POINTS
2 Assignments	10 Points
2 Quizzes	20 Points
Term Project	20 Points
Midterm Exam	20 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:

1. Krugman, Paul and Maurice Obstfeld, *International Economics: Theory and Policy*, Pearson, 7th Edition, 2005.
2. Yarbrough, B.V. and R.M. Yarbrough, *The World Economy: International Trade*, CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 7th Edition, 2013.

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

None

## COURSE TOPICS

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MODULE	TASKS
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Module 1	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 1: The International Economy and Globalization Topic 2: Labor Productivity and Comparative Advantage: The Ricardian Model Topic 3: Resources and Trade: The Heckscher-Ohlin Model Topic 4: The Standard Trade Model <b>Assessments:</b> Assignment #1
Module 2	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 5: The Instruments of Trade Policy Topic 6: The Political Economy of Trade Policy Topic 7: Trade Policy in Developing Countries Topic 8: Controversies in Trade Policy <b>Assessments:</b> Quiz #1
Module 3	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 9: National Income Accounting and the Balance of Payments Topic 10: Exchange Rates and the Foreign Exchange Market Topic 11: Price Levels and the Exchange Rate in the Long Run Topic 12: Output and the Exchange Rate in the Short Run <b>Assessments:</b> Assignment #2 Midterm Exam
Module 4	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 13: The International Monetary System Topic 14: Macroeconomic Policy and Coordination Under Floating Exchange Rates Topic 15: The Global Capital Market Topic 16: International Financial Crises <b>Assessments:</b> Quiz #2
Module 5	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 17: The United States in the world economy Topic 18: Optimum Currency Areas and the European Experience Topic 19: Developing Countries: Growth, Crisis, and Reform Topic 20: Financial Globalization <b>Assessments:</b> Term Project Final Exam

## 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



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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.

## **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.