



ECONOMICS 390: International Economics

Spring 2017

M-W-F 9:30 – 10:20 am

Robinson Hall B111

Prof. Patricia A Saenz

Office Hours Wed, Fri 10:40-12:00 by appointment only

Mason Hall D167-2 - pvane@gmu.edu

Prerequisites: ECON 306 and 311, or permission of instructor.

Overview: This course introduces students to various topics in the field of international economics. We will critically explore:

- International trade theory and policies
- Exchange rate regimes
- International finance
- International monetary systems

Students should have acquainted themselves with the particular weekly topics via assigned readings before the class in order to contribute to class discussion. It is also encouraged that students keep up to date with news and events related to the course topic.

Requirements:	date	grading weight
Midterm exam	Friday, March 10 th 2017	20%
Final exam	Monday, May 15 th 2017@ 7:30am	35%
Research Paper and Presentations	Friday, April 21 st 2017	35%
Class <i>attendance</i> and <i>participation</i>		10%

The final exam date is fixed by GMU. The final exam will be cumulative.

Research Paper and Presentations: Paper topics need to be preapproved no later than Friday, February 17th 2017. Students will choose a country or group of countries to research a topic related to international economics. Topics must be unique. The paper's expected length is between 2000 and 2500 words, not including bibliography nor cover page. Students will submit their completed papers on April 21st for a first review. During the last two weeks of class, on randomly assigned time slots students will do an 8-minute presentation of their papers to the class, receive comments, questions and suggestions, incorporate those to the paper and submit the final version the Monday before the final exam, May 8th 2017 before the end of the day. Submissions may be electronic in pdf format, and use of LaTeX, BibTeX and Beamer is highly encouraged and will receive a bonus over the paper's grade. Presentations either on Beamer on PowerPoint should be emailed to me at the end of the day before your allocated presentation time.

The following policies are stated as a matter of record. (1) The content of your papers must be exclusively your own work, free from plagiarism, and not submitted to any other course. You are responsible for knowing proper attribution practices (that is, how to avoid plagiarism). See the guidelines at

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml> . (2) Late papers will be penalized as follows: an "A" paper received on due date Wednesday becomes an "A-" on Thursday, "B+" on Friday, "B" on Saturday, etc. (3) Plagiarism or cheating is grounds for an "F" on the paper or exam. (4) Failure to take an exam at the scheduled time will result in an exam score of zero (absent a valid medical excuse or certified final exam conflict). You may not take an exam at a different time from the rest of the class. Please don't ask. (5) No one will be permitted to leave an exam before 30 minutes have elapsed, or to enter after anyone has left. (6) Performance on these exams and papers, and participation in class discussions, will be the only bases for grading. No other "extra credit" will be assigned or accepted.

Required book:

Title: International Economics: Theory and Policy

Authors: Paul R. Krugman, Maurice Obstfeld, Marc Melitz

Edition: 10

Publisher: Pearson Education, 2015

Additional readings may be assigned during the course of the semester.

Structure of the course:

Week of 1/23-1/27: Introduction, Ricardian Model (Krugman Ch. 1-3)

Week of 1/30-2/3: Specific Factors Model (Krugman Ch. 4)

Week of 2/6-2/10: Heckscher-Ohlin Model (Krugman Ch. 5)

Week of 2/13-2/17: Standard Trade Model (Krugman Ch. 6), *final date for topic approval*

Week of 2/20-2/24: Firms in International Trade (Krugman Ch. 7-8)

Week of 2/27-3/3: Protectionism and Trade Barriers (Krugman Ch. 9-10)

Week of 3/6-3/10: Other trade policy issues (Krugman Ch. 11-12), *Midterm Exam*

Week of 3/13-3/17: *Spring Break – No Classes*

Week of 3/20-3/24: National Income and Balance of Payments (Krugman Ch. 13)

Week of 3/27-3/31: Exchange Rate, Part I (Krugman Ch. 14-15)

Week of 4/3-4/7: Exchange Rate, Part II (Krugman Ch. 16-17)

Week of 4/10-4/14: Fixed Exchange and introduction to Monetary Systems (Krugman Ch. 18-19)

Week of 4/17-4/21: International Monetary Systems, Financial Crisis (Krugman Ch. 20, 21, 22), *Paper due for first review*

Week of 4/24-4/28: Paper Presentations

Week of 5/1-5/5: Paper Presentations

Final Exam: Monday, May 15th 2017 7:30-10:15 a.m.