



ECONOMICS 385: International Economic Policy

Fall 2017

M-W-F 11:30 am – 12:20 pm

Planetary Hall 224

Prof. Patricia A Saenz

Office Hours Wed, Fri 10:00-11:15 am by appointment only
Mason Hall D150 - pvane@gmu.edu

From the Catalog: Introduces economic way of thinking on trade and international finance. Presents historical and current information on consequences of trade and protectionism.

Overview: In this course, we will critically explore topics surrounding international trade from various points of view, its theory and its historical development, its advantages and disadvantages. At the end of the course, students should have developed the ability to use the economic way of thinking applied to the analysis of the different aspects of international economic policy.

Students must have acquainted themselves with the particular weekly topics via assigned readings before the class in order to contribute to class discussion. Your participation grade will depend on such contribution. 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, October 13 th 2017 | 25% |
| Final exam | Friday, December 15 th 2017 @ 10:30am | 30% |
| Paper and Presentation | Monday, December 11 th 2017 (see below) | 35% |
| Class <i>attendance and 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, September 22nd 2017. Topics must be unique and clearly related to the course's content. The paper's expected length is between 2000 and 2500 words, not including bibliography nor cover page. There are three elements on this paper's grade: 1) Students will submit their draft on November 20th for a first review. 2) During the last two weeks of class, on randomly assigned time slots, students will do a 10-minute presentation of their papers to the class, receive comments, questions and suggestions, incorporate those to the paper and 3) submit the final version the Monday before the final exam, December 11th 2017 before the end of the day. Submissions must be electronic in pdf format. Presentations should be emailed to me at the end of the day before your allocated presentation time. The paper's grade will ultimately be an average of the draft's grade, the presentation's grade and the final version's grade.

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. Don't bother turning in work that is over 8 calendar days late. (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 nor accepted. (7) Zero electronics policy.

Required books:

Title: GLOBALIZATION

Author: Donald Boudreaux

Publisher: ABC-CLIO, Incorporated, 2007

Title: FREE TRADE UNDER FIRE

Author: Douglas Irwin

Edition: 4

Publisher: Princeton University Press, 2015

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

Structure of the course:

Week of 8/28-9/1: Introduction, The Economic Way of Thinking

Week of 9/4-9/8: *Labor Day – No Class Monday*. Price Theory review.

Week of 9/11-9/15: Growth theory review. Globalization (Boudreaux Ch. 1, Irwin Ch. 1)

Week of 9/18-9/22: Globalization and Prosperity (Boudreaux Ch. 2), *Final date for topic approval*

Week of 9/25-9/29: The Case for Free Trade (Boudreaux Ch 3, Irwin Ch. 2)

Week of 10/2-10/6: Protectionism and Trade Barriers (Irwin Ch. 3)

Week of 10/9-10/13: *Columbus Day, Monday class meets Tuesday, Midterm Exam*

Week of 10/16-10/20: Trade, Jobs, and Income (Boudreaux Ch. 4, Irwin Ch. 4)

Week of 10/23-10/27: The Case Against Free Trade (Boudreaux Ch. 5)

Week of 10/30-11/3: The Balance of Payments (Boudreaux Ch. 6)

Week of 11/6-11/10: Globalization, Trade and Development (Irwin Ch. 6)

Week of 11/13-11/17: Institutions of Globalization (Boudreaux Ch.7, Irwin Ch.7)

Week of 11/20-11/24: *Paper first draft due, Thanksgiving Break – No Classes Wed, Fri*

Week of 11/27-12/1: Paper Presentations

Week of 12/4-12/8: Paper Presentations

Paper final version due: December 11th 2017 before midnight.

Final Exam: Friday, December 15th 2017 10:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m.