

International Economic Policy
Econ 385-003, Spring 2020
Tuesday, 7:20 – 10:00 pm
Innovation Hall 204

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Carow Hall 01C
Fairfax Campus

DESCRIPTION

Welcome to this course! The primary goal of the course is to provide an introduction to economic way of thinking on trade and international finance.

During the first part of this course, we will be focusing on tools of economic analysis, including supply and demand theory, and price determination in a market. We will discuss foundational concepts in trade such as specialization, exchange and comparative advantage. Once we covered these foundations, we will turn to international trade policy, globalization, immigration, foreign aid and development.

PREREQUISITES AND EXPECTATIONS

The course has no prerequisites. I will conduct the course as if students have had no prior formal training in economics. Regular attendance is essential to successfully complete this course.

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, 6pm-6:45pm in Carow Hall 01C and gladly by appointment (via email).

COURSE MATERIAL

Textbooks for this course are:

Boudreaux, *Globalization*, 2008, Greenwood Press;
Easterly, *The elusive quest for growth. Economists' Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics*, 2001, the MIT Press.

To learn tools of economic analysis we will rely on selected chapters of the following two (free) books:

Greenlaw and Shapiro, *Principles of Economics 2e*, 2018. OpenStax.

<https://openstax.org/details/books/principles-economics-2e>

Alchian and Allen, *Universal Economics*, 2018, Liberty Fund. <https://oll.libertyfund.org/titles/universal-economics>

GRADING

Your final grade is based on three exams, two midterms and a final. The midterm and final exams will be multiple choice. Exams will be open book and open note, but no conversations.

There will also be quizzes and/or some short homework assignments. They will be based on assigned readings for that week or the lecture from the previous week. You can work together on those assignments but each student will be required to hand in her/his own exam. I don't accept late assignments. The weighting will be as follows:

Quizzes or short homework:	10%
Midterm I:	25%
Midterm II:	25%
Final exam:	40%

If you miss either of the midterm examinations for any reason, then the final examination will be worth 65%. If you miss both midterms, the final exam will be worth 90%.

I use the following grading scheme:

A+	100-97	B	86-83	C-	72-70
A	96-93	B-	82-80	D	69-60
A-	92-90	C+	79-77	F	59-0
B+	89-87	C	76-73		

IMPORTANT DATES

First day of class:	Jan. 21, 2020
Midterm I	Feb. 18, 2020
Spring recess (no class)	March 10, 2020
Midterm II	March 31, 2020
Last day of class:	April 28, 2020
Final exam	May 12, 2020, 7:20 – 10 pm.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Disability Services at George Mason University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students by upholding the laws that ensure equal treatment of people with disabilities. If you are seeking accommodations for this class, please first visit <http://ds.gmu.edu/> for detailed information about the Disability Services registration process. Then please discuss your approved accommodations with me. *I am glad to make accommodations for students with disabilities.* Disability Services is located in Student Union Building I (SUB I), Suite 2500. Email: ods@gmu.edu | Phone: (703) 993-2474

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

It is expected that students adhere to the George Mason University Honor Code as it relates to integrity regarding coursework and grades. The Honor Code reads as follows: "To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the University Community have set forth this: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal and/or lie in matters related to academic work." More information about the Honor Code, including definitions of cheating, lying, and plagiarism, can be found at the Office of Academic Integrity website at <http://oai.gmu.edu>