



Department of Economics

Faculty of Arts

Economics 425(01) International Trade

Instructor: Dr. David R. Sabiston
Phone: (403) 440-6546
Email: sabiston@ucalgary.ca

Lecture Location: ES 054
Lecture Days/Time: M, W / 16:00 – 18:45

Office: SS338
Office Hours: By appointment

Summer 2019

Course Description:

This course provides a detailed explanation of trade flows, gains from trade and trade policy measures. Once the international trade theory has been addressed, we emphasize current applications, policy development, as well as the institutional framework underlying the interaction between nations. Topics include: comparative advantage, Heckscher-Ohlin theory, trade with economies of scale, tariffs, non-tariff trade barriers, political economy of non-tariff barriers, strategic trade policies under different market structures, dumping, international trade agreements and the role of the World Trade Organization (WTO), and environmental issues associated with trade policy.

Economics 425 complements Economics 321, “The Global Trading System”, by providing more breadth and depth. While Economics 321 is NOT a prerequisite to Economics 425, it does provide a helpful background. Students must either complete ECON 357 prior to or concurrently with ECON 425 (or receive permission of the instructor and department).

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes:

The objectives and learning outcomes in this course are developed using two distinct, although not necessarily separate, approaches: (i) theoretical and (ii) policy. From a theoretic perspective, we extend the technical expertise acquired in Econ 357 to develop trade models under various assumptions including different market structures (e.g. maximizing objective functions subject to specific constraints). These models identify gains/losses from trade, the emergence of trade patterns along with distributional effects (e.g., transfer of income from one sector of the economy to another). In this context, students hone and improve their technical skills – mathematical, graphical, and intuitive – and recognize the merits and short-comings of the various models.

The reality, however, is that trade policy is often driven by factors other than “economics” and theoretical trade models only provide one insight to the policy process. Political, social, environmental, and other considerations all play an important role in the formulation of trade policy. We examine trade policy from these perspectives and use specific examples to highlight the importance of each. In this context, students recognize the important distinction between theory and practice.

Some of the specific course competencies and outcomes include:

- i. critical thinking through demonstrated quantitative literacy, including working with data, statistics, and algebra;
- ii. critical thinking through demonstrated written literacy;
- iii. independent thinking through demonstration of the ability to explain and analyze economic/political arguments for logical consistency and sequence of argument;
- iv. communication through use of mathematical language and graphical presentation as well as through sequential verbal and written arguments;
- v. information evaluation through the ability to use economic models and specific micro and macroeconomic tools.

Course Outline:

Course content includes, but is not limited to, the following text chapters in Feenstra & Taylor:

<u>General Topic</u>	<u>Chapters in Feenstra & Taylor</u>
Trade in the Global Economy	Chapter 1
Patterns of International Trade	Chapters 2-5
New Explanations for International Trade	Chapter 6
International Trade Policies	Chapters 8, 9, 11

NOTE: Depending on time constraints, some topics may be added or deleted.

Prerequisites/corequisites

Econ 357.

Required Textbook:

Feenstra, R.C., and A. M. Taylor (2017). *International Trade* (4th ed). Worth Publishers.

LaunchPad + Loose Leaf Sheets: ISBN-10: 1-319-16806-X; ISBN-13: 978-1-319-16806-3

Launchpad + Hard Cover: ISBN-10: 1-319-16787-X; ISBN-13: 978-1-319-16787-5

Recommended Texts:

Appleyard, Dennis R. and Alfred J. Field Jr. (2017), *International Economics*. 9th Edition. New York:
McGraw-Hill Irwin.

Krugman, Paul, Maurice Obstfeld and Marc J. Melitz (2018), *International Trade: Theory and Policy*.
(11th ed.) Pearson Education.

Desire2Learn:

This course will make use of the Desire2Learn (D2L) platform. Students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca> through their student centre. Please note that D2L features a class e-mail list that may be used to distribute course-related information. These e-mails go to your University of Calgary e-mail addresses only.

Additional required readings will be posted on the D2L site as we progress through the course.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details

- (i) There are *two, non-cumulative* in-class tests worth 20% (*July 15, 2019 and July 29, 2019*). Each in-class test will be approximately 90 minutes in length and may consist of theoretical, mathematical, graphical, applied, and/or “readings” questions. Make-up tests will not be given.
- (ii) There are *six online assignments* worth 24%; each comprised of two components. The first component is a “Learning Curve Activity” worth a total of 6% (1% for each of 6 chapters). The second component is a “Graded Homework” worth a total of 18% (3% for each of 6 chapters). These online assignments are accessed using MacMillan Learning’s online assessment tool call LaunchPad.
- (iii) A final exam worth 36% will be written during the final exam period as scheduled by the registrar. The final exam is *cumulative* and is 2 hours in length as scheduled by the Registrar’s office. More information will be provided towards the end of the term.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Value</u>
In – class test #1	July 15 th , 2019	20%
In – class test #2	July 29 th , 2019	20%
LaunchPad – Chapter 2	July 10 th , 2019	4%
LaunchPad – Chapter 3	July 17 th , 2019	4%
LaunchPad – Chapter 4	July 24 th , 2019	4%
LaunchPad – Chapter 6	July 31 st , 2019	4%
LaunchPad – Chapter 8	August 7, 2019	4%
LaunchPad – Chapter 9	August 13, 2019	4%
Final Examination	Registrar Scheduled: August 15 th - 19 th , 2019	<u>36%</u> <u>100%</u>

The official grading system will be used. See <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html>.

If a student’s letter grade on the final exam exceeds their midterm(s) letter grade, the weight of the midterm(s) is (are) transferred to the final exam. The student must have written the midterm(s) or provided supporting documentation for the absence(s) such as a medical note or statutory declaration.

As per the Writing Across the Curriculum Statement in the Calendar, writing and grading thereof will be a factor in the evaluation of student work.

Any student work which remains undistributed after the last day of classes will be available to students through the instructor's office during the instructor's office hours.

The final examination will be comprehensive, scheduled by the Registrar, held in a classroom, and last 2 hours. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final. Under no circumstance will this be accommodated by the Department.

THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED TESTS or EXAMS under any circumstances, nor may the quizzes/exams be written early. Students unable to write the quizzes/exams because of documented illness, family emergency, religious observance, or university-sanctioned event will have the weight shifted according to format discussed in "Grade Determination and Final Exam Details" above; otherwise a grade of zero will be assigned. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>. Under no circumstance will this be accommodated by the department.

A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a student to pass the course as a whole.

Note: Non-programmable calculators will be allowed during the writing of tests or final examinations and all tests and quizzes will not involve multiple choice questions.

Lap tops (and tablets) are permitted for note-taking. Cell phone and other electronic cameras, however, are NOT an acceptable form of note-taking.

Reappraisal of Grades and Intellectual Honesty:

For reappraisal of graded term work, see Calendar I.2

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

For reappraisal of final grade, see Calendar I.3

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Statement of Intellectual Dishonesty, see Calendar K.4

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-4.html>

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct, see Calendar K.5

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>

Academic Accommodations:

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than disability should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Important Dates:

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>

Student Organizations:

Faculty of Arts Students' Association (F.A.S.A.):

Economics Department Representative

Office: SS 803, E-mail: econrep@fasaucalgary.ca and Web: www.fasaucalgary.ca.

Society of Undergraduates in Economics:

<https://www.ucalgarysue.com/>.

Society of Undergraduates in Economics is a student run organization whose main purpose is to assist undergraduate economics students to succeed both academically and socially at the University of Calgary. Services include access to the exam bank, career events such as Industry Night and information sessions, mentorship programs, and social events for members. They invite you to join by contacting SUE at societyofundergradsineconomics@gmail.com.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call them at 403-220-3580 or email them at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns, including program planning and advice.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Library Block.
- Online writing resources are available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/resources/writing-support>

Evacuation Assembly Point:

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The assembly point for this class is the ICT - Food Court.

Safewalk:

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. **Call 403-220-5333**

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. For more information, see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>.

Internet and Electronic Communication Device information:

The use of cell phones for any purpose in class is prohibited. Computers and tablets may be used for note-taking only.