
ECON 442 ECONOMICS OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCE AND POLICY

Spring 2022

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Tao Lu

Online Office Hours on **Canvas Chat:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM Mountain Time or by appointment

Email: Tao.Lu@colostate.edu

Communication Policy: If you need help at any point during the semester, I'm available through email (Tao.Lu@colostate.edu). Responses to emails will be provided within 12-18 hours. Be sure to use your CSU rams email address because sometimes non-CSU email accounts are filtered into my spam folder.

Should the need arise to let you know of important changes to the course or schedule, I will notify you through Canvas, and/or via email. Some announcements as well as supplementary materials will be available on Canvas, so students should be checking the course website regularly. Please check the “Announcements” section on Canvas and email often.

Term Start: January 18, 2022

Term End: May 13, 2022

PREREQUISITES FOR COURSE

MATH 117 (College Algebra in Context I) or MATH 118 (College Algebra in Context II) or MATH 141 (Calculus in Management Sciences) or MATH 155 (Calculus for Biological Scientists I) or MATH 160 (Calculus for Physical Scientists I); AND ECON 304 (Intermediate of Macroeconomics).

As such I will assume that you are familiar with basic economic theory, as discussed in Principles of Microeconomics and Macroeconomics; basic statistical concepts, including probability distributions and hypothesis testing; algebraic concepts, including the ability to graph lines and curves in two dimensions; and a basic understanding of differential calculus.

Note: The use of calculus in this course will be limited but may be used from time to time in order to aid in the instruction of particular concepts.

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

This course is offered through the Department of Economics at Colorado State University. Economics of International Finance and Policy is an optional theoretical course in one of the key field areas of economics. This course covers the macroeconomic side of international economics. You will explore in detail the functioning of international financial markets. The first part of the course is all about exchange rate and introduces the key macroeconomic quantities: the national and international accounts and the balance of payments. The last part highlights the role of policy and applications of international macroeconomics.

Upon completion of the course, students should:

- Explain the basic theory of exchange rates including a discussion of the monetary approach and asset approach to the determination of exchange rates.
- Discuss external wealth and valuation effects.
- Explain the key macroeconomic quantities: the national and international accounts and the balance of payments.
- Evaluate one of the major policy issues in international finance, the choice of fixed versus floating exchange rates.
- Analyze exchange rate crises, common currencies with focus on the euro, the failures of uncovered interest parity and purchasing power parity, the debate over global imbalances, and the problem of default.

TEXTBOOK / COURSE READINGS

Textbook (required): *International Finance: Theory and Policy* (11th Edition) by Paul R. Krugman, Maurice Obstfeld, Marc Melitz.

ISBN-13: 9780134519548

You can purchase this book from the CSU Bookstore at www.bookstore.colostate.edu. You can also purchase a new or used text, an e-text, rent the text, etc. from a variety of sources.

If students choose not to purchase a physical copy, students must purchase the online access option that includes the e-text. Lectures will closely follow the outline of the textbook with discussions drawn from news sources that will be made available on Canvas. Students are expected to read the relevant material in advance of class. A copy of the text is available on reserve at the library.

COURSE MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT

News: Students are expected to follow the news on a regular basis. Because this course is highly relevant to real world issues, being up to date on current events adds to what students take from this course and enhances group discussions. Discussion posts on Canvas will be related to news articles students are expected to find. All students pursuing a college degree, and economics majors, should be following a news source (e.g., The Economist, Wall Street Journal, New York Times, etc.) with economic relevance independently of the expectations from this class.

Hardware (required): Since you are required to use Honorlock for exams, you must have a computer with a microphone and a webcam.

Software (see [recommendations from CSU](#)):

- Web browser (GOOGLE CHROME NEEDED FOR HONORLOCK - [free download](#))
- Adobe Acrobat Reader ([free download](#))
- Microsoft Office ([free download](#))

Supplemental readings and other materials will be provided in Canvas system, via the CSU Library electronic reserve, or by links to websites.

PARTICIPATION/BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

The content will be divided into 16 modules and each week one module will be released. Modules will be comprised of readings from the course texts, supplemental class notes, graded discussion questions, problem sets, instructions related to policy analyses to help you prepare for the exams, and various outside sources of information such as additional readings and video content. Since there are no in-person classes, it is crucial to work through the entire module and contact me with any questions. A detailed description of the course schedule and due dates is provided separately.

Online education requires skills and habits that may be less essential in traditional courses. Specifically, consistent reading and communication is essential to being successful in this course! As an instructor, I need to be able to communicate class information to you, but also need you to communicate any feedback in return. For example, if you are struggling on a particular section or assignment, I need you to initiate that conversation. Given the nature of the class, assigned reading is extremely important.

This course is conducted entirely online. You should expect to be online at least 3 times per week. The modules will guide you through the week's readings, lectures, supplemental materials, and quizzes, and discussion posts. Access each module as soon as possible and expect to work on them throughout the week! This course is flexible in the sense that you can finish the material on days that work for you, but it must be completed by the due date.

Please review the [core rules of netiquette](#) for some guidelines and expectations on how to behave in an online learning environment.

COURSE POLICIES

It is your responsibility to turn in each assignment on the required date. All assignments turned in after the scheduled due date will be penalized 10% of the grade for each day late. The exceptions that may be considered are due to sickness, university excused function, or circumstances beyond the students' control. If there is a personal emergency or a conflict with turning in an assignment,

please try to communicate with me before the assignment is due. You must contact me within 1 week of a missed assignment to be considered for an extension due to illnesses or circumstances beyond one's control. There will be NO make-up exams. In extreme cases where communication with the instructor was not possible before an assignment was due, documentation must be provided and the circumstance barring the student from completing work must be a university approved excuse.

The instructor reserves the sole right to determine what grounds constitute a reasonable excuse for missing or submitting a late work assignment, the level of penalty, and the right to require the student to submit proper verification of such excuse.

GRADING POLICY

There are 1000 points available in the course. Course grades will be determined by the completion of assignments, exams, and discussions, as shown below:

Assignment*	Points per Assignment	Frequency	Grade Points	Grade Percentage
Discussions Postings	30	6	180	18%
Quizzes	20	10	200	20%
Problem Sets	60	2	120	12%
Final Project	200	1	200	20%
Exams	150	2	300	30%
TOTAL			1000	100%

*Keep a copy of all work created for the course, including work submitted through Canvas.

CAUTION: You will likely fail this course if you do not complete the problem sets/discussion posts and individual final project in time, in addition to exams.

Course Grading Criteria

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percentage Grade</i>	<i>Equivalent Points</i>	<i>Indicates</i>
<i>A+</i>	<i>96.7-100</i>	<i>967 and above</i>	
<i>A</i>	<i>93.4-96.6</i>	<i>934 - 966</i>	<i>Excellent</i>
<i>A-</i>	<i>90-93.3</i>	<i>900 - 933</i>	
<i>B+</i>	<i>86.7-89.99</i>	<i>867 - 899</i>	
<i>B</i>	<i>83.4-86.6</i>	<i>834 - 866</i>	<i>Above Average</i>
<i>B-</i>	<i>80-83.3</i>	<i>800 - 833</i>	
<i>C+</i>	<i>76.7-79.9</i>	<i>767 - 799</i>	
<i>C</i>	<i>70-76.6</i>	<i>700 - 766</i>	<i>Average</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>60-69.9</i>	<i>600 - 699</i>	<i>Below Average</i>
<i>F</i>	<i>0-59.9</i>	<i>599 or lower</i>	<i>Failure</i>

CLASS PARTICIPATION

This course is designed to engage you through class discussions on the topics covered in the course materials. It is important that you participate in class discussions to facilitate learning by other students and gain exposure to different viewpoints of other students in the class. It is therefore necessary to participate throughout the week in the discussion questions, not wait until the last minute to post on discussion topics.

Discussion Entries (180 points)

There are six chances that you will need to complete a discussion post using the prompt provided. You will need to post a comment yourself, and you will need to respond to at least one other student's post. These need to be well thought-out comments, which illustrate your ability to write and communicate your comprehension and curiosities to me and to your fellow students. You need to show that you read the material, can synthesize the information, and can apply your knowledge

of economics toward analyzing the reading. In responding to other students' posts you need to evaluate their post, potentially form an opinion with well-formulated, logical reasoning, and communicate that evaluation and opinion to your classmates. You should be able to integrate your ideas with others to progress the conversations on the discussions. These posts should be at least 150 words. Each discussion is worth 30 points (6 discussions x 30 points = 180 total possible points).

Problem Sets (120 points)

There will be 2 problem sets that will consist of questions (multiple choice, calculation, short answer, and essay type) covering important course material from the previous week(s) to prepare you for your exams (2 problem sets x 60 points = 120 total possible points).

Quizzes (200 points)

You will have ten quizzes throughout the semester which associated approximately 10-15 multiple choice and essay questions that cover the material presented in that week (10 quizzes x 20 points = 200 total possible points).

Final Project (200 points)

You will have one final project at the end of the term that is expected to be about 3-5 pages long (approximately 1,000-2,000 words, Times New Roman 12-point font). The topic and detailed expectations will be provided in a separate document once assigned. The assignment will test your ability to write using grammar, mechanics, formatting, vocabulary, and documentation appropriate for economics. The final project will cover what you have learned over the full course up until the project due date. Your project will be based on data analysis and interpretation pertaining to a question that interests you.

You will be required to submit an electronic copy to Turnitin, an online plagiarism detection program. There will be more information about this process provided later through Canvas.

Keep in mind that plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty. As per university policy Academic honesty is imperative. Any student or student organization found to have committed or to have attempted to commit misconduct is subject to disciplinary sanction. For example, academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized possession or disposition of academic materials, falsification, or facilitation of acts of dishonesty. Specific procedures for cases of academic dishonesty are also described in the Academic Integrity Policy in the General Catalog, the Graduate Student Bulletin, the Faculty Manual, or the Honor Code of the Professional Veterinary School as applicable. For more information, please use the link provided on Canvas.

Proctored Exams (300 points)

You will be given two exams, each counting for 150 points of your final grade. Each exam covers half semester of the course materials. Although the exams are not cumulative in the strict sense, topics from throughout the course may carry over into new material, meaning that exam questions may include elements for earlier parts of the course. There are no early or make up exams given with exceptions for University approved activities or documented illness or family emergencies. In case of documented illness, family emergency or university-excused absence, you may reschedule an exam within 5 days (+/-) of the exam date.

Any student who wants to challenge the validity of a test answer, and who is not satisfied with the instructor's preliminary explanation, may submit in writing (email is OK) the reason(s) a disallowed answer might be considered correct within one week of receiving that exam back.

All exams will be proctored. You are required to take your exams with **Honorlock**.

Honorlock will proctor your exams this semester. **Honorlock** is an online proctoring service that allows you to take your exam from the comfort of your home. You DO NOT need to create an account, download software or schedule an appointment in advance. Honorlock is available 24/7 and all that is needed is a computer, a working webcam, and a stable Internet connection.

To get started, you will need Google Chrome and to download the **Honorlock** Chrome Extension. You can download the extension at www.honorlock.com/extension/install.

When you are ready to test, log into Canvas, go to your course, and click on your exam. Clicking Launch Proctoring will begin the **Honorlock** authentication process, where you will take a picture of yourself, show your ID, and complete a scan of your room. **Honorlock** will be recording your exam session by webcam as well as recording your screen. **Honorlock** also has an integrity algorithm that can detect search-engine use, so please do not attempt to search for answers, even if it's on a secondary device.

Honorlock support is available 24/7/365. If you encounter any issues, you may contact us by live chat, phone (844-243-2500), and/or email (support@honorlock.com) .

Please see Canvas for detailed information about proctoring, including the contact information for **Honorlock**.

EXPECTATIONS OF INSTRUCTORS

As a student enrolled in this course, one of your responsibilities is to submit course work by the due dates listed in the schedule. With that said, we take our role as your instructors very seriously,

and, in fact, we care about how well you do in this course and that you have a satisfying, rewarding experience.

To that end, it is our commitment to you to respond individually to the work you submit in this class and to return your work in a timely manner. If, however, due to unforeseeable circumstances, the grading of your work takes longer than the times we have listed here, we will keep you informed of our progress and make every effort to return your work with feedback as soon as we can.

Activity	Time Estimates
Reading	4 hours
Review Class Notes	4 hours
Complete Assignments	4 hours
Prepare for Exams	6 hours
TOTAL	18 hours

Course Withdrawal Policy: Any student who wishes to withdraw from the course must submit a request directly to Division of Continuing Education (CSU Online). For complete information, please visit their website at <http://www.online.colostate.edu/faqs/policies/drop-policy.dot>.

CANVAS INFORMATION & TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Canvas is where the course content, grades, and communication will reside for this course.

- [Login for Canvas](#)
- [Canvas Support](#)
- For passwords or any other computer-related technical support, contact the [Central IT Technical Support Help Desk](#).
 - (970) 491-7276
 - help@colostate.edu

The [Technical Requirements](#) page identifies the browsers, operating systems, and plugins that work best with Canvas. If you are new to Canvas quickly review [the Canvas Student Orientation](#) materials.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY & CSU HONOR PLEDGE

This course will adhere to the CSU [Academic Integrity/Misconduct](#) policy as found in the General Catalog and the [Student Conduct Code](#).

Academic integrity lies at the core of our common goal: to create an intellectually honest and rigorous community. Because academic integrity, and the personal and social integrity of which

academic integrity is an integral part, is so central to our mission as students, teachers, scholars, and citizens, I will ask that you affirm the CSU Honor Pledge as part of completing your work in this course.

Further information about Academic Integrity is available at CSU's [Academic Integrity - Student Resources](#).

UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING/ACCOMMODATION OF NEEDS

I am committed to the principle of universal learning. This means that our classroom, our virtual spaces, our practices, and our interactions be as inclusive as possible. Mutual respect, civility, and the ability to listen and observe others carefully are crucial to universal learning.

If you are a student who will need accommodations in this class, please contact me to discuss your individual needs. Any accommodation must be discussed in a timely manner. A verifying memo from [The Student Disability Center](#) may be required before any accommodation is provided.

The Student Disability Center (SDC) has the authority to verify and confirm the eligibility of students with disabilities for the majority of accommodations. While some accommodations may be provided by other departments, a student is not automatically eligible for those accommodations unless their disability can be verified and the need for the accommodation confirmed, either through SDC or through acceptable means defined by the particular department. Faculty and staff may consult with the SDC staff whenever there is doubt as to the appropriateness of an accommodative request by a student with a disability.

The goal of SDC is to normalize disability as part of the culture of diversity at Colorado State University. The characteristic of having a disability simply provides the basis of the support that is available to students. The goal is to ensure students with disabilities have the opportunity to be as successful as they have the capability to be.

Support and services are offered to student with functional limitations due to visual, hearing, learning, or mobility disabilities as well as to students who have specific physical or mental health conditions due to epilepsy, diabetes, asthma, AIDS, psychiatric diagnoses, etc. Students who are temporarily disabled are also eligible for support and assistance.

Any student who is enrolled at CSU, and who self-identifies with SDC as having a disability, is eligible for support from SDC. Specific accommodations are determined individually for each student and must be supported by appropriate documentation and/or evaluation of needs consistent with a particular type of disability. SDC reserves the right to ask for any appropriate documentation of disability in order to determine a student's eligibility for accommodations as well as in support for specific accommodative requests. The accommodative process begins once a student meets with an accommodations specialist in the SDC.

THIRD-PARTY TOOLS/PRIVACY

Please note that this course may require you to use third-party tools (tools outside of the Canvas learning management system), such as Skype and others. Some of these tools may collect and share information about their users. Because your privacy is important, you are encouraged to consult the privacy policies for any third-party tools in this course so that you are aware of how your personal information is collected, used and shared.

COPYRIGHTED COURSE MATERIALS

Please do not share material from this course in online, print, or other media. Course material is the property of the instructor who developed the course. Materials authored by third parties and used in the course are also subject to copyright protections. Posting course materials on external sites (commercial or not) violates both copyright law and the CSU Student Conduct Code. Students who share course content without the instructor's express permission, including with online sites that post materials to sell to other students, could face appropriate disciplinary or legal action.

UNDOCUMENTED STUDENT SUPPORT

Any CSU student who faces challenges or hardships due to their legal status in the United States and believes that it may impact their academic performance in this course is encouraged to visit [Student Support Services for Undocumented, DACA & ASSET](#) for resources and support. Additionally, only if you feel comfortable, please notify your professor so they may pass along any additional resources they may possess.

TITLE IX/INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE

For the full statement regarding role and responsibilities about reporting harassment, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and the retaliation policy please go to: [Title IX – Sexual Assault, Sexual Violence, Sexual Harassment](#).

If you feel that your rights have been compromised at CSU, several resources are available to assist:

- Student Resolution Center, 200 Lory Student Center, 491-7165
- Office of Equal Opportunity, 101 Student Services, 491-5836

A note about interpersonal violence: If you or someone you know has experienced sexual assault, relationship violence and/or stalking, know that you are not alone. As instructors, we are required by law to notify university officials about disclosures related to interpersonal violence. Confidential victim advocates are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to provide support

related to the emotional, physical, physiological and legal aftermath of interpersonal violence. Contact the Victim Assistance Team at: 970-492-4242.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

CSU does not discriminate on the basis of religion. Reasonable accommodation should be made to allow individuals to observe their established religious holidays. Students seeking an exemption from attending class or completing assigned course work for a religious holiday will need to fill out the [Religious Accommodation Request Form](#) and turn it in to the Division of Student Affairs, located on the second level of the Administration building.

Once turned in, the Division of Student Affairs will review the request and contact the student accordingly. If approved, the student will receive a memo from the Dean of Students to give to their professor or course instructor.

Students are asked to turn in the request forms as soon as the conflict is noticed. Similarly, unanticipated conflicts requiring a religious observance, such as a death in the family, can also be reviewed.

CSU PRINCIPLES OF COMMUNITY

Inclusion: We create and nurture inclusive environments and welcome, value and affirm all members of our community, including their various identities, skills, ideas, talents and contributions.

Integrity: We are accountable for our actions and will act ethically and honestly in all our interactions.

Respect: We honor the inherent dignity of all people within an environment where we are committed to freedom of expression, critical discourse, and the advancement of knowledge.

Service: We are responsible, individually and collectively, to give of our time, talents, and resources to promote the well-being of each other and the development of our local, regional, and global communities.

Social Justice: We have the right to be treated and the responsibility to treat others with fairness and equity, the duty to challenge prejudice, and to uphold the laws, policies and procedures that promote justice in all respects.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The [Mission, Vision, and Focus](#) webpage of the Vice President for Diversity includes a comprehensive statement of CSU's commitment to diversity and inclusion.