



Economics 440– Economics of International Trade and Policy Fall 2020

Instructor Information

Instructor: Maame Hagan

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Office hours: Tues 8-9:30am and Thurs 2:00-3:30pm (*via zoom: details to come on canvas site*)

Term Start Date: August 24, 2020

Term End Date: December 11, 2020

Course Objectives:

This course has two objectives: to introduce students to the “real” (as opposed to financial) side of international economics, international trade; and to give students an overview of some of the key trade-related political and economic debates taking place among economists, governments, and civil society today. Like other areas of economics, international trade tends to be a highly theoretical field, a spectrum that originates from diverging perspectives and competing schools of thought. These varying theories also have important applications to the real world, and not all of them perform very well in terms of giving empirical guidance to policymakers. This makes a one-semester course in international trade somewhat of a challenging balance between giving students a critical foundation in methodology and a practical understanding of real world issues. We intend to achieve this balance by contextualizing theory in the actual world, and we hope to stimulate intellectual interest in extending your knowledge of international trade-related issues.

Intended Learning Outcomes:

After completing this course, a successful student should be able to:

1. Give an accounting of the historical evolution of trade theory.
2. Compare and contrast standard trade theories, including Ricardian, specific factors, Heckscher-Ohlin, and models of outsourcing.
3. Critically evaluate the empirical performance of standard trade models and their applicability to the real world.
4. Identify key trade issues facing both developed and developing countries today.
5. Identify and critically discuss broad global patterns of trade.
6. Characterize major global trade agreements and institutions.

Course Materials:

Required Text & Readings

There is one required book for this course, listed below. The remaining article readings will be posted on canvas.

Robert C. Feenstra and Alan M. Taylor. *International Trade, Fourth Edition*. New York: Worth Publishers. ISBN-13: 978-1-319-06173-9. ISBN-10: 1-319-06173-7.

Course Assignments:

Homework: Throughout the course, there will be 3 “big” take home assignments (practice problems and essay questions) related to the course material. Please see schedule for due dates.

Discussion Posts: There will be also be a few discussion posts to give you the opportunity to reflect on the material you are reading and also engage with your classmates. More details and discussion prompts will be posted on Canvas.

Papers: There will be 2 papers in the course. For the first paper, you will choose one of the articles that will be posted on canvas and write a 3-4 page reflection/analysis on the article. For the second paper, you will be provided with a few prompts to respond to. More details will be posted on canvas.

Exams. There will be 2 mid-terms (see schedule for dates) and a final. While the final exam WILL be cumulative, the last part of the course will get greater than proportional coverage. The exams will be a combination of multiple choice, essay and/or problem-solving.

Technological Requirements:

The technology requirements for this online course are listed below:

Hardware

- A Windows or Macintosh computer with at least 2 GB of RAM and a fast, reliable broadband Internet connection (e.g., cable, DSL).
- Recommended computer monitor and laptop screen size be 13-inches or larger for optimum visibility of course material.
- Computer speakers or headphones to listen to recorded content.
- Enough space on your computer for 1) install the required and recommended software and, 2) save your course assignments.
- A computer with a webcam and microphone

Software

- Web browser (Firefox generally works well with CSU websites - [free download](#))
- Adobe Acrobat Reader ([free download](#))
- Flash Player ([free download](#))
- Microsoft Office ([free download](#))

Technical help

Canvas technical support

<http://info.canvas.colostate.edu/student-resources.aspx>

Course Website:

Canvas is our class website: <https://colostate.instructure.com/>

- Login using your Colorado State University eID and password
- Under Course List, click “2020FA-ECON-440-401: Economics of International Trade”
- **Note: all email correspondence will be through your canvas email and canvas announcements. Please check both daily.**

Covid-Related Course Procedures:

All students should fill out a student-specific symptom checker each day before coming to class (<https://covidrecovery.colostate.edu/daily-symptom-checker/>). In addition, please utilize the symptom checker to report symptoms, if you have a positive test, or exposed to a known COVID contact. If you know or believe you have been exposed or are symptomatic, it is important for the health of yourself and others that you report it through this checker. You will not be in trouble or penalized in any way for reporting. If you report symptoms or a positive test, you will receive immediate instructions on what to do and CSU's Public Health Office will be notified. Once notified, that office will contact you and most likely conduct contact tracing, initiate any necessary public health requirements and/or recommendations and notify you if you need to take any steps. For the latest information about the University's response, please visit the CSU COVID-19 site (<https://covidrecovery.colostate.edu/>).

Emails:

I typically respond to emails within 24 hours. Please remember to include your first and last name on all emails that you send to me. In addition, please do not email to ask me when the next exam will be or when any of the other coursework is due. All exam and coursework dates are on the syllabus. **If there is a change, I will make it on the syllabus and send an announcement through canvas that a change was made.**

Assessment and Grading:

As a student enrolled in this course, one of your responsibilities is to submit course work by the due dates listed here in the schedule. With that said, I take my role as your instructor very seriously, and, in fact, I care about how well you do in this course and that you have a satisfying, rewarding experience. It is my 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 expected, I will keep you informed of my progress and make every effort to return your work with feedback as soon as I can.

Grade Distribution:

| <i>Assignment weights:</i> | <i>Percentage</i> | <i>Points</i> |
|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Homework | 30% | 150 |
| Papers | 20% | 200 |
| Discussion Posts | 10 % | 50 |
| Mid-terms | 20% | 200 |
| Final exam | 20% | 100 |
| Total | 100% | 700 |

Course grades:

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 97.00 - 100 % = A+ | 93.00 – 96.99 % = A | 90.00 – 92.99 % = A- |
| 87.00 – 89.99 % = B+ | 83.00 – 86.99 % = B | 80.00 – 82.99 % = B- |
| 77.00 – 79.99 % = C+ | 70.00 – 76.99 % = C | 60.00 – 69.99 % =D |
| 0–59.99%=F | | |

Class expectations and Policies:

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|--------------------|--|
| Read the syllabus | You are required to read the syllabus and to make yourself aware of all the requirements and deadlines associated with this course. |
| Late assignments | Late assignments will be penalized by 5 percent each day that they each day that they are late. |
| Scheduling & exams | There will be no early exams given unless an official excuse with official documentation is presented (i.e. medical emergency or official athletic excuse). It is your responsibility to discuss any schedule conflicts with me individually at least two weeks before the exam. |

On average, you should expect to spend at least 9 hours a week on the course:

| <u>Activity</u> | <u>Expected workload</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Reviewing Lectures | 3 |
| Discussion Posts | 1 |
| Homeworks | 1.5 |
| Work on papers | 1.5 |
| Exam Study/Preparation | 2 |
| Total hours | 9 hours per week |

Course Withdrawal Policy:

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

Academic Integrity:

I take academic integrity seriously. Any evidence of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism or cheating on exams, will be penalized with a failing grade for the course and passed on to the Office of Student Affairs for investigation and possible disciplinary action.

At a minimum, academic integrity means that no one will use another's work as their own. The CSU writing center defines plagiarism this way:

“Plagiarism is the unauthorized or unacknowledged use of another person's academic or scholarly work. Done on purpose, it is cheating. Done accidentally, it is no less serious. Regardless of how it occurs, plagiarism is a theft of intellectual property and a violation of an ironclad rule demanding credit be given where credit is due.”

—Writing Guides: Understanding Plagiarism.

<http://writing.colostate.edu/guides/researchsources/understandingplagiarism>

Academic Dishonesty could result in expulsion from the university. Each instance of plagiarism, classroom cheating, and other types of academic dishonesty will be addressed according to the principles published in the CSU General Catalog (see page seven, column two: <http://www.catalog.colostate.edu/front/policies.aspx>). The instructor reserves the right to assess penalties of zero grades on the assignment/exam or a failing grade in the course as appropriate.

Of course, academic integrity means more than just avoiding plagiarism and cheating. It also involves doing your own reading and studying. It includes class attendance, careful consideration of all class materials, and engagement with the class and your fellow students. Academic integrity lies at the core of our common goal: to create an intellectually honest and rigorous community. Each exam and assignment you submit, you are implicitly signing and acknowledging that you have followed the CSU student honor pledge:

"I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance."

Department Statement on Copyright:

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 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 disciplinary or legal action.

CSU Honor Pledge:

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. Each exam and assignment you submit, you will be required to affirm the following statement:

"I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance."

Further information about Academic Integrity is available at CSU's **Practicing Academic Integrity** <http://learning.colostate.edu/integrity/index.cfm>.

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.

Title IX:

CSU's Discrimination, Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, and Retaliation policy designates faculty and employees of the University as "Responsible Employees." This designation is consistent with federal law and guidance, and requires faculty to report information regarding students who may have experienced any form of sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, relationship violence, stalking or retaliation. This includes information shared with faculty in person, electronic communications or in class assignments.

As "Responsible Employees," faculty may refer students to campus resources (see below), together with informing the Office of Support and Safety Assessment to help ensure student safety and welfare. Information regarding sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, relationship violence, stalking and retaliation is treated with the greatest degree of confidentiality possible while also ensuring student and campus safety. Any student who may be the victim of sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, relationship violence, stalking or retaliation is encouraged to report to CSU through one or more of the following resources: Emergency Response 911, Deputy Title IX Coordinator/Office of Support and Safety Assessment (970) 491-1350, Colorado State University Police Department (nonemergency) (970) 491-6425. For counseling support and assistance, please see the CSU Health Network, which includes a variety of counseling services that can be accessed at: <http://www.health.colostate.edu/> . The Sexual Assault Victim Assistance Team is a confidential student resource that does not have a reporting requirement: <http://www.wgac.colostate.edu/need-help-support>.

Disclaimer:

All of the information in this course syllabus is subject to change when deemed necessary by the instructor. Students will be notified verbally in class, via postings on the class homepage, or by email if such changes occur.

