



## Department of Economics Course Outline

**Term:** Fall 2010

**Course:** **Econ 619**  
**Economics of International  
Commercial Policy**

**Section:** 01

**Time:** TR 13:00-14:15

**Place:** SS 423

**Instructor:** Jared Carbone

**Office:** SS 438

**Tel. no.:** 220 4094

**Office hours:** TBA

**E-mail:** [j.c.carbone@ucalgary.ca](mailto:j.c.carbone@ucalgary.ca)

**Textbook(s):** Robert C. Feenstra (2004) Advanced International Trade: Theory and Evidence (Princeton University Press) is required. Other required readings will be distributed via the course website.

### Book(s) on Reserve:

Feenstra, Robert C. and Alan M. Taylor (2007) *International Economics* (Worth Publishers).

Krugman, Paul and Maurice Obstfeld (2000) *International Economics* (Addison, Wesley, Longman, Amsterdam).

Markusen, Melvin, Kaempfer & Maskus, *International Trade: Theory & Evidence*, McGraw Hill.

### Course Outline:

This course is part of a two course graduate sequence in international trade. Research in the field of international economics emphasizes both theoretical work and quantitative analysis. Economics 619 focuses on quantitative analysis and the companion course, Economics 621, focuses on the general equilibrium theory that provides the foundation for empirical research. These two courses are complementary and can be taken in any order.

Economics 619 examines important longstanding as well as contemporary issues in the quantitative trade literature. This year's course will place a special emphasis on the use of applied general equilibrium (AGE) models as a tool for policy-focused analysis as well as more basic research in the field of international trade. A significant fraction of our time will be devoted to learning the methods used to program AGE models on a desktop computer and work with data to calibrate these models for use in international trade policy experiments.

I will assume that you have successfully completed at least one calculus-based course in microeconomic theory and that you are comfortable with the standard mathematics tools used in economics like calculus, constrained optimization and linear algebra. You should have basic familiarity with the use of Windows-based computers. You do not need to have a background in programming to enroll in the course but you should be prepared to put in the effort needed to acquire basic programming skills early in the term.

The course will be conducted as a seminar and will require class participation and involvement including class presentations.

A list of topics and accompanying readings will be made available during the first week of class.

**Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:**

All students must comply with the regulations published in the University Calendar concerning “Intellectual Honesty,” “Examinations,” etc. Students will normally be evaluated in accordance with the marking scheme given below:

Class Participation	10%
In-Class Presentation(s)	15%
Problem Sets	15%
Midterm Exam	30%
Major Paper or Final Exam	<u>30%</u>
	100%

Tests and final exams are marked on a numerical (percentage) basis, then converted to letter grades. The course grade is then calculated using the weights indicated above. As a guide to determining standing, the following letter grade equivalence will generally apply:

A+	97-100	B	83-86	C-	70-72
A	93-96	B-	80-82	D+	67-69
A-	90-92	C+	77-79	D	60-66
B+	87-89	C	73-76	F	<60

Students must successfully complete all components of the course to successfully complete the course. At the instructor’s prerogative, Remedial Assignments for partial credit may be requested of students who have attempted term work without achieving passing grades. Any work which is not attempted and submitted will be assigned a grade of zero.

The two hour final examination will be scheduled by the instructor and held in the classroom during the final exam period. Tests and exams WILL NOT involve multiple choice questions.

**Notes:**

- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, etc.) should discuss their work with the Instructor *within 15 days* of the work being returned to the class.
- It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333  
Emergency Assembly Location – Professional Faculties Food Court

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