



Department of Economics Course Outline

Term: Winter 2004

Course: Economics 621
International Trade

Section: 01

Time: TR 15:30 ? 16:45

Place: SS 423 (subject to change)

Instructor: Dr. J. D. Gaisford

Office: SS 422

Telephone: 220-3157

Office Hours: MW 15:30 ? 16:30 (subject to change) and by appointment.

E-Mail: gaisford@ucalgary.ca

Textbook(s):

Markusen , James R., James R. Melvin, William H. Kaempfer and Keith E. Maskus, *International Trade, Theory and Evidence*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1995. **[Required]**

Book(s) on Reserve:

There are no books on reserve for this course. In addition to background material from the textbook, required and recommended readings for particular topics will be drawn from alternative sources available from the instructor, the internet and/or the library.

Blackboard:

Students who are registered in this course can log on at <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login>

Course Outline:

This course will provide an advanced introduction to a broad range of topics concerning international trade theory and policy. Answers will be sought to basic questions such as: whether nations should trade, what they should trade, why they intervene in trade and what consequences arise from their intervention. The course will conclude with an examination of

current issues such as: strategic trade policy in the presence of imperfect competition; trade, growth and technological change; trade-related aspects of intellectual property; and trade, trade policy and the environment. A course syllabus will be provided early in the term.

The level of analysis in this course will tend to be somewhat more abstract and less institutional than the related course (Economics 619) on international "Commercial Policy."

Graphs, algebra and calculus will be used extensively throughout the course. Rigorous economic analysis will be expected.

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 according to the following marking scheme:

Final Examination (3 Hours)	35
Term Paper	35
Class Presentation and Participation	10
Midterm Examination (in-class component)	10
Midterm Examination (take-home component)	10
	100%

Exams, term papers, etc. will be 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 equivalences will generally apply:

A+	90-100	B	70-74	C-	56-58
A	85-89	B-	65-69	D+	53-55
A-	80-84	C+	62-64	D	50-52
B+	75-79	C	59-61	F	0-49

If the distribution of grades determined using the above conversion chart appears to be abnormal, the instructor reserves the right to change the grade conversion chart to more fairly represent student achievement.

To pass the course, students must normally attempt all course work and receive a minimum grade of 65% on the final examination.

There will be a final examination scheduled by the Department of Economics lasting 3 hours. The final will cover the FULL COURSE. Deferred finals will not be given except in situations of extreme personal emergency. Finals and deferred finals will only be held at the time/date and location set by the Department of Economics.

The midterm examination will include an in class component and a take-home component. At least two weeks advance notice will be given prior to the midterm. Students that are unable to write the in-class component of the midterm because of a DOCUMENTED illness, family emergency or religious observance will normally have the weight shifted to the final.

Non-programmable calculators WILL be allowed during the writing of the midterm and final examinations.

The midterm and final examinations WILL NOT involve multiple choice questions. Tests and exams will consist of various types of short answer questions, short essays, and/or problems.

Term papers should be approximately 5,000 words in length. Information on possible topic areas will be circulated early in the term. Projects will be due at 17:00 h on the last day of the winter 2003 term. Extensions will not normally be given.

Changes to the Course Outline:

At the instructor's discretion, changes to the course outline that reflect student and instructor preferences may be made during the first week of classes.

Notes:

- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (term paper, examination, etc.) should discuss their work with the Instructor within two weeks of the work being returned to the class.
- Throughout the course, students will be expected to be able to develop written arguments and integrate theory into their writing.
- At the instructor's prerogative, a remedial assignment for partial credit may be requested of students who have attempted a piece of term work without achieving a 65% grade. There will be no remedial assignment in relation to the final examination.
- Attendance is crucial due to the cumulative nature of the course material and the participation requirement.
- Any work that is not attempted and submitted will be assigned a grade of zero.

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