

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

ECON 4203 International Economics

Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite (s): Admission to the business program or consent of instructor.

Effective Catalog: 2024-2025

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Covers international trade theory and policy in the light of recent world events. Explores issues such as trade theory, barriers to trade and balance of payments.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify the advantages and disadvantages of globalization to workers and countries.
2. Identify the effects of comparative advantage.
3. Apply the theory comparative advantage to determine the trade patterns and terms of trade.
4. Discuss the nature and operation of the theory of factor endowments.
5. Discuss examples of factor mobility and discuss its welfare implications.
6. Explain how industrial policy may create comparative advantage and how environmental regulatory policies may alter comparative advantage.
7. Analyze tariff instruments and analyze their effect on national welfare.
8. Analyze the effects of import quotas, voluntary export quotas, and tariff-rate quotas.
9. Compare and contrast the merits of different types of Trade Agreements.
10. Distinguish between inter-industry trade and intra-industry trade.
11. Analyze the advantages and disadvantages of government policies based on export-led growth.
12. Discuss the static and dynamic effects of a preferential trade agreements.
13. Discuss reasons for the emergence of multinational corporations and the effects of MNCs on home and host countries.
14. Explain why a multinational enterprise is a source of conflict and benefits for source and host countries.
15. Demonstrate familiarity with the terms, methods and meanings of the balance of payments such as current and capital accounts.
16. Evaluate the effects of commercial policies on income distribution.

17. Explain the operation of the foreign exchange market.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills - Students will identify an international problem or issue. Students will generate solutions/analysis of problems/issues evaluated and will assess and justify the solutions and/or analysis.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will demonstrate an understanding of how international economics affect the global environment and apply these principles within a global environment. Students will demonstrate how international economics impacts or is impacted by different countries.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Introduction to International Economy and Globalization
- B. Comparative Advantage
- C. Factor Endowments Theory
- D. Tariffs
- E. Quotas
- F. Non-Tariff Barriers
- G. Trade Agreements
- H. Industrial Policies for Countries
- I. Mercantilism and Export-Led Growth
- J. Regional Trade Agreements
- K. International Factor Movements
- L. Balance of Payments