



**ECN 436: International Trade Theory**

**2025 Fall SLN 62017**

**Tue & Thu 3:00-4:15PM BA 359**

**Professor Manjira Datta**

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 10:30-11:30AM via Zoom, appointments preferred

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## **Course Description**

This course introduces you to fundamental economic issues raised by international trade. Why do countries trade? What are the determinants of patterns and terms of trade? Who benefits from trade? How is income distribution affected? Is free trade better economic policy than trade with certain restrictions? Why does trade war happen? How to avoid them? This course provides tools and prepares students for an in-depth understanding of implications of international trade. Basics of intermediate micro- and macro-economic theory is essential for this class.

## **W. P. Carey School of Business Learning Goals**

The Undergraduate Program of the W.P. Carey School of Business has established the following learning goals for its graduates (items in bold have significant coverage in this course):

1. **Critical Thinking**
2. **Communication**
3. **Discipline Specific Knowledge**
4. Core Business Knowledge
5. W. P. Carey Edge: Ethical Awareness, **Global Awareness**, Entrepreneurial Mindset

## Department of Economics Criteria for Learning Goals 1 - 3

The economics department has established detailed criteria for the first three W. P. Carey School of Business undergraduate learning goals:

1. Critical Thinking
  - **Identifies a question (or problem) and gathers relevant information to analyze it**
  - **Draws inferences that are supported by the data/evidence and the analysis.**
  - **Synthesizes analysis and theory to draw conclusions or make recommendations**
2. Communication
  - **Constructs a logical argument based on economic principles and observed evidence**
  - Effectively communicates in oral form
  - **Effectively communicates in written form**
3. Discipline Specific Knowledge
  - **Demonstrates knowledge of resource allocation mechanisms and their implications for efficiency, distribution, employment, and growth**
  - **Demonstrates knowledge of the models, methods and statistical techniques used by economists to study human behavior**
  - **Demonstrates knowledge of the effects of government policies on efficiency, distribution, employment, price stability and growth**

The items in **bold** have significant coverage in this course along with understanding of worldwide economic effects of trade policy, including retaliation and trade war.

## Course Objective and Learning Outcomes

1. Understanding role of international trade in our daily lives
2. Analyzing implications of trade – focusing on how and why
3. Evaluating information for making sound economic decision
4. Interpretation of theoretical results and problem-based learning

## Required Textbook

The required textbook, *International Trade* by Robert C. Feenstra and Alan M. Taylor, 2021 - fifth edition, Macmillan, is provisioned digitally through Canvas and made available at a discounted price. If you'd rather purchase textbook from an alternate source, you may choose to opt out of the program by going to: <https://includedcp.follett.com/1230>, entering your ASU email address AS IT APPEARS IN THE ASU DIRECTORY (<http://asu.edu/directory>), and following the instructions provided. Be aware that if you do opt-out, your access to the e-book on Canvas will be discontinued.

To access the e-book, CLICK ON THE BRYTEWAVE TOOL IN THE COURSE CANVAS SHELL. Please note: the e-book won't appear on your shelf until approximately 5 days prior to the start of classes. If you need

assistance accessing the book or the opt-out portal, fill out the support request forms: <https://forms.gle/uD4GhBxMoixnbwYx5>

## Enrollment Requirement

Prerequisite(s): ECN 214 or 312 with C or better; Pre or corequisite(s): ECN 213 or 313 OR Visiting University Student

## Course Grade

The course grade depends on your performance in *three* exams (each worth 50 points) and *two* quizzes (each worth 25 points), which test your capability of critical analysis, problem solving and knowledge of trade theory and policy. Grades may be curved, if needed.

All evaluations – exams and quizzes – will be available on Canvas with LockDown Browser and Respondus Monitor. This method of remote proctoring records both computer screen activity and physical room environment to mimic in-person proctoring conditions. These recordings are captured to help ensure academic integrity. Prior to the start of the exam, you are required to conduct a room scan; and if that scan does not show your complete work environment, you may be in violation of ASU's Academic Integrity Policy and reported to the Dean's office. Points will be deducted for such violations with significant implication on your grade. You may take exams and quizzes in class.

A grade of incomplete may be granted if all following conditions are met: the student is in good academic standing at ASU; has attended and completed most of the course work, assignments, and exams (typically, 75-80%); has experienced extenuating circumstances at the end of the semester preventing completion of the course. To request a grade of incomplete, contact me as soon as possible and complete the top portion of the [Incomplete Grade Request form](#). Students who miss a large portion of the course due to unforeseen events that impact their ability to succeed may qualify for a [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal](#).

## Assignments

Weekly reading and problem solving with graphical, numerical, and descriptive answers are essential part of learning and preparing for exams and quizzes. Weekly assignments are not graded.

## Exam and Quiz

Exams and quizzes test your capability of critical analysis, problem solving and knowledge of trade theory and policy: NO access to books, notes, cheat-sheet, or devices like tablets, laptops, and mobile phones other than the device that is used for taking exam or quiz on Canvas is allowed. Note that, you must take exams and quizzes during assigned hours:

|            |             |             |                                              |
|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Exam 1     | Tue, Sep 16 | 3:00-4:15PM | Required, starts promptly at 3:00PM AZ Time  |
| Exam 2     | Thu, Oct 16 | 3:00-4:15PM | Required, starts promptly at 3:00PM AZ Time  |
| Exam 3     | Thu, Nov 13 | 3:00-4:15PM | Required, starts promptly at 3:00PM AZ Time  |
| Final Exam | Tue, Dec 09 | 2:30-3:45PM | See below, starts promptly at 2:30PM AZ Time |

Please take note of the schedule, NO make-up exam is available. Final exam may be optional depending on your attendance and performance through the semester and you will be notified of your option during the last week of classes via Canvas. Quiz dates may NOT be announced in advance. You may take exam or quiz in class with LockDown Browser and Respondus Monitor.

## Honors Enrichment Contract

Barrett Honors contracts are supported in this course. To initiate approval for an appropriate project, please reach out to me by **August 28** to ensure requirements and [guidelines](#) are met in a timely manner.

## Classroom Policies

Be present on time and turn OFF devices and social media while in class. Laptop or tablets maybe used during lecture to follow along and/or taking notes – any other use causes distraction for the class and cannot be permitted. **Noncompliance can be reported to The Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities** as a possible Student Code of Conduct violation. If any student engages in disruptive behavior, for any reason, instructor may initiate the process outlined in SSM 201–10: Instructor Withdrawal of a Student for Disruptive Classroom Behavior.

## Absence Policy including Instructor Absence and Possible Accommodations

You are responsible for immediately catching-up if you have missed any part of lecture or assignment. Make-up exam, project or quiz will NOT be offered. Appropriate accommodations maybe made for religious observance or university-sanctioned activities with advance notification. For details, scroll down.

Students will not be penalized for missing class due to illness, isolation or quarantine. Accommodation to attend via ASU Sync will be made for students who might miss class due to university-approved

quarantine, isolation related to COVID-19 exposure or illness. You must send documentation from Student Health Services or other medical providers and ensure it is received by instructor as soon as possible (via Canvas preferable plus direct e-mail for backup, at least, three hours before class starts) so that accommodations can be made in a timely manner for you to attend via Zoom.

In the unexpected event, the instructor/proctor or a representative is absent at the beginning of class, please wait in the room for, at least, 15 minutes. Directions will be forthcoming either from the instructor or Department of Economics via e-mail and/or in person.

## **Copyright Material**

All course content - lecture notes, class recordings (if any), postings on Canvas including course outline or syllabus, project, quiz, exam questions and answers - are protected and copyrighted material. Sharing and use of course content outside of semester-specific class by/with non-registered students is prohibited. That is, all recordings of and postings for class sessions is only authorized for use by students who are currently registered in that class. Posting, lecture recording (if any) and excerpts thereof, may not be distributed to others. Uploading course material on websites other than myASU/Canvas course module or distributing via any other method is strictly prohibited.

## **Academic Integrity and Ethical Behavior**

ASU and the W. P. Carey School take academic integrity very seriously. More information is available at <https://provost.asu.edu/academic-integrity>. It is imperative that you do your own work - any suspected violation of academic integrity will have severe consequence and result in the following sanctions:

- A minimum of zero on the exam (cannot be dropped) AND
- A reduced grade in the course OR
- A failure in the course OR
- An XE which denotes failure due to academic dishonesty on the transcript OR
- Removal from the W. P. Carey School of Business

## **Honor Code and Professionalism**

All the time, students are expected to adhere to the ABOR Student Code of Conduct, W. P. Carey Undergraduate Honor Code and Professionalism

<https://students.wpcarey.asu.edu/resources/professionalism-policy>

## **Tutoring Support**

W. P. Carey School of Business provides free tutoring for several undergraduate business classes. For more information, go to – <https://students.wpcarey.asu.edu/resources/student-success-centers>

For tutoring help with writing, check – <https://tutoring.asu.edu/student-services/writing-centers>

## **Student Accessibility and Inclusive Learning Services (SAILS)**

If you need an accommodation for a disability (including face covering related), please register with Student Accessibility and Inclusive Learning Services. Appropriate documentation is required, check - <https://eoss.asu.edu/accessibility>

## **Religious Accommodation**

If there is any conflict with a no-work religious observance during the semester, please notify instructor by **August 28**. For a list of ASU-recognized religious holidays visit - <https://eoss.asu.edu/cora/holidays>

## **University-Sanctioned Activities**

Students who miss class because of their participation in university-sanctioned activities are allowed accommodation according to ACD 304-02. If you are participating in such an activity, please let your instructor know as early in the semester as possible so that proper arrangements can be made.

## **Threatening Behavior Policy**

Arizona State University takes threatening behavior very seriously and these situations will be handled in accordance with the *Student Services Manual*, SSM 104-02:

<https://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/ssm/ssm104-02.html>

## **Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation**

Title IX is a federal law that prohibits exclusions based on sex from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. Title IX and ASU policy outlaw sexual violence and harassment. An individual subjected to sexual harassment or violence can seek support, including counseling and academic support, from the university. If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you can find information and resources at

<https://sexualviolenceprevention.asu.edu/faqs>

As a mandated reporter, your instructor is obligated to report any information she becomes aware of regarding alleged acts of sexual discrimination, including sexual violence and dating violence. ASU Counseling Services, <https://eoss.asu.edu/counseling>, is available for discussing concerns confidentially and privately.

## **Administrative Deadlines**

Course Add: Aug 27

Course Drop: Sep 03

Course Withdrawal: Nov 05

Complete Session Withdrawal: Dec 05

**Information contained in this syllabus (except grading and absence policies) may change with reasonable advance notification.**

## Tentative Calendar for Class Lectures

Aug. 21 (Thu) Introduction and Perspectives on International Trade (Ch. 1)

Aug. 26 (Tue) Ricardian Model (Ch. 2)

Aug. 28 (Thu) Ricardian Model (Ch. 2)

Sep. 02 (Tue) Specific Factors Model (Ch. 3)

Sep. 04 (Thu) Specific Factors Model (Ch. 3)

Sep. 09 (Tue) Specific Factors Model (Ch. 3)

Sep. 11 (Thu) Review - Ch. 2 and Ch. 3

**Sep. 16 (Tue) Exam 1 (Ch. 2 & Ch. 3) during class hours**

Sep. 18 (Thu) Heckscher-Ohlin Model (Ch. 4)

Sep. 23 (Tue) Heckscher-Ohlin Model (Ch. 4)

Sep. 25 (Thu) Heckscher-Ohlin Model (Ch. 4)

Sep. 30 (Tue) Imperfect Competition and Trade (Ch. 6)

Oct. 02 (Thu) Imperfect Competition and Trade (Ch. 6)

Oct. 07 (Tue) Imperfect Competition and Trade (Ch. 6)

Oct. 09 (Thu) Review - Ch. 4 and Ch. 6

**Oct. 16 (Thu) Exam 2 (Ch. 4 & Ch. 6) during class hours**

Oct. 21 (Tue) Tariffs and Quotas under Perfect Competition (Ch. 8)

Oct. 23 (Thu) Tariffs and Quotas under Perfect Competition (Ch. 8)

Oct. 28 (Tue) Tariffs and Quotas under Perfect & Imperfect Competition (Ch. 8 & 9)

Oct. 30 (Thu) Tariffs and Quotas under Imperfect Competition (Ch. 9)

Nov. 04 (Tue) Tariffs and Quotas under Imperfect Competition (Ch. 9)

Nov. 06 (Thu) Review - Ch. 8 and Ch. 9

**Nov. 13 (Thu) Exam 3 (Ch. 8 & Ch. 9) during class hours**

Nov. 18 (Tue) Export Subsidies in Agriculture and High-Tech Industries (Ch. 10)

Nov. 20 (Thu) Export Subsidies in Agriculture and High-Tech Industries (Ch. 10)

Nov. 25 (Tue) Export Subsidies in Agriculture and High-Tech Industries (Ch. 10)

Dec. 02 (Tue) Trade Policies and International Agreements (Ch. 11)

Dec. 04 (Thu) Review - Ch. 10 & Ch. 11

**Dec. 09 (Tue) Final Exam (Ch. 10 & Ch. 11) 2:30PM, note timing**