湖北工業大學
HUBEI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Course Title	International Trade
Course Code	ECON 3511
Semester	Spring 2027
Course Length	4 Weeks, 60 Contact Hours
Credits	4
Instructor	TBA
Office	TBA
Email	TBA
Prerequisite	ECON 1111 Microeconomics

Course Description:

This course offers a rigorous exploration of the fundamental theories, models, and policies that shape international trade. Students will engage with three seminal models: the Ricardian model, the Specific-Factors model, and the Heckscher-Ohlin model, each providing essential insights into the determinants of trade and the allocation of resources across nations.

Beyond these classical frameworks, the course will also delve into contemporary perspectives and innovative explanations of international trade, incorporating real-world applications to illustrate the dynamic nature of global commerce.

Building upon these theoretical foundations, we will critically examine key trade policies, including tariffs, quotas, and subsidies, assessing their influence on trade flows, patterns of specialization, and national welfare. Through a blend of theoretical analysis and empirical case studies, students will develop a nuanced understanding of the complex interplay between trade policy and economic outcomes in the global marketplace.

Course Goals:

Students who successfully complete this course will demonstrate competency in the following general education core goals:

- **Critical Thinking Skills** – Students will engage in analytical thinking, demonstrating the ability to critically evaluate, synthesize, and apply knowledge to complex problems, and construct well-reasoned solutions and arguments.
- **Independent Research and Inquiry** – Students will conduct independent research, utilizing academic resources to explore relevant topics, formulating research questions, analyzing data, and presenting findings in a coherent, scholarly manner.

- **Problem-Solving and Application** – Students will apply theoretical concepts and methodologies learned in the course to real-world problems, demonstrating the ability to develop practical solutions informed by academic inquiry.
- **Global and Cultural Awareness** – Students will gain awareness of the global and cultural contexts relevant to the course, appreciating diverse perspectives and considering the implications of their studies in a broader, international context.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- understand the basis for international trade as well as the alternative theories of modern trade;
- examine a model in which countries benefit from trade when there is increasing returns to scale in production;
- apply the international trade concepts, principles, and models to analyze global phenomena and relevant policy debates, conduct economic analysis of the world economy and society, and carry out independently applied research on international economic problems.

Textbooks/Supplies/Materials/Equipment/ Technology or Technical Requirements:
International Trade, 2008, 2011, by Feenstra and Taylor, Worth Publishers.

Course Requirements:

Class Participation
You are expected to participate actively in this course, including your participation in regular lectures (6%) and in group projects/presentations (4%). It is possible that you will be randomly chosen to answer questions in lectures. Marks for class participation will be decided based on discussion performance and classroom conduct. Misconduct in class, such as late arrival, early leaving, chatting, and using mobile phones in class will result in losing part or all of class participation marks.

Homework
Homework will be assigned upon completion of a chapter. Each assignment will consist of 2-5 questions selected from the end-of-chapter problems of each chapter. There will be 10 homework assignments in total in this semester.

Group Project/Presentation
You are required to get to know your classmates and form groups on voluntary basis (but perhaps satisfying some criteria, to be announced on lecture 10). The instructor will assign a topic to each group, who will do a presentation to the class at the end of the semester. Each group is required to submit a one-or-two-page outline to the instructor before lecture 15. The presentation slides are due 3 days prior to your presentation. The instructor will announce the deadline in class once the order of presentations is determined. The presentation will last for 20 minutes, followed by a 5-minute Q&A session.

Exams

There will be a midterm and final exam. The exams will consist of multiple-choice questions. No books and no notebooks will be allowed in the examinations.

Assessments: Activity	**Percent Contribution**
Class Participation	10%
Homework	25%
Group Project/Presentation	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	25%

Grading:

Final grades will be based on the sum of all possible course points as noted above.

Grade	**Percentage of available points**
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D	64-69
D-	60-63
F	0-59

Course Schedule:
The schedule of activities is subject to change at the reasonable discretion of the instructor. Minor changes will be announced in class, major ones provided in writing.

ECON 3511 Schedule		
Lecture	Topic	Readings
L1	Overview Course Introduction, Trade in the Global Economy	Chapter 1
L2	Trade in the Global Economy	Chapter 1
L3	Trade and Technology: The Ricardian Model **(HW 1 due)**	Chapter 2
L4	Trade and Technology: The Ricardian Model	Chapter 2
L5	Trade and Technology: The Ricardian Model	Chapter 2
L6	Gains and Losses from Trade **(HW 2 due)**	Chapter 3
L7	Gains and Losses from Trade	Chapter 3
L8	Trade and Resources: The Heckscher-Ohlin Model **(HW 3 due)**	Chapter 4
L9	Trade and Resources: The Heckscher-Ohlin Model	Chapter 4
L10	Movement of Capital and Labor **(HW 4 due)**	Chapter 5
L11	Movement of Capital and Labor	Chapter 5
L12	Monopolistic Competition **(HW 5 due)**	Chapter 6

L13	**Midterm Exam**	
L14	Monopolistic Competition	Chapter 6
L15	Offshoring	Chapter 7
	(HW 6 due) (Group Project Outline due)	
L16	Offshoring	Chapter 7
L17	Tariffs/Quotas under perfect Competition	Chapter 8
	(HW 7 due)	
L18	Tariffs/Quotas under perfect Competition	Chapter 8
L19	Tariffs/Quotas under imperfect Competition	Chapter 9
	(HW 8 due)	
L20	Tariffs/Quotas under imperfect Competition	Chapter 9
L21	Export Subsidies	Chapter 10
	(HW 9 due)	
L22	Export Subsidies	Chapter 10
L23	International Agreements	Chapter 11
	(HW 10 due)	
L24	International Agreements	Chapter 11
L25	Group Project/Presentation	--
	Final Exam	--

Accommodation Statement:

Academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention. Students who may require assistance in emergency evacuations should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow.

Academic Integrity Statement

Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or otherwise fails to meet the standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in coursework may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

Other Items:

Attendance and Expectations

All students are required to attend every class, except in cases of illness, serious family concerns, or other major problems. We expect that students will arrive on time, be prepared to listen and participate as appropriate, and stay for the duration of a meeting rather than drift in or out casually. In short, we anticipate that students will show professors and fellow students maximum consideration by minimizing the disturbances that cause interruptions in the learning process. This means that

punctuality is a must, that cellular phones be turned off, and that courtesy is the guiding principle in all exchanges among students and faculty. You will be responsible for the materials and ideas presented in the lecture.

Assignment Due Dates
All written assignments must be turned in at the time specified. Late assignments will not be accepted unless prior information has been obtained from the instructor. If you believe you have extenuating circumstances, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Make-Up Work
The instructor will not provide students with class information or make-up assignments/quizzes/exams missed due to an unexcused absence. Absences will be excused and assignments/quizzes/exams may be made up only with written documentation of an authorized absence. Every effort should be made to avoid scheduling appointments during class. An excused student is responsible for requesting any missed information from the instructor and setting up any necessary appointments outside of class.

Access, Special Needs, and Disabilities
Please notify the instructor at the start of the semester if you have any documented disabilities, a medical issue, or any special circumstances that require attention, and the school will be happy to assist.