

Syllabus
ECO2011E International Economics
Prof. Dr. Harald Strotmann
Summer Semester 2024

Level	Bachelor	
Credits	5	
Student Contact Hours	4 (45 minutes)	
Workload	150 hours, 60 hours within class and 90 hours for self-study	
Prerequisites	Basic knowledge in Micro- and Macroeconomics Proof of level B2 in English	
Time	Friday 13.45 – 17.00	
Room	W3.2.04	
Start Date	March 22, 2024	
Lecturer	Name	Prof. Dr. Harald Strotmann
	Office	W2.4.32
	Office Hours	Friday, 11.30 – 13.00
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Outline of the Course

1. Topics in international economics – an introduction
2. Determinants and effects of free trade – trade theory
3. Instruments and effects of trade policy
4. International factor movements – foreign direct investment and migration
5. Global imbalances – analyzing a country's balance of payments
6. Exchange rates and the foreign exchange market
7. Macroeconomic policy in an open economy under floating and fixed exchange rates
8. International Monetary System: Exchange rate regimes, exchange rate crises and the role of the IMF

Course Intended Learning Outcomes and their Contribution to Program Intended Learning Outcomes / Program Goals

Program Intended Learning Outcomes	Course Intended Learning Outcomes	Assessment Method
After completion of the program the students will be able...	After completion of the course the students will be able...	Written Exam
		100%
		Individual
1 Expert Knowledge		
1.2 ...to demonstrate their distinguished and sound competencies in Economics.	...to demonstrate expertise in the application of core terms and concepts of international economics (e.g. from trade, migration, FDI, balance of payments, exchange rate systems) ...to explain main issues and mechanisms of global integration of markets for goods and services and for factors of production and their distributional consequences, the interpretation of a country's balance of payments, the role of important international organizations (IMF, WTO etc.) for international economic relations, advantages and disadvantages of currency regimes with fixed and flexible exchange rates and main causes and consequences of currency crises.	X X
2 Digital Skills		
3 Critical Thinking and Analytical Competence		
3.1 ...to implement adequate methods in a competent manner and to apply them to complex problems.	...to analyze effects of global economic integration with respect to economic efficiency, overall wealth and standards of living.	X
3.2 ...to critically reflect and interpret findings and to develop comprehensive solutions for complex problems.	...to critically discuss causes / consequences and benefits / risks of globalization.	X
4 Ethical Awareness		
...to develop sound strategies in the areas of ethics, sustainable development and social responsibility and are able to apply them to typical economic decision-making problems.	...to critically reflect globalization criticism.	X
5 Communication and Collaboration Skills		
6 Internationalization		
6.1 ...to understand and explain business challenges in an international context.	...to explain opportunities and risks for business in an international context.	X
6.2 ...to articulate themselves in a professional manner in international business.	... to deal with topics in International Economics in English.	X

Teaching and Learning Approach

The course is organized as a lecture, but throughout the course special emphasis is met on discussion and interaction with the students. Based upon profound knowledge of theory and its implications we will critically discuss current policy topics in international economics. The materials will be distributed to you on the e-learning platform Moodle.

They comprise:

(1) Slides

(2) Questions on every chapter for your own work

The questions shall help you to check whether you understand the core contents of the course. For a best possible learning experience, I would suggest that you answer the questions for yourself or in groups after the corresponding sessions. In case of problems you may ask me in class, come to my office hours, make an appointment with me at other times or hand them in for one of the three voluntary tutorials which I will offer during the semester (see below).

(3) Link to the basic online textbook of Krugman et al. (see below)

(4) Links to current articles / readings

My goal is to combine our theoretical discussion in class with very current international policy debates. I want to invite and to motivate you to follow cutting-edge international policy discussion, e.g. on "Project Syndicate" or reading "The Economist". Therefore, I will regularly upload links here to recent articles or opinion statements which are related to our course on International Economics. Access to Project Syndicate articles is free for students of Pforzheim University (VPN connection is needed). Hope that many of you are interested in reading the articles!

I will partly also refer to articles in class and selected articles may explicitly be made part of the written exam in the end of the semester.

(5) Previous exams

(6) Discussion forum

You may post questions there and interact with other students. I will also help there in case of questions.

On a voluntary basis tutorials are offered up to three times per semester. The organization is as follows: if you have problems with the course contents you can send me your questions or topics that shall be discussed in the tutorials. Based upon your questions I will then organize the program for the tutorials. Note, that the tutorials will only take place if you need them and if you send questions.

Literature and Course Materials

Main literature (textbooks):

Appleyard, D. R./Field, A. J./Cobb, S.L. (2017): International Economics, 9th edition, McGraw-Hill.

Feenstra, R. C./ Taylor, A. M. (2021): International Economics, 5th edition, Worth Publishers.

Krugman, P. R./Obstfeld, M./Melitz, M. (2022): International Economics. Theory & Policy, 12th edition, Pearson.

Additional literature:

Blanchard, O. (2021): Macroeconomics, 8th edition, Pearson.

Interesting articles on numerous cutting-edge topics in international economics can be found e.g. at *Project Syndicate*. At Project Syndicate prominent political leaders, policymakers, scholars, business leaders, and civic activists from around write comments or brief articles on cutting-edge topics. I will provide you with hints for concrete readings related to our course. Pforzheim University provides free institutional access for you (VPN connection necessary).

<https://www.project-syndicate.org/>

Assessment

The grading will be based upon a 60 minutes written exam at the end of the semester. To pass 30 points out of a maximum of 60 points have to be achieved.

Schedule

Fri, March 22 13.45-15.15, W3.2.03	Chapter 1: Topics in international economics – an introduction
Fri, March 22 15.30-17.00, W3.2.03	Chapter 2: Determinants and effects of free trade – trade theory
Tue, March 26 08.00-09.30, W1.2.02	Chapter 2: Determinants and effects of free trade – trade theory
Tue, March 26 09.45-11.15, W1.2.02	Chapter 2: Determinants and effects of free trade – trade theory
Fri, April 5 13.45-15.15, W3.2.03	Chapter 2: Determinants and effects of free trade – trade theory
Fri, April 5 15.30-17.00, W3.2.03	Chapter 2: Determinants and effects of free trade – trade theory
Tue, April 9 08.00-09.30, W1.2.02	Chapter 2: Determinants and effects of free trade – trade theory
Tue, April 9 09.45-11.15, W1.2.02	Chapter 3: Instruments and effects of trade policy
Fri, April 12 13.45-15.15, W3.2.03	Chapter 3: Instruments and effects of trade policy
Fri, April 12 15.30-17.00, W3.2.03	Chapter 3: Instruments and effects of trade policy
Fri, April 19 13.45-15.15, W3.2.03	Chapter 3: Instruments and effects of trade policy
Fri, April 19 15.30-17.00, W3.2.03	Chapter 3: Instruments and effects of trade policy
Tue, April 23 08.00-09.30, W1.2.02	<i>Date reserved for potential session</i>

Tue, April 23 09.45-11.15, W1.2.02	<i>Date reserved for potential session</i>
Fri, April 26 13.45-15.15, W3.2.03	Chapter 3: Instruments and effects of trade policy
Fri, April 26 15.30-17.00, W3.2.03	Chapter 4: International factor movements – foreign direct investment and migration
Fri, May 3 13.45-15.15, W3.2.03	Chapter 4: International factor movements – foreign direct investment and migration
Fri, May 3 15.30-17.00, W3.2.03	Chapter 5: Global imbalances – analyzing a country’s balance of payments
Fri, May 10 13.45-15.15, W3.2.03	Chapter 5: Global imbalances – analyzing a country’s balance of payments
Fri, May 10 15.30-17.00, W3.2.03	Chapter 6: Exchange rates and the foreign exchange market
Fri, May 17 13.45-15.15, W3.2.03	Chapter 6: Exchange rates and the foreign exchange market
Fri, May 17 15.30-17.00, W3.2.03	Chapter 6: Exchange rates and the foreign exchange market
Tue, May 28 08.00-09.30, W1.2.02	Chapter 6: Exchange rates and the foreign exchange market
Tue, May 28 09.45-11.15, W1.2.02	Chapter 6: Exchange rates and the foreign exchange market
Fri, June 7 13.45-15.15, W3.2.03	Chapter 7: Macroeconomic policy in an open economy under floating and fixed exchange rates
Fri, June 7 15.30-17.00, W3.2.03	Chapter 7: Macroeconomic policy in an open economy under floating and fixed exchange rates
Fri, June 14 13.45-15.15, W3.2.03	Chapter 8: International Monetary System: Exchange rate regimes, exchange rate crises and the role of the IMF
Fri, June 14 15.30-17.00, W3.2.03	Chapter 8: International Monetary System: Exchange rate regimes, exchange rate crises and the role of the IMF
Fri, June 21 13.45-15.15, W3.2.03	Chapter 8: International Monetary System: Exchange rate regimes, exchange rate crises and the role of the IMF
Fri, June 21 15.30-17.00, W3.2.03	Chapter 8: International Monetary System: Exchange rate regimes, exchange rate crises and the role of the IMF
Tue, June 25 08.00-09.30, W1.2.02	<i>Review of a previous exam</i>
Tue, June 25 09.45-11.15, W1.2.02	<i>Questions & Answers</i>
<i>(to be confirmed)</i>	<i>Written exam</i>