

Office hours: Monday, 13:45 – 15:15 – alfaview:

Alfaviewroom-Link:

<https://app.alfaview.com/#/join/alfaview-wur/b473e15d-a0a7-4485-a0bb-f563c4820644/f0987c1a-5d10-48df-9afa-d53ddda6297c>

Email: [juergen.volkert@hs-pforzheim.de](mailto:juergen.volkert@hs-pforzheim.de)

## International Economics (ECO 2011-E)

### Syllabus

#### Winter Semester 2020/2021

<b>Weekly hours:</b>	4 (45 minutes)
<b>ECTS-Credits:</b>	5
<b>Workload:</b>	150 hours, 60 hours within class and 90 hours for self-study
<b>Time:</b>	Whole semester: Tuesday, 13:45 – 15:15 – alfaview room Wednesday, 17:15 – 18:45 – alfaview room Alfaviewroom-Link: <a href="https://app.alfaview.com/#/join/alfaview-wur/b473e15d-a0a7-4485-a0bb-f563c4820644/f0987c1a-5d10-48df-9afa-d53ddda6297c">https://app.alfaview.com/#/join/alfaview-wur/b473e15d-a0a7-4485-a0bb-f563c4820644/f0987c1a-5d10-48df-9afa-d53ddda6297c</a>
<b>Begin:</b>	Tuesday, October 6, 2020
<b>Level:</b>	Advanced
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Basic knowledge in Micro- and Macroeconomics

#### Outline of the course

1. International Economics: A First Overview
2. Exchange Rate Foundations
3. The International Currency System: Flexible and Fixed Exchange Rates
4. Foundations of International Trade
5. International Trade: Distributional Effects and Economies of Scale
6. International Trade Policy: Impacts and Political Economy
7. Labor, Capital, and FDI: a Globalization and Development View
8. Balance of Payment
9. International Economics: challenges and need for further research

**Main literature:**

Appleyard, Dennis; Field, Alfred (2016): International Economics, 9<sup>th</sup> edition; Irwin/Mcgraw Hill

Feenstra, Robert C.; Taylor, Alan M. (2017): International Economics, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Worth Publishers

Krugman, Paul R.; Obstfeld, Maurice; Melitz, Marc J. (2017): International Economics. Theory and Policy, 10<sup>th</sup> edition, Pearson

*More detailed information about the literature for every chapter will be given within the lectures.*

**Additional literature:**

Blanchard, Olivier; Alessia, Amighini; Giavazzi, Francesco (2017): Macroeconomics: a European Perspective, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition Prentice Hall, Harlow, England.

Kreinin, M. E.; Clark, Don P. (2013): International Economics – A Policy Approach, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Pearson Learning Solutions.

**Learning Objectives:**

By the end of the course, successful participants will...

- ...understand the advantages and disadvantages of currency regimes with fixed and flexible exchange rates and know about different determinants of exchange rates.
- ...be able to understand main causes and consequences of challenges in a single currency area and of currency crises.
- ...understand main issues and mechanisms of global integration of markets for goods and services and for factors of production (migration and FDI).
- ...be able to analyze the effects of global economic integration with respect to economic efficiency, overall wealth and standards of living.
- ...understand the distributional consequences of global economic integration through the generation of winners and losers.
- ...be able to analyze and discuss critical issues of economic globalization (low wages, human rights and labor conditions, sweatshops etc.) from an economic point of view.
- Know the balance of payment structure and be able to critically analyze current account imbalances
- Perceive the limitations of traditional economic views on globalization and resulting challenges

## Course contributions to bachelor programs' common learning goals:

LO	Learning Objective / Outcome	Contributions to learning objectives	Assessment
	<b>Expert knowledge</b>		
1.1	Students show that they have sound basic knowledge ... ... in Business Administration.	Role and importance of globalized markets for goods, services and production factors as a framework condition for globally acting companies	Discussions within class, Written exam
1.2	... in Economics.	Analysis of the balance of payments, Exchange rates and international exchange rate policy, single currency areas, currency crises, International trade, Effects of trade policy instruments, International trade policy, International migration, International capital flows, Effects of globalization, Global governance (WTO, IMF...).	
1.3	... in Business Law.	Economic foundations for the rules of international trade.	
1.4	... in Quantitative Methods.	<b>X</b>	
	<b>Use of information technology</b>		
2.1	Students demonstrate proficiency in using computer programs to solve business problems.	<b>X</b>	
2.2	Students are able to use information systems effectively in real world business settings.		
3.	<b>Critical thinking and analytical competence</b>  Students are able to apply analytical and critical thinking skills to complex problems.	Critical discussion of causes / consequences and benefits / risks of globalization. Discussion of current economic topics in international policy debates.	Discussions within class, Written exam
4.	<b>Ethical awareness</b>  Students are able to develop business ethics strategies and apply them to typical business decision-making problems.	Analysis of globalization criticism, Economic functions of low wages in developing countries, impacts of immigration and / or FDI etc.	Discussions within class Relevant for written exam
	<b>Communication skills</b>		
5.1	Students are able to express complex problems effectively in writing	<b>X</b>	
5.2	Students demonstrate their oral communication skills in presentations and papers.		
6.	<b>Capacity for teamwork</b>  Students show that they are able to work successfully in a team by performing practical tasks.	<b>X</b>	

## Teaching and Learning Approach:

The course is organized as a lecture, but throughout the course special emphasis is put 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 made available on the moodle-e-learning platform of this course.

## Fast Track for Bachelor International Marketing students

For **Bachelor International Marketing** students and for **ISP** students who have to leave before end of January 2021, a **fast track option** with a written exam will be provided.

**Mandatory registration for fast track exams:** Each student who wants to participate in the fast track exam in December has to write an e-mail to Rebecca Duerr: rebecca.duerr@hs-pforzheim.de and inform her before November 24 that he or she will participate in the fast track exam in December. **Students who are not registered before the deadline are not allowed to write the early fast track exam.** Further information is provided in the lecture.

## Grading:

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.

## Availability of the lecturer

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Volkert

Office Hours:

Monday, 13:45 – 15:15 – alfaview:

Alfaviewroom-Link:

<https://app.alfaview.com/#/join/alfaview-wur/b473e15d-a0a7-4485-a0bb-f563c4820644/f0987c1a-5d10-48df-9afa-d53ddda6297c>

E-mail: juergen.volkert@hs-pforzheim.de

## Teaching philosophy

It is my goal to enable you acquiring the knowledge and skills for understanding and critically reflecting global economic processes. I expect you to engage in discussions during the lecture in an informed and critical way. I do care for your learning. Hence, I encourage you to directly address me in case of relevant questions related to, but also beyond the lecture. Just contact me after the lectures or send me an e-mail to arrange a date during my colloquium.

**Schedule:**

Tuesday & Wednesday October 06 & 07	Chapter 1: International Economics – a first Overview Chapter 2: Exchange rates: basic concepts and determinants
Tuesday & Wednesday October 13 & 14	Chapter 2: Exchange rates: basic concepts and determinants
Tuesday & Wednesday October 20 & 21	Chapter 3: Flexible and Fixed Exchange Rates
Tuesday & Wednesday October 27 & 28	Chapter 3: Flexible and Fixed Exchange Rates
Tuesday & Wednesday October 27 & 28	Chapter 3: Flexible and Fixed Exchange Rates
Tuesday & Wednesday November 03 & 04	Chapter 3: Flexible and Fixed Exchange Rates
Tuesday & Wednesday November 10 & 11	Chapter 4: Foundations of International Trade
Tuesday & Wednesday November 17 & 18	Chapter 4: Foundations of International Trade
Tuesday & Wednesday November 24 & 25	Chapter 5: International Trade: Winners, Losers and Economies of Scale
Tuesday & Wednesday December 01 & 02	Chapter 5: International Trade: Winners, Losers and Economies of Scale
Tuesday & Wednesday December 08 & 09	Chapter 6: International Trade Policy
Tuesday & Wednesday December 15 & 16	Chapter 6: International Trade Policy
Tuesday, December 22	Chapter 6: International Trade Policy
Tuesday & Wednesday, January 12 & 13	Chapter 7: Labor, Capital, and FDI: a Globalization and Development View Chapter 8: Balance of Payments
Tuesday & Wednesday, January 19 & 20	Chapter 8: Balance of Payments Students' questions Preparation for written exam
t. b. a by the examination office	Written exam