

MORAVIAN COLLEGE - FALL 2015

ECONOMICS 236 INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

Course Instructor: Dr. James P West, Professor, Economic and Business Department

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Office Hours: MW 10:30am-11:30am; TTH 1:00pm-2:00pm and by appointment.

Course Description: ECON 236. International Economics. Theories and policies of international trade and finance. Balance of payments, exchange-rate determination, free trade and protectionism, evolution of international economic institutions, contemporary issues. Prerequisites: Economics152.

Course Objective: International trade and finance issues and in particular the role of the United States in the world economy is the subject of this course. It is my desire to awaken in the student the desire to begin a systematic understanding of the history, theory, institutions, and practice of international trade and finance. Topics include classical and modern theories of trade, free trade vs. protectionism, regional and global integration, MNC investment and so on. The course will also provide an investigation into economic regions of the world including China, Japan and Southeast Asia and Pacific, South and Western Asia, Latin America, Africa, European Community with special attention to the modernizing impacts on the transition economies of former socialist or communist nations and developing nations. Balance of Payments, Exchange Rates and Macroeconomic Policy in an open economy will also be explored. The course provides a comprehensive introduction to the theory and practice of trade and finance relations among sovereign nations as well as the development of international public and private organizations. Classical and modern theories of trade, foreign aid, trade and development, regional integration, globalization and international banking and finance, WTO, IMF, the World Bank and the UN in promoting global integration will be covered. The course builds on the Principles of Economics course, which is a prerequisite.

Required Texts:

International Economics, 15th Edition by Robert J. Carbaugh, Cengage Learning, 2015.

Recommended:

The Wall Street Journal

Additional articles will be distributed in class, placed on 'Blackboard' or put on reserve in the Library

Course Requirements, Grading and Class Policy:

The class format will be lecture/discussion and will actively enlist student participation in the discussion of assigned topics. This necessitates regular attendance and the reading of the material

before class. Two semester exams will be given. The semester exams will count for 25% each. The final exam will count 30%. A class grade will comprise the remaining 20% and will be based on homework, attendance and participation. Regular attendance is expected. More than 3 excused absences will negatively impact your grade. Punctuality is expected. Leaving and re-entering class, while sometimes necessary, is disruptive and should not be routine. Policies regarding Academic Honesty, as outlined in the College Handbook, are followed and enforced. Drinking, but not eating, is allowed in the course. Cell phones must be turned off and out of sight during class. They may not be used during exams.

Notice: "Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Ms. Elaine Mara, Assistant Director of Academic & Disability Support, located on the first floor of Monocacy Hall (extension 1401). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center."

Week Of:

8/31- The International Economy and Globalization; Chapter 1- text.

9/7 - The International Economy and Globalization; Chapter 1 continued- text. Topic #1 - The United States in the Global Economy.

9/14 – Comparative Advantage and the Gains from Trade; Chapter 2 text. Topic #2 - East Asian Economies

9/21 – Sources of Comparative Advantage Factor Endowments and Trade; Chapter 3.

9/28 - Theory of Tariffs and Non-tariff barriers ; Chapter 4 & 5 text. Topic #3 Latin America

10/5 - Review – **Exam 1 (Chapters 1-5 and discussion notes)**, Wednesday 10/7;

10/12- Trade Regulations and Industrial Policy Chapter. 6 text. (No Class 10/15 Fall Break).

10/19 - Tariffs Policies for the Developing Nation; Chapter 7 text. .

10/26 –Regional Trading Agreements. Chapter 8 text. Topic #4: The European Union.

11/2 - International Factor Movements and Multinational Enterprises. Chapter 9 Review for Test 2 (Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9) Thursday Last day for 'W' Friday

11/9 – Review and Test 2 --- Wednesday, November 11 **Exam 2 (Chapters 6,7,8,9 and discussion notes)**.

11/16 The Balance of Payments; Chapter 10 text. Topic # 5: The BRIC Counties

11/23- Exchange Rates and Issues in International Finance; Chapters 11 text.

11/30 – Exchange Rate Systems and Currency Crises; Chapter 12. Topic #6 Africa No class: Thanksgiving Break-classes resume on 12/2

12/7 The BRIC Economies and Africa, Chapter 17. Review for Final Exam.

12/11 Last day of class.

Sat-Sun 12/12, 13 Reading Days

Mon-Fri 12/14-18 Final Exam - Focus is on Chapters 13-17 plus critical issues in Chapters 1-12 and discussion. These will be discussed in the 'Review for Final 'session.