

### DRAFT SYLLABUS

This is posted for your info to help you select or prepare for a course. An official version will be ready at or prior to your course start. Texts will be same or very similar. Please check online bookstore for exact texts.

## TROY STATE UNIVERSITY-DISTANCE LEARNING

Course Syllabus  
POL 6620 / MAN 6657 International Economics

Instructor: **James L. Chase, Ph.D.**

Office Hours: N/A

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### Course Description:

Introduction to the principles and problems of international economics, trade theory, international payments and monetary policies, economic integration, international economic institutions and policies, and contemporary developments in the political economy.

### Overall Objectives:

To set forth in a complete and clear manner and to explore the forces that drive the aggregate economy. The course should enable students to understand and apply economic principles in the world around them. The major economic problems of our era will be linked to historical events and current governmental policy issues.

### Specific Objectives:

1. To examine the application of international trade theory to problems faced by managers at all levels.
2. To examine the pros and cons of export promotion and industrial targeting.
- 3.. To demonstrate how demand theory, production theory, price theory, foreign exchange theory, and the theory of the international market structure can impact managerial decision making.

Textbook: Lindert and Pugel, International Economics, Irwin, 11<sup>th</sup> edition (or current edition).

Required Additional Reading: As required to complete research paper.

Suggested Additional Reading:

Bastiat, Frederic, Economic Sophisms, Foundation for Economic Education 1994

Spangler, Mark, Cliches of Politics, Foundation for Economic Education, 1996

The Foreman Library Series, Free Trade, Foundation for Economic Education 1996

Weaver, Henry, The Mainspring of Human Progress, Foundation for Economic Education 1997.

Von Mises, Ludwig, Human Action, Foundation for Economic Education, 1997.

Research Component:

Each student will complete a research paper which will focus on the examination of a trade or finance problem relating to international trade. The paper can be submitted as an attachment to an email or through the US mail. Papers will be adequately documented with citations and references using APA style.

In addition, I have not set a requirement for minimum length. I prefer to simply state that I am more interested in content than I am length. What I ask is that the paper be focused and concise, with no rambling or side excursions.

Any topic dealing with international trade or finance would be appropriate. You have a wide degree of latitude to pursue a topic of interest to you or one that will advance your career.

Remember the three important criteria: focus, precision and clarity.

I also ask for a minimum of two (2) primary sources and three (3) secondary sources be cited.

The research paper must be in my hands no later than May. 21, 2004, so that I will have sufficient time to read and grade it.

Entrance Competencies:

N/A

Course Requirements:

1. Students are expected to have completed the assigned material according to the schedule set forth in the syllabus. Each student is expected to be an active participant and make meaningful contributions to the class through threads on the discussion board.
2. Assignments must be turned in on or before the dates indicated. If military duty, or a business assignment, prevents timely completion, the student must let me know ahead of time, or as soon afterward as possible, so that arrangements can be made for the timely completion of the work.

Answers to the questions will be discussed on-line on the discussion board.

3. Completion of a research paper.

Method of Instruction:

The class will be conducted in an interactive manner as much as possible. Each week new material will be posted on the course site, usually the discussion board, to aid in course comprehension. Weekly assignments are also posted on the course site. The answers to the weekly assignments will be discussed and reviewed on the discussion board.

I expect each student to visit the discussion board two or three times each week . This will be helpful for attaining new information, exchanging views, and getting to know one another. Everyone has something to contribute to the course and the discussion board is a useful vehicle for this purpose

Student comments or questions should be posted as threads on the discussion board so that when the issues are addressed an exchange of ideas can take place between students and the instructor.

Do not forget to check all the site boards on a regular basis.

**EVALUATION and ASSIGNMENT OF GRADES**

**GRADING SCALE**

Research paper	30 points	180-200=A
Assignments (9) 10 pts. ea.	90 points	159-179=B
Mid-term	40 points	138-158=C
Final exam	40 points	117-137=D
		<117=F

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is measured by participation in the discussion board. Each student is expected to participate by leaving threads on the discussion board on a weekly basis.

Make-up Work Policy:

All missed assignments must be made up as soon as possible.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

Any student whose disabilities fall within the ADA must inform the instructor at the beginning of the first class for any special needs or extra time to accomplish the requirements of the course.

**Course Schedule**

Beginning: Mar. 15, 2004

Ending: May. 23, 2004

All work must be completed and turned in by May 21, 2004, or you will receive an incomplete for the course.

All assignments and exams can be sent to me at the following e-mail address:

[Bdjim66@aol.com](mailto:Bdjim66@aol.com)

They can also be mailed to me at: P.O. Box 211, Sanford, FL 32772

Any questions you ask concerning the course material will be shared with the other students as will my responses. Your question(s) should be posted on the site discussion board as a new thread. My responses will also be posted there for your review. Please ask questions if you have any concerns because others may be having similar problems.

All assignments, including the research paper, must be completed and in my hands by May. 21th so I will have sufficient time to read and assign them a grade.

Topics and Assignments.

This is a draft. The assignment questions will be posted on the assignment

board as will the due dates.

I. The international economy; trade theory; comparative advantage and factor proportions.

Assignment: 3 short answer questions.

II. Who gains and who loses from trade; the growth of world trade; alternative trade theories?

Assignment: 3 short answer questions.

III. Trade barriers; non-trade barriers; arguments for and against protectionism; the push for exports.

Assignment: 3 short answer questions.

IV. Trade blocs; trade policies for developing countries; the political economy.

Assignment: 3 short answer questions.

### **MID-TERM**

V. Payments among nations; the foreign exchange market; forward exchange.

Assignment: 2 short answer questions.

VI. Exchange rates in the short run; exchange rates in the long run; government policies toward the foreign exchange market.

Assignment: 2 short answer questions.

VII. An open macro-economy; Internal and external balance with fixed rates.

Assignment: 2 short answer questions.

VIII. Floating exchange rates; floating rates and the alternatives.

Assignment: 3 short answer questions.

IX. International movement of labor; international lending; direct foreign investment

Assignment: 3 short answer questions

**FINAL EXAM (Proctored).**