

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Department of Economics and International Business

Course Syllabus

COURSE NUMBER:	Economics 374	Fall, 2007
COURSE TITLE:	Contemporary International Issues in Economics	
PREREQUISITES:	Economics 230, 233 or 234	
INSTRUCTOR:	William B. Green	OFFICE: 107 D Smith-Hutson
OFFICE HRS:	9:30-10:45;3:30-5:00 M-Th	E-MAIL: Green@shsu.edu

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Douglas A. Irwin, *Free Trade Under Fire*, 2d Edition, Princeton University Press, 2005
- Philip and Sharmila King, *International Economics and International Economic Policy*, 4th Edition, McGraw-Hill Irwin, 2005

SUGGESTED SUPPLEMENTS:

- Course information, exam grades, practice essay questions, and linkages to other sources of information and help can be found at: <http://www.shsu.edu> Click on **Blackboard** at the top right hand side of the SHSU Webpage or use **Fast Links** and connect to **Blackboard**. Log-in by entering your **STD Username** and your **Password** (the last six digits in your social security number). If you do not use SHSU to send and receive your e-mails, you will need to have your SHSU mail forwarded to you so you can receive course information. Use Sam INFO to have your mail forwarded. Practice questions for exams will be posted on Blackboard and linkages to useful Websites.
- *The Economist*
- *The Wall Street Journal*
- *Business Week*

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Examination of current literature dealing with international trade and financial issues. Preparation, presentation and discussion of descriptive and analytical papers.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: International trade and international finance occupy financial headlines to the point that to understand what is happening in the world today we must look beyond domestic concerns to the world market. Most Americans, however, have only a limited knowledge and understanding of the world economy. Recognizing this limitation, it is the purpose of this course to:

1. Gain factual knowledge about international trade.
2. Learn fundamental principles, generalizations, and theories underlying international trade.
3. Learn to apply economic principles to improve thinking, problem solving, and decision making.
4. Acquire skills in working with others as a member of a team.
5. Improve ability to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view
6. Become familiar with the literature contemporary international economic issues.

COURSE EVALUATION: During the semester there will four (4) exams (including the final). Each exam will be weighted equally with a maximum point value of 100 points.

Examinations will typically be a combination of multiple-choice, essay, and/or problem oriented questions. The questions will come primarily from material covered in class, but some questions may cover material from assigned reading not specifically covered in class.

Exams I - III	60%
Final Exam	20%
Research Paper	20%

PAPER: Each student will be expected to prepare type-written paper on an international trade related topic. The paper is expected to be from six (6) to ten (10) pages in length (using 1.5 line spacing). A list of suggestions will be provided within the next few weeks . This list should not be viewed as the only acceptable topics. However, each student should get approval from the instructor on any topic **not** included on the list **prior** to beginning your research. The paper must be turned in no later than **November 27**. Late papers will be accepted, but a **five (5) point penalty will be assessed for each calendar day the paper is late**. The paper has a maximum point value of 100 points. The paper must be completed to achieve a passing grade in the course. **Failure to turn in a paper will result in an "F" grade for the course, regardless of how many points are scored on examinations.**

GRADING:

Semester grades will be calculated on the following basis:

A =	90% (450 pts.)
B =	80% (400 pts.)
C =	70% (350 pts.)
D =	60% (300 pts.)

ON-TIME ATTENDANCE POLICY: Attendance will be checked at each class meeting. Three hours of absences (2 TTh Day Classes) are allowed, so long as the absences do not occur on examination days or when other assigned work is due. Students not on-time and in their assigned seat when attendance is taken you will be counted as tardy if they make their presence known to me before leaving the class. Each tardy will count as one-half (1/2) absence. **Since these are “bonus” points the “only” excused absence is for University related activities.** Bonus points for attendance can be earned on the following basis:

<u>Absences</u>	<u>Bonus Points</u>
0-2	25 pts.
3	20 pts.
4	15 pts.
5	10 pts.
6	5 pts.
7+	0 pts.

STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS:

Section 51.91(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a)(2) defines a religious holy day as “a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20...” A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused with a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy days(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

http://www.shsu.edu/%7Evaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf

DISABLED STUDENT POLICY: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall not be excluded, solely by reason of his/her disability, from participation in any academic program of the University. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center. There will be no retroactive accommodations. For a complete listing of the University policy, see:

http://www.shsu.edu/%7Evaf_www/aps/811006.html

OTHER CLASS POLICIES:

- TURN OFF CELLULAR PHONES AND PAGERS BEFORE ENTERING THE CLASSROOM.
- NO FOOD, DRINKS, OR DIPPING IN THE CLASSROOM.
- NO INDIVIDUALS (INCLUDING CHILDREN) OR PETS WILL BE ADMITTED INTO THE CLASSROOM UNLESS THEY ARE ENROLLED IN THE CLASS.
- HATS MAY BE WORN DURING EXAMINATIONS ONLY IF THE BILL OF THE CAP IS TURN TOWARD THE BACK OF THE STUDENTS HEAD.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS
Course Outline

Shown below is an attempt to forecast what material will be covered at each class meeting. It is the responsibility of each student to have read, prior to class, the material assigned for each class meeting.

	Date	Class Assignment	Chapter	
August	20	Introduction to International Trade Issues		
	22	The U.S. in a New Global Economy?	1	
	27	The U.S. in a New Global Economy	1	
	29	The Case for Free Trade: Old Theories, etc.	2	
September	3	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY		
	5	The Case for Free Trade: Old Theories, etc.	2	
	10	The Case for Free Trade: Old Theories, etc.	2	
	12	FIRST EXAMINATION		
	17	Protectionism: Economic Costs, Pol. Benefits	3	
	19	Protectionism: Economic Costs, Pol. Benefits	3	
	24	Protectionism: Economic Costs, Pol. Benefits	3	
	26	Trade, Jobs, and Displaced Workers	4	
	October	1	Trade, Jobs, and Displaced Workers	4
		3	Trade, Jobs, and Displaced Workers	4
8		Antidumping and the Escape Clause	5	
10		Last Day to Drop A Class/ Antidumping	5	
15		SECOND EXAMINATION		
17		Developing Countries and Open Markets	6	
22		Developing Countries and Open Markets	6	
24		Developing Countries and Open Markets	6	
29		The World Trading System: The WTO	7	
31		The World Trading System: The WTO	7	
November	5	New Trade Issues	Notes	
	7	New Trade Issues	Notes	
	12	New Trade Issues	Notes	
	14	New Trade Issues	Notes	
	19	THIRD EXAMINATION		
	21	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY		
	26	New Trade Issues/Paper Due	Notes	
	28	New Trade Issues	Notes	
	Date	Class Assignment	Chapter	

December	3	New Trade Issues	Notes
	5	New Trade Issues	Notes
	10	Final Examination (Monday 8:00-10:00)	

