



ECON*3620 International Trade
Fall 2026
Section: 01
Department of Economics and Finance
Credit Weight: 0.50

I. Course Details

Calendar Description

This course provides the student with an understanding of the basic economic concepts underlying the analysis of international trade. The primary objective of the course is to introduce models that enable the student with the ability to explain the pattern and magnitude of trade flows between trading partners. Basic modelling skills using analytical techniques will be taught and applied to topics such as tariffs and subsidies, economic growth and trade, international transfers of income, industrial policy, trade policy and development, and trade and the environment. Special emphasis is given to Canada's international trade agreements and relationships.

Pre-Requisite(s): ECON2310 Intermediate Microeconomics

Co-Requisite(s): None

Class Schedule: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00-5:20pm in MCKN 115

Final Exam

Date: TBD

Time: **TBD**

Location: TBD

Course Contact

Instructor: Eric Chi

Email: chie@uoguelph.ca (Please email me from your U of G email server, and I will respond back within 3 business days. If you do not hear from me after 3 business days, feel free to send a follow up email).

Phone: 519-824-4120 x 58949

Office: MacKinnon Building, Room 704

Office Hours: Tues, Thurs from 10:00-11:00am

Teaching Assistant(s)

Name: TBD

Email: TBD

II. Learning Resources

Recommended Textbook

Title: International Economics: Theory and Policy (Cost: \$94.98)

Author(s): Krugman, Obstfeld, and Melitz

Edition / Year: 12th Edition / 2024

Publisher: Pearson

The materials required for this course are available for purchase at the [University of Guelph Bookstore](#) or the [Guelph Campus Co-op Bookstore](#).

Course Materials

Incomplete notes: On a weekly basis, I will upload incomplete notes to Courselink. It is your responsibility to keep up to date with course readings and with lecture materials.

Course Website

[CourseLink](#) (powered by D2L's Brightspace) is the course website. It is recommended that you log in to your course website every day to check for announcements, access course materials, and review the weekly schedule and assignment requirements.

Ares

For this course, you may be required to access course reserve materials through the University of Guelph McLaughlin Library. To access these items, select **Ares** on the navbar in CourseLink. Note that you will need your Central Login ID and password to access items on reserve.

For further instructions on accessing reserve resources, visit [How to Get Course Reserve Materials](#).

If at any point during the course you have difficulty accessing reserve materials, please contact the Course Material and Reserve Services staff at:

Tel: 519-824-4120 ext. 53621

Email: libres2@uoguelph.ca

Location: McLaughlin Library, First Floor, University of Guelph

III. Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding:

- 1) Microeconomic Modeling: The Gravity, Ricardian, Specific Factor, Heckscher Ohlin, Standard, Intertemporal, and Imperfect Competition models of trade will be discussed and evaluated using quizzes, tests and exams during the semester.
- 2) Understanding of Specific Markets: General equilibrium modeling is an important part of this course that augments their knowledge of partial equilibrium markets in most of their other coursework. Both algebraic (Ricardian model) and graphical (HO model in particular) treatments of the topic are given.
- 3) Statistical and Econometric Methodology: Students will review or be introduced to basic data analysis including linear regression analysis and hypothesis testing.
- 4) Historical and Global context: The development of the present-day international trade regime (the WTO in particular) will be presented and the various international trade treaties that Canada has signed (and is currently negotiating) will be discussed.
- 5) Economic Policy and Regulation: The role of trade policy (tariffs, subsidies, industrial policy, voluntary export restraints, and foreign aid) will be analyzed using graphical and algebraic models.
- 6) Professional and ethical awareness and conduct. There will be no extensions on assignments in order to develop time management skills. Students are expected to work together well as a group and keep a record of their contributions. Assessed using assignments and the group project.

Discipline/Professional and Transferable Skills:

- 7) Numerical Problem Solving: Students will learn to evaluate the solution (wages, utility, gains from trade, production, exports and imports) for the two country, two good, one factor Ricardian model, solve for the equilibrium in the imperfect competition model of trade, determine gains and losses for trade policy, and calculate the prices charged at home and abroad in a price discrimination model of trade.
- 8) Analytical Problem Solving: Much of the course uses graphical analysis to demonstrate and interpret various economic models. In particular, the student will become familiar for the Heckscher Ohlin and Standard model of trade that allows them to evaluate trade policy, economic growth, and income transfers, using relative demand and relative supply curve analysis. Graphical and algebraic models will be used to determine both partial and general equilibrium analyses of trade policy.

Attitudes and Values:

- 10) Exposure to the Diversity of Global Economic Outcomes: An important part of the course is to expose students to wide range of global economic outcomes such as income and poverty, education, environmental degradation, institutional quality, and how they relate, if at all, to the international movement of goods and factors of production. Students are also exposed to government policies, such as tariffs and subsidies, that advantage or disadvantage section segments of the economy. Assessed using the group project and presentation.

IV. Teaching and Learning Activities

Schedule

It is strongly recommended that you follow the course schedule provided below. The schedule outlines what you should be working on each week of the course and lists the important due dates for the assessments. By following the schedule, you will be better prepared to complete the assessments and succeed in this course.

Week	Important Dates	Unit and Readings	Assessments
1	Thursday, September 10 Tuesday, September 15 Thursday, September 17	Syllabus Reading: Chapter 2	None
2	Tuesday, September 22 Thursday, September 24	Reading: Chapter 3	None
3	Tuesday, September 29 Thursday, October 1	Reading: Chapter 4	Class Participation 1, 2
4	Tuesday, October 6 Thursday, October 8	Reading: Chapter 5	Class Participation 3, 4
5	Saturday, October 17	Chapters 2 to 5	Midterm
6	Tuesday, October 20 Thursday, October 24	Reading: Chapter 6	Class Participation 5, 6
7	Tuesday, October 27 Thursday, October 29	Reading: Chapter 7	Class Participation 7, 8
8	Tuesday, November 3 Thursday, November 5	Reading: Chapter 8	Class Participation 9, 10
9	Tuesday, November 10 Thursday, November 12	Reading: Chapter 9	Class Participation 11, 12
10	Tuesday, November 17 Thursday, November 19	Reading: Chapter 10	Class Participation 13, 14
11	Tuesday, November 24 Thursday, November 26	Reading: Chapter 11	Class Participation 15, 16
12	Tuesday, December 1 Thursday, December 3	Review and Catchup	Class Participation 17

Assessment

The grade determination for this course is indicated in the following table.

Table 1: Course Assessments

Assessment Item	Weight
In-person Class Participation	15%
Test	40%
Final Exam	45%
Total	100%

Assessment Descriptions

In-person Class Participation: Class Participation will be given during lecture times. There are 17 class participations given during the semester. However, your lowest two marks will be dropped. Therefore, if you complete all 17 quizzes, only 15 quizzes will count towards your final grade. This also means that for unforeseen circumstances, if you missed two, it would come at no penalty.

Midterm: There will be 1 midterm test, which comprises of multiple choice and short answer questions. It will be written on **Saturday, October 17**. It will cover materials from Week 1 to Week 4.

Final Exam: The final exam will be all multiple choice and will cover all the course readings. The exam is 2 hours in length.

V. Course Technology Requirements and Technical Support

Technical Support

If you need any assistance with the CourseLink website, contact CourseLink Support.

CourseLink Support

University of Guelph

Day Hall, Room 211

Email: courselink@uoguelph.ca

Tel: 519-824-4120 ext. 56939

Toll-Free (CAN/USA): 1-866-275-1478

Walk-In Hours (Eastern Time):

Monday thru Friday: 8:30 am–4:30 pm

Phone/Email Hours (Eastern Time):

Monday thru Friday: 8:30 am–8:30 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am–4:00 pm

Sunday: 12:00 pm–6:00 pm

VI. Course Specific Standard Statements

Acceptable Use

The University of Guelph has an [Acceptable Use Policy](#), which you are expected to adhere to.

Communicating with Your Instructor

During the course, your instructor will interact with you on various course matters on the course website using the following ways of communication:

- **Announcements:** The instructor will use **Announcements** on the Course Home page to provide you with course reminders and updates. Please check this section frequently for course updates from your instructor.

Late Policy

There are no make-up class participations. You can miss up to 2 class participations and there will be no penalties levied. For tests, if you miss the midterm, you will need to submit proper documentation, and upon approval, the weight of the midterm will be shifted to the exam.

VII. Program Specific Standard Statements

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement

At the Lang School of Business and Economics, we are committed to developing leaders with a social conscience, an environmental sensibility, and a commitment to their communities. A core tenet within this vision is that diversity is a strength with which we can experience greater connection and understanding. As such, we affirm the importance and shared responsibility of our students, faculty, and staff creating and promoting equity and inclusion within our learning spaces. Creating these kinds of learning cultures is a process, not a destination; it requires ongoing willingness on the part of each person to thoughtfully and critically listen, unlearn, learn, and engage as they are exposed to a multitude of perspectives and lived experiences. We encourage dialogues between students and instructors to address and advance opportunities for fostering greater diversity and inclusion in the learning environment. Openness to conversations with each other enables us to reflect and grow as we learn from one another respectfully and holistically.

As a department that is training the professionals of the future, we expect our learning spaces to abide by all institutional policies and guidelines, in particular those outlined by the Office of Diversity and Human Rights and the [University of Guelph Human Rights Policy](#). Discrimination and harassment, as defined by our policies, will not be tolerated. Individuals should inform the appropriate party as per University policies if they experience any such behaviors.

VIII. University Standard Statements

University of Guelph: Undergraduate Policies

As a student at the University of Guelph, it is important for you to understand your rights and responsibilities and the academic rules and regulations that you must abide by.

If you are a registered **University of Guelph Degree Student**, consult the [Undergraduate Calendar](#) for the rules, regulations, curricula, programs and fees for current and previous academic years.

If you are an **Open Learning Program Student**, consult the [Open Learning Program Calendar](#) for information about University of Guelph administrative policies, procedures and services.

Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their uoguelph.ca e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official means of communication between the University and its students.

When You Cannot Meet Course Requirements

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement due to illness or compassionate reasons, please advise your course instructor **in writing**, with your name, ID number and email contact.

University of Guelph Degree Students

Consult the [Undergraduate Calendar](#) for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration.

Drop Date

University of Guelph Degree Students

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The drop date is **Friday, December 4, 2026**. [Review the Undergraduate Calendar for regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses](#).

Accessibility

University of Guelph Degree Students

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student. When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodation is available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 14 days in advance, and no later than November 1 (fall), March 1 (winter) or July 1 (summer). Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time.

For more information, contact Accessibility Services at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208, [email Accessibility Services](#) or visit the [Accessibility Services website](#).
accessibility@uoguelph.ca

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct.

Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor. The [Academic Misconduct Policy](#) is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Copyright Notice

Content within this course is copyright protected. Third party copyrighted materials (such as book chapters and articles) have either been licensed for use in this course, or have been copied under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law.

The fair dealing exemption in Canada's Copyright Act permits students to reproduce short excerpts from copyright-protected materials for purposes such as research, education, private study, criticism and review, with proper attribution. Any other copying, communicating, or distribution of any content provided in this course, except as permitted by law, may be an infringement of copyright if done without proper license or the consent of the copyright owner. Examples of infringing uses of copyrighted works would include uploading materials to a commercial third-party web site, or making paper or electronic reproductions of all, or a substantial part, of works such as textbooks for commercial purposes. Students who upload to CourseLink copyrighted materials such as book chapters, journal articles, or materials taken from the Internet, must ensure that they comply with Canadian Copyright law or with the terms of the University's electronic resource licenses.

For more information about students' rights and obligations with respect to copyrighted works, review [Fair Dealing Guidance for Students](#).

Plagiarism Detection Software

Students should be aware that faculty have the right to use software to aid in the detection of plagiarism or copying and to examine students orally on submitted work. For students found guilty of academic misconduct, serious penalties, up to and including suspension or expulsion from the University can be imposed.

Recording of Materials

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Illness

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).