International Economics

ECON-UA 9238 F01

Instruction Mode:
Online

Brightspace course site
https://brightspace.nyu.edu/d2l/home/191728

Zoom Link
https://nyu.zoom.us/j/99122541705

Term
Summer 2022

Syllabus last updated on: May, 20, 2022

Lecturer Contact Information
When you need to communicate with us, please email both team members

• Margherita Velucchi
  mvelucchi@nyu.edu
• Luca Bortolotti (Teaching Assistant)
  lb4276@nyu.edu

Office Hours:
via Zoom on request

Prerequisites
ECON-UA 1 (Economic Principles) or ECON-UA 5 (Introduction to Economic Analysis).

Units earned
4

Course Details
Meeting Days and Times: TuTh 9:30AM-1:00PM

Location: online

Remote Participants: Your instructor will provide you with the Zoom link via NYU Brightspace.

COVID-related details: In the interest of protecting the NYU Florence community, we are closely following CDC guidance around COVID-19 and adjusting our recommendations and policies accordingly. Your health and well-being is our top priority.

Course Description

This course will introduce both the micro-economic and macro-economic issues relevant to the economic relations among countries via international trade. The first half of the course deals with the microeconomic issues of international trade, and covers issues as (1) why do countries trade?, (2) what do they trade?, (3) how are the gains from trade distributed?, and (4) protectionism vs. free trade and regional economic integration. The second half of the course deals with issues in international finance and macroeconomics and covers issues as (1) the markets for currencies and exchange rates (fixed vs. flexible), (2) adjustment processes, and (3) open economy macroeconomics in a general equilibrium framework.

Course Objectives

On completion of this course, students should:

- Have improved their mastery of economic- and business-related concepts.
- Have performed graphical and quantitative treatment of the theories.
- Have made relevant connections between theory and real-world examples, through references to media material, readings, or case studies.
- Find an increased interest to read economic and business-related materials in the media.

Assessment Components

- Academic Commitment*: 10% (*)
- Group Works and Presentations in Class: 20% (**) 
- Midterm Exam: 30%
- Final Exam: 40%

(*) At the end of each class, there will be a Kahoot game with multiple choice questions on the day’s issues, which will be answered via an app to be downloaded from Google Play or Apple Store.

Commitment: A student’s commitment will be evaluated based on active participation in class or Brightspace forums, involvement, and contribution in the course either during class or asynchronously.

(**) Each session consists in a lecture and a discussion on an issue introduced/presented by a
group of students as indicated in Brightspace. Each group will be divided in two sub-groups: students who focus on pros and students who focus on cons. The two sub-groups present the issue and stimulate class discussion with questions. Students support any statement with information from reliable resources.
Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.

Contributions include, but are not limited to class tasks, discussion boards, office hours, labs, online chat, and/or the viewing of asynchronous course materials and completion of relevant work. If the student is participating remotely in the courses, it is imperative that they communicate regularly with their faculty members.

**Assessment Expectations:**

- **Grade A:** The student makes excellent use of empirical and theoretical material and offers structured arguments in their work. The student writes comprehensive essays/exam questions and their work shows strong evidence of critical thought and extensive reading.
- **Grade B:** The candidate shows a good understanding of the problem and has demonstrated the ability to formulate and execute a coherent research strategy.
- **Grade C:** The work is acceptable and shows a basic grasp of the research problem. However, the work fails to organize findings coherently and is in need of improvement.
- **Grade D:** The work passes because some relevant points are made. However, there may be a problem of poor definition, lack of critical awareness, poor research.
- **Grade F:** The work shows that the research problem is not understood; there is little or no critical awareness and the research is clearly negligible.

*Please note, Stern Business courses will adhere to the Stern Grading Guidelines.*

**Grading Guidelines**

**Grade Conversion.**

Your lecturer may use one of the following scales of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>0-100 scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>74-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>65-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading Guidelines**

Please refer to Assessment Expectations and the policy on late submission of work.

**Attendance Policy**

In order to keep each other safe, if you are not feeling well, we encourage you to remain in your residence and, if possible, attend class remotely.
Please make sure to inform your professor in advance so that they can turn on Zoom. Remote attendance is counted as regular attendance. You will not be marked absent.

For a detailed explanation of the global attendance policy, see the NYU Florence Present vs. Absent Flowchart.

Exams, tests and quizzes, deadlines, and oral presentations that are missed due to illness always require a doctor's note as documentation.

The Global Attendance Policy is posted in the Academic Policies tab in Brightspace, on the NYU Florence Student Portal website, and is posted around campus.

After you have read and reviewed the policies, if there is anything that still needs further clarification or raises a question, please reach out to florence.academicsupport@nyu.edu.

Final exams
Final exams must be taken at their designated times. Should there be a conflict between your final exams, please bring this to the attention of the Academics team. Final exams may not be taken early, and students should not plan to leave the site before the end of the finals period.

Late Submission of Work
Please refer to Academic Policies in Brightspace.

Required Text(s)

Other readings are available online on the NYU Brightspace course site. Hard copies of some textbooks are available for consultation and semester-long loans in the Villa Ulivi Library. Please email florence.library@nyu.edu to reserve a copy. To request scans from books on reserve please fill out the Ulivi Library Book Scan Form.

Supplemental Text(s) (not required to purchase)
• The web page for the course on Brightspace where announcements for supplementary required readings will be posted.
• Additional articles (from The Economist or The New York Times, etc.) will be made available on Brightspace.

Additional Required Equipment
A pocket calculator is required, to be brought to every class. Please download the app Kahoot! for Apple or Android.

Sessions

Session 1 – May 24, 2022
• Intro to the course
• General introduction to International Economics (AIE Ch. 1)
• Why countries trade (AIE Ch. 2)
• Comparative advantage and the production possibility frontier (AIE Ch.3)

Session 2 – May 26, 2022
• Factor endowments and the commodity composition of trade (AIE Ch. 4)
• Intra-industry trade (AIE Ch. 5)
• Discussion Topic: Waves of Globalization in History (similarities and differences)

Session 3 – May 31, 2022
• The firm in the world economy (AIE Ch. 6)
• International Factor Movements (AIE Ch.7)
• Discussion Topic: Migrations

Session 4 – June 3, 2022 (Friday: Classes meet according to Thursday Class Schedule)
• Barriers to Trade: Tariffs and Non-Tariff Distortions to Trade (AIE Ch. 8, Ch.9)
• Discussion Topic: Globalization and Deglobalization

Session 5 – June 7, 2022
• International trade policy (AIE Ch. 10)
• Review Session
• Discussion Topic: COVID-19 and Effects on Trade
Session 6 – June 9, 2022

- MIDTERM EXAM

Session 7 – June 14, 2022

- Regional economic arrangements: The European Union and NAFTA (AIE Ch. 11)
- Discussion Topic: Belt and Road Initiative

Session 8 – June 16, 2022

- National income accounting and the balance of payments (AIE Ch. 13)
- Discussion Topic: Land Grabbing

Session 9 – June 21, 2022

- Exchange rates and their determination: a basic model (AIE Ch. 14)
- Discussion Topic: Brexit and Protectionism

Session 10 – June 23, 2022

- Money, interest rates and the exchange rate (AIE Ch. 15)
- Discussion Topic: Ukraine War and Sanctions: consequences on International Trade

Session 11 – June 28, 2022

- Macroeconomic policy and floating exchange rates (AIE Ch. 17)
- Fixed exchange rates: The Euro
- Discussion Topic: Euroscepticism and Europhobia

Session 12 – June 30, 2022

- FINAL EXAM

Suggested Co-Curricular Activities

Additional suggested optional co-curricular activities will be announced in class and/or via email by the professor/TA throughout the semester.
Your Lecturer

Margherita Velucchi:

Margherita is a Full Professor of Business Statistics at European University of Rome, she has got a degree in Statistics (1998) and a Ph.D. in Economics (2004) from the University of Siena and she has been teaching at NYU Florence since 2005. She taught at Syracuse University and ITA (International Trade Agency) among other institutions both at undergraduate and graduate level. Her research interests are on business demography, panel models, and financial econometrics, having published extensively in top Journals. She lives in Florence with her husband and their three daughters (Caterina and Costanza, 10 and Elena, 8).

Luca Bortolotti:

Luca obtained a PhD at the University of Trento in Development Economics in 2019. He has been a lecturer in the classes of Economic Policy for Development and Business Internationalization at the University of Florence. He is currently Post-Doc researcher at the University of Turin, where he collaborates with the Turin Center on Emerging Economies. He co-authored a book on Economic Policy for Developing Countries and other peer-reviewed articles on economic journals.

Attendance Policy

Studying at Global Academic Centers is an academically intensive and immersive experience, in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. And since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance at the centers, or online through NYU Brightspace if the course is remote synchronous/blended, is expected promptly when class begins. Attendance will be checked at each class meeting. If you have scheduled a remote course immediately preceding/following an in-person class, you may want to write to florence.academicsupport@nyu.edu to see if you can take your remote class at the Academic Center.

As soon as it becomes clear that you cannot attend a class, you must inform your professor and/or the Academics team by e-mail immediately (i.e. before the start of your class). Absences are only excused if they are due to illness, Moses Center accommodations, religious observance or emergencies. Your professor or site staff may ask you to present a doctor's note or an exceptional permission from an NYU Staff member as proof. Emergencies or other exceptional circumstances that you wish to be treated confidentially must be presented to staff. Doctor's notes must be submitted in person or by e-mail to the Academics team, who will inform your professors. Unexcused absences may be penalized with a two percent deduction from the student's final course grade for every week's worth of classes missed and may negatively affect your class participation grade. Four unexcused absences in one course may lead to a Fail in that course. Being more than 15 minutes late counts as an unexcused absence. Furthermore, your professor is entitled to deduct points for frequently joining the class late.
Exams, tests and quizzes, deadlines, and oral presentations that are missed due to illness always require a doctor's note as documentation. It is the student's responsibility to produce this doctor's note and submit it to site staff; until this doctor's note is produced the missed assessment is graded with an F and no make-up assessment is scheduled. In content classes, an F in one assignment may lead to failure of the entire class. Regardless of whether an absence is excused or not, it is the student's responsibility to catch up with the work that was missed.

**Late Submission of Work**

(1) All course work must be submitted on time, through Brightspace on the date specified on the syllabus. Solutions are posted right after the deadline, so late submissions get a zero.

(2) To request an extension on a deadline for an assignment, students must speak to the professor one week prior to the due date: the extension will be granted for justifiable reasons.

(3) Students who are late for a written exam have no automatic right to take extra time or to write the exam on another day.

(4) Please remember that university computers do not keep your essays - you must save them elsewhere. Having lost parts of your essay on the university computer is no excuse for a late submission.

**Academic Honesty & Plagiarism**

As the University's policy on "Academic Integrity for Students at NYU" states: "At NYU, a commitment to excellence, fairness, honesty, and respect within and outside the classroom is essential to maintaining the integrity of our community. By accepting membership in this community, students take responsibility for demonstrating these values in their own conduct and for recognizing and supporting these values in others." Students at Global Academic Centers must follow the University and school policies.

NYU takes plagiarism very seriously; penalties follow and may exceed those set out by your home school. Your lecturer may ask you to sign a declaration of authorship form, and may check your assignments by using TurnItIn or another software designed to detect offences against academic integrity.

The presentation of another person’s words, ideas, judgment, images, or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism. It is also an offense to submit work for assignments from two different courses that is substantially the same (be it oral presentations or written work). If there is an overlap of the subject of your assignment with one that you produced for another course (either in the current or any previous semester), you MUST inform your professor.
For guidelines on academic honesty, clarification of the definition of plagiarism, examples of procedures and sanctions, and resources to support proper citation, please see:

- NYU Academic Integrity Policies and Guidelines
- NYU Library Guides

**Inclusivity Policies and Priorities**

NYU’s Office of Global Programs and NYU’s global sites are committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion. In order to nurture a more inclusive global university, NYU affirms the value of sharing differing perspectives and encourages open dialogue through a variety of pedagogical approaches. Our goal is to make all students feel included and welcome in all aspects of academic life, including our syllabi, classrooms, and educational activities/spaces.

**Attendance Rules on Religious Holidays**

Members of any religious group may, without penalty, excuse themselves from classes when required in compliance with their religious obligations. Students who anticipate being absent due to religious observance should notify their lecturer and Office of Academic Support in writing via e-mail one week in advance. If examinations or assignment deadlines are scheduled on the day the student will be absent, the Academics Office will schedule a make-up examination or extend the deadline for assignments. Please note that an absence is only excused for the holiday but not for any days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday. See also University Calendar Policy on Religious Holidays.

**Pronouns and Name Pronunciation (Albert and Zoom)**

Students, staff, and faculty have the opportunity to add their pronouns, as well as the pronunciation of their names, into Albert. Students can have this information displayed to faculty, advisors, and administrators in Albert, NYU Brightspace, the NYU Home internal directory, as well as other NYU systems. Students can also opt out of having their pronouns viewed by their instructors, in case they feel more comfortable sharing their pronouns outside of the classroom. For more information on how to change this information for your Albert account, please see the Pronouns and Name Pronunciation website.

Students, staff, and faculty are also encouraged, though not required, to list their pronouns, and update their names in the name display for Zoom. For more information on how to make this change, please see the Personalizing Zoom Display Names website.

**Moses Accommodations Statement**

Academic accommodations are available for students with documented and registered disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Student Accessibility (+1 212-998-4980 or mosescsd@nyu.edu) for further information. Students who are requesting academic accommodations are advised to reach out to the Moses Center as early as possible in the semester for assistance. Accommodations for this course are managed through NYU Florence.
Bias Response

The New York University Bias Response Line provides a mechanism through which members of our community can share or report experiences and concerns of bias, discrimination, or harassing behavior that may occur within our community.

Experienced administrators in the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) receive and assess reports, and then help facilitate responses, which may include referral to another University school or unit, or investigation if warranted according to the University's existing Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy.

The Bias Response Line is designed to enable the University to provide an open forum that helps to ensure that our community is equitable and inclusive.

To report an incident, you may do so in one of three ways:

- Online using the Web Form (link)
- Email: bias.response@nyu.edu
- Phone: 212-998-2277
- Local Telephone: 055 5007277