



ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: April 1992
 REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2026
 COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval): February 2032
 Course outline form version: 26/01/2024

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: ECON 341	Number of Credits: 3 Course credit policy (105)										
Course Full Title: International Trade Course Short Title: International Trade											
Faculty: Faculty of Social Sciences	Department (or program if no department): Economics										
Calendar Description: Explores trade theory and policy within a general equilibrium framework, alongside empirical tests and extensions of trade models. Topics include the relationship between economic growth and international trade, the role of multinational enterprises, and the globalization of production. Students will examine the impact of international trade on diverse communities, including Indigenous economies, labor markets, and environmental sustainability. International agreements, trade disputes, and the historical and contemporary effects of globalization on economic inequalities are also covered.											
Prerequisites (or NONE):	45 university-level credits including ECON 100 and ECON 101.										
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	None.										
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	None.										
Antirequisite Courses (<i>Cannot be taken for additional credit.</i>) Former course code/number: Cross-listed with: Equivalent course(s): <i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i>	Course Details Special Topics course: No <i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i> Directed Study course: No <i>(See policy 207 for more information.)</i> Grading System: Letter grades Delivery Mode: May be offered in multiple delivery modes Expected frequency: Every other year Maximum enrolment (for information only): 28										
Typical Structure of Instructional Hours <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Lecture/seminar</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">45</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total hours</td> <td style="text-align: center;">45</td> </tr> </table>	Lecture/seminar	45							Total hours	45	Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) PLAR is available for this course.
Lecture/seminar	45										
Total hours	45										
Scheduled Laboratory Hours Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Transfer Credit (See bctransferguide.ca) Transfer credit already exists: Yes Submit outline for (re)articulation: No <i>(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)</i>										
Department approval	Date of meeting: March 14, 2025										
Faculty Council approval	Date of meeting: June 6, 2025										
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval	Date of meeting: February 27, 2026										

Learning Outcomes *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the concepts of comparative advantage and gains from trade, considering their historical and contemporary implications for different economies.
2. Describe patterns and forces of international trade, including the impact of colonization and global inequalities.
3. Solve problems using various models of international trade.
4. Use economic models to examine key issues in international trade.
5. Assess the validity of theoretical models of international trade through empirical evidence.
6. Evaluate the welfare effects of foreign direct investment and multinational corporations including labor rights, Indigenous land use, and environmental sustainability.
7. Analyze a variety of international trade issues such as the links between trade and wage inequality and the effects of trade policy, using general equilibrium techniques.

Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Final exam:	30%	Assignments:	10%	%
Quizzes/tests:	60%			%

Details:

Midterm 1: 30%

Midterm 2: 30%

NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Typical Instructional Methods *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Lectures will develop theories and apply them to problems in the subject. There will be extensive use of graphing and problem solving. Both formal analytic analysis and the economic intuition that underlies it will be used.

Texts and Resource Materials *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. [Open Educational Resources](#) (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the [Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form](#).)*

Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1. Textbook	Krugman, Obstfeld, Melitz	International Trade: Theory and Policy, 11th Edition - Pearson	2018
2. Textbook	Feenstra, Taylor	International Trade. 5th Edition - Macmillan	2021
3.			
4.			
5.			

Required Additional Supplies and Materials *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)*

Course Content and Topics

- An empirical overview of world trade
- Labour productivity and comparative advantage: the Ricardian model
- Specific factors and income distribution
- Resources and trade: the Heckscher-Ohlin model
- Resources and trade: the factor-proportions model
- The standard trade model
- External economies of scale and the international location of production
- Firms in the global economy: export decisions, outsourcing, and multinational enterprise
- Firms in the global economy: the monopolistic competition model
- The policy instruments of trade
- The political economy of trade policy
- Trade policy and economic development
- Controversies in trade policy