UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER

ECONOMICS 3403
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS AND POLICY
FALL 1992

Lectures: MWF 12:00-12:50
Office Hours: TR 9:00-10:30

Required Reading

The New York Times

Short readings will be available at Kinko’s periodically through the term.

Overview:

This is a course for students interested in learning about how economic models can be used to understand international trade and the effects of government policy. It is a course for nonmajors. The prerequisites include Economics 2010 and 2020, or the principles of microeconomics and macroeconomics. Analytic material will be presented using geometric arguments and some algebra.

Course Objectives:

This course is intended to introduce a theoretic framework in which we can better understand how the international trading system operates and evaluate the effects of government policies. We will cover the classical and neoclassical theories in some detail; and we will learn about some of the more recent theory which focuses on the role of increasing returns to scale and imperfect competition.

The course provides an overview the international trading system, its institutions, historical development and future prospects.

The course also will review and analyze current events in the international economy. Students are required to read the New York Times on a regular basis through the course of the semester to follow events related to the trading system. We will discuss, among other things: the multi-fibre agreement, the US-Canada auto pact, international trade and economic development, international trade in Eastern Europe, regional trading arrangements (EC92 and NAFTA), the role of industrial policy, and trade and the environment.
Course Format:

Lectures on Monday and Wednesday, based on material from the text.

Exercises from the study guide will provide the basis for short quizzes at the start of class on alternate Fridays.

Discussions of special topics will be held on Fridays.

Requirements:

5 Half-hour quizzes (The lowest score dropped - 20%)

2 One-hour Midterm Examinations (20% each)

1 Optional Essay

Students may write a 15 page essay to improve their lower midterm examination mark. A list of topics and format will be provided after the first midterm.

1 Final examination (40%)

Dates (content of specific tests subject to change):

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