

ECON 3403-001: International Economics and Policy

Spring 2026

Instructor:	Arka Chakrabarti	Class Time:	MWF 10:10 - 11:00 AM
Email:	arka.chakrabarti@colorado.edu	Location	HLMS E100
Office:	ECON 309C	Office Hours:	MW 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM

- **Prerequisites:** ECON 2010 and ECON 2020 (all minimum grade C-)
- **Course Website:** Canvas
 - The course syllabus, handouts, supplementary materials, homework assignments, and announcements will be available on Canvas. Please check the course page regularly. It is your responsibility to stay up to date with deadlines and announcements.
- **Office Hours:** MW 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM or by appointment
 - If you cannot make it to office hours but would still like to meet, please send me an email to make an appointment.

Important Dates

- Midterm 1: Monday, 2/18 (during class time)
- Midterm 2: Wednesday, 4/1 (during class time)
- Final Exam: Friday, 5/1, 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Course Description

This course explores national and supranational policies shaping the global economy, focusing on topics such as trade barriers, economic nationalism and regionalism, international political economy, exchange rate interventions, and the global transmission of economic shocks. Its aim is to prepare students to critically analyze real-world events and policies, identifying their underlying causes and assessing their implications for the international system.

Course Materials

- **Textbook:** There is no required textbook for this course. Instead, I will provide lecture notes based on various textbooks and external sources. The following may serve as a useful reference in case you would like to use a textbook:
 - Robert C. Feenstra and Allen M. Taylor, *International Economics*, 3rd ed. (later editions are also fine)

Course Policies

- **General Policies**

- Outside of lectures and office hours, you can reach me through email. Please use your official CU email because sometimes other email accounts are filtered into my spam folder. Please allow up to 24 hours for an email response.

- **Lectures**

- Attendance is mandatory in this class and carries 10% of your course grade.
- Lecture notes and reading materials will be posted on Canvas. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to reach out to me and catch-up on any missed material.

- **Attendance**

- Attendance will be graded based on attendance checks through a roster call at the beginning of every class.
- You are allowed up to three missed lectures without penalty for illnesses and other unavoidable circumstances and commitments.
- If there is some protracted or significant unexpected cause for absences, please let me know so that I can make appropriate considerations.

- **Problems Sets**

- There will be 8 problem sets throughout the semester. Problems include both quantitative and qualitative questions that help you learn analytical tools and real-world examples. You are encouraged to discuss them with your classmates but you must submit your own work.
- All problem set solutions need to be submitted as **scanned PDF files** on Canvas.
- The due date is usually Sunday, but this may change depending on the progress of our course. Please check the announcements on Canvas page for any potential due date changes.
- Lowest problem set grade will be dropped at the end of the semester.
- Late submissions are penalized. You will receive a 10% penalty to your grade per day for the number of days by which your submission is delayed.

• Policy Briefs

- You will also have two “policy briefs” to turn in during the semester. These will be short essays where you will be given a prompt and then asked to make a convincing analytical argument using the tools we have learned in class.
- Policy briefs will make up 15% of your overall grade. **Late policy briefs receive the same penalty as late problem sets.**

• Exams

- There will be two midterms and one final exam. **All exams will be held in our normal classroom.** Midterms will only cover the chapters you have newly learned (not cumulative). Final will include all the material covered in class (cumulative).
- **There will be NO early or make-up exams except for cases where the University grants you leave/exemptions.** If you have to miss any of the midterms for emergency reasons (i.e. a family or medical emergency), you **MUST** inform me as soon as possible and provide documentation wherever possible. Conditional on that, I can shift the weight of the midterms to the final exam.
- **The final exam cannot be missed under any circumstances.**
- **Cheating in any of the exams is unacceptable** Any instances of cheating will result in a grade of zero and a report to the Honor Code Council.
- During all the exams (midterms and final), the use of calculators is allowed as long as the calculator is not on a phone. All calculations will be simple enough to do without one. You will need something to write with (pen or pencil) for your exams. Should an emergency arise, please notify me as soon as possible so that we can make accommodations.

• Grading / Grading Scale

Attendance	10%
Problems Sets	10%
Policy Briefs	15%
Midterm 1	20%
Midterm 2	20%
Final Exam	25%

Percentage	Grade	Percentage	Grade
≥ 93.00	A	73.00 - 76.99	C
90.00 - 92.99	A-	70.00 - 72.99	C-
87.00 - 89.99	B+	67.00 - 69.99	D+
83.00 - 86.99	B	63.00 - 66.99	D
80.00 - 82.99	B-	60.00 - 62.99	D-
77.00 - 79.99	C+	≤ 59.99	F

Grades will not be changed at the end of the course. You will receive the grade that you earned throughout the course. If you are concerned about your grade(s) you should immediately come and talk to me and I will do everything I can to help you succeed in this course.

University Policies

- **Honor Code**

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the [Honor Code](#). Violations of the Honor Code may include but are not limited to: plagiarism (including use of paper writing services or technology [such as essay bots]), cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. Understanding the course's syllabus is a vital part in adhering to the Honor Code. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution: StudentConduct@colorado.edu. Students found responsible for violating the [Honor Code](#) will be assigned resolution outcomes from the Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution as well as be subject to academic sanctions from the faculty member. Visit [Honor Code](#) for more information on the academic integrity policy.

- **Accommodation for Disabilities, Temporary Medical Conditions, and Medical Isolation**

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](#). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or DSinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) on the Disability Services website. Contact me if you have a temporary medical condition so we can determine how to address the issue.

- **Accommodation for Religious Obligations**

Campus policy requires faculty to provide reasonable accommodations for students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. If you have a religious conflict with any exam dates please let me know by **January 31st** so I can make adjustments.

- **Preferred Student Names and Pronouns**

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student's legal name.

- **Classroom Behavior**

Students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote, or online. Failure to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, marital status,

political affiliation, or political philosophy.

For more information, see the [classroom behavior policy](#), the [Student Code of Conduct](#), and the [Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance](#).

- **Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation**

CU Boulder is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. University policy prohibits [protected-class](#) discrimination and harassment, sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner abuse (dating or domestic violence), stalking, and related retaliation by or against members of our community on- and off-campus. The Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) addresses these concerns, and individuals who have been subjected to misconduct can contact OIEC at 303-492-2127 or email CUreport@colorado.edu. Information about university policies, [reporting options](#), and [OIEC support resources](#) including confidential services can be found on the [OIEC website](#). Please know that faculty and graduate instructors are required to inform OIEC when they are made aware of incidents related to these concerns regardless of when or where something occurred. This is to ensure that individuals impacted receive outreach from OIEC about their options and support resources. To learn more about reporting and support for a variety of concerns, visit the [Don't Ignore It page](#).

- **Mental Health and Wellness**

The University of Colorado Boulder is committed to the well-being of all students. If you are struggling with personal stressors, mental health or substance use concerns that are impacting academic or daily life, please contact [Counseling and Psychiatric Services \(CAPS\)](#) located in C4C or call (303) 492-2277, 24/7. Free and unlimited telehealth is also available through [Academic Live Care](#). The Academic Live Care site also provides information about additional wellness services on campus that are available to students.