

[ECON3403-001] International Economics and Policy

Spring 2025

Instructor:	Michelle (Jeong-won) Ko	Class Time:	MWF 10:10 - 11:00 am
Email:	michelle.ko@colorado.edu	Location	MUEN E431
Office:	ECON 414 or Zoom	Office Hours:	MW 11:10 am - 12:10 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 11:10 am - 12:10 am or by appointment
 - If you want to meet me at another time, send me an email to make an appointment.

Course Description

This course covers economic concepts relating to the international economy and important developments in the global economy. The economic theory emphasized in the class will give students a better understanding of the foundations for international trade. Understanding this material will allow students to relate the importance of trade to political and cultural relations. In this course we undertake an in-depth study of the theories, policies, and institutions of international trade and finance and apply the economics of trade to the real world examples.

Course Materials

- **Textbook:** There is no required textbook for this course. Instead, I will provide lecture notes based on various textbooks and external sources. However, if you prefer to study with a textbook, the following books may serve as useful supplementary materials:
 - Robert C. Feenstra and Allen M. Taylor, *International Economics*, 3rd ed. (later editions are also fine)
 - Steven Husted and Michael Melvin., *International Economics*, 9th ed.
- **iClicker** - Please download iClicker app on your mobile device, set up an account with your CU email and add our class. You also need to allow the app to track your location to be connected. If you have any problems with your clickers call OIT at 5HELP. Remember that using someone else's clicker for them or clicking in from home violates the honor code.

Join Code is VXMB: <https://join.iclicker.com/VXMB>

Course Policies

• General Policies

- Please be respectful to each other and to your instructor. To ensure the best possible learning experience for everyone, I expect all students to come to class prepared and actively participate in class.
- 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

- The class will primarily consist of lectures based on the lecture notes, followed by discussions of articles that focus on real-world examples. Lecture notes and reading materials will be posted on Canvas, but they may not cover everything discussed in class. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to catch-up on any missed material.
- There will be random iClicker quizzes during class. These quizzes will not count toward your final grade, but they may be used for extra credit at the end of the semester if a curve is applied to the scores.

• Attendance

- Attendance will be graded based on the attendance checks that will be done through iClicker at the beginning of every class.
- I allow you to be absent 3 classes before an absence affects your grade. There is no need to email me to let me know you will be absent or why, unless you are very sick and will be out for more than two weeks. If this is the case, you should contact me to determine how your absence will be addressed.

• Problems Sets

- There will be 9 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.
- The due date is usually Monday but this may change depending on the progress of our course. Please check the announcements on Canvas page for any potential due date changes.
- Two lowest grades will be dropped at the end of the semester.
- Late submissions are not allowed. However, if necessary, you can submit up to three days late with a 50% penalty.

• Policy Briefs

- You will also have three “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.
- The individual briefs will each be worth 5% 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). All exams consist of multiple choice questions and short answer questions.
- **There will be NO early or make-up exams.** If you have to miss any of the midterms for emergency reasons (i.e. a family or medical emergency), you **MUST** inform me before the exam and provide documented accommodation. **Only then,** I will shift the weight of the midterms to the final exam.
- **The final exam cannot be missed under any circumstances.** In other words, you cannot pass this course without taking the final exam. If you have more than two finals on the same day, you can reschedule all exams after the first two. If the final exam of this course should be rescheduled, you must notify me of this **no later than March 21st, Friday with a proof** that you already have two or more exams before this course's final exam.
- **Cheating in any of the exams is unacceptable** Any cheating instances will result in a grade of zero and a report to the Honor Code Council.

• Grading / Grading Scale

Attendance	10%
Problems Sets	10%
Policy Breifs	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

I will not accept any request to increase your grade. 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. I will do everything I can to help you be successful in this course.

Tentative Course Outline:

The weekly coverage and the dues dates might change as it depends on the progress of the class.

Week	Date	Topics	Due
1	1/13	Introduction, Basic Micro	No due
2	1/22	Ricardian Model	PS 1 due 1/22 (Mon)
3	1/27	Heckscher-Ohlin (H-O) Model 1 (Basic Theory)	PS 2 due 1/27 (Mon)
4	2/3	Specific-Factor Model, H-O Model 2 (Movement of Factors)	PS 3 due 2/3 (Mon)
5	2/10	Other Trade Models, Review	<i>PB 1 due 2/10 (Mon)</i>
6	2/17	Midterm 1 (2/17 Monday) , WTO, Tariffs and Quota 1	No due
7	2/24	Tariffs and Quota 2	PS 4 due 2/24 (Mon)
8	3/3	Non-tariff Barrier Trade Policy	PS 5 due 3/3 (Mon)
9	3/10	International Agreements	<i>PB 2 due 3/10 (Mon)</i>
10	3/17	Reveiw & Midterm 2 (3/21 Friday)	PS 6 due 3/17 (Mon)
11	3/24	Spring Break, No Class	No due
12	3/31	Foreign Exchange Market	No due
13	4/7	Theory of Exchange Rate	PS 7 due 4/7 (Mon)
14	4/14	The Balance of Payment	PS 8 due 4/14 (Mon)
15	4/21	Monetary & Fiscal Policies, Regimes and Institutions	PS 9 due 4/21 (Mon)
16	4/28	Reivew	<i>PB 3 due 4/28 (Mon)</i>
Final	5/3	Saturday, 4:30 - 7 pm	

- *Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday:* 1/20 (Monday)
- *Last Day of Class:* 4/30 (Wednesday)

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.