

ECON 3403 - INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS AND POLICY

Fall 2024

Instructor:	Anand Butler (he/him/his)	Time:	MWF 12:20 – 1:10pm
Email:	Anand.Butler@colorado.edu	Place:	MUEN E131

Course Page:

- <https://canvas.colorado.edu/courses/106540>

Office Hours:

- Tuesday 10:00am-11:00am and Wednesday 1:15pm-2:30pm - in Econ 414.
- You are also welcome to arrange another time to meet with me if that would be preferable.

Course Textbook:

- There is no required textbook for this course. You may find the following text useful as supplementary material to the course:
 - Steven Husted and Michael Melvin: *International Economics*. Pearson (9th Edition)

Prerequisites: Econ 2010 and Econ 2020.

Description: This course examines national and supranational policies that affect the international economy, with attention to trade barriers, economic nationalism and regionalism, international political economy, exchange market intervention, and international transmission of economic perturbations. The goal is to equip students with the ability to analyze real-world events and policies with an eye towards explicating their causes and implications for the world.

Course Policies:

- **General**
 - Please be respectful and courteous to your classmates as well as myself. In an effort to promote the best environment for learning, I ask that you come to class prepared, engage with the material and coursework, and ask questions as needed to facilitate you and your classmates learning.
 - You are always welcome to contact me in person or via email. Please allow up to 24 hours for an email response during the week and up to 48 hours over the weekend.
- **Lectures**
 - I ask that you attend class as that will be the main vehicle for instruction. Class will consist primarily of lectures on course material, followed by discussing real-world examples. Lecture notes will be posted to Canvas, but they will not necessarily have everything covered in class and it is your responsibility to learn any material you miss from class.
 - You will receive an attendance grade for being present in class. You will be given up to three unexplained absences that do not hurt your attendance grade. After that, further misses will come out of your attendance grade. If there is some protracted or significant unexpected cause for absences, please let me know so that I can consider it in your grade.

- Please be courteous and refrain from creating distractions during class. This includes silencing and putting away your phone, using any other non-calculator electronic devices only for the purpose of note-taking, and waiting to discuss things outside of the scope of the class until after the lecture. I am always happy to answer any questions you have.

- **Assignments**

- You will have regular problem sets throughout the term. These will include both quantitative and qualitative problems to help build your analytical skills and really learn the material.
- There will be about 9 problem sets. I understand that you all have other responsibilities and commitments that sometimes make it difficult to complete every assignment thoroughly. To help accommodate this, I will be dropping the lowest grade of your problem set.
- Each problem set will be weighted equally, and you will be graded both on correctness as well as your work (mathematical steps or qualitative explanation).
- I encourage you to work together. I do ask, however, that you clearly indicate on your problem set the names of any individuals who you collaborated with and that you write out the work/answer in your own hand. Direct copying is considered plagiarism (see Honor Code under University policies). This applies to any other outside source (an online resource, for example) and you are still required to detail the steps in solving the problem.
- Late assignments will receive a 10% penalty per weekday that they are late, up to a maximum of 50% off. If you need an extension, please let me know in advance of the deadline.

- **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. You may revise one of your three briefs after receiving a grade/comments and resubmit it, where I will re-grade it and give you back up to 1/2 of the points lost on the initial grade. You must alert me by email that you are re-submitting it. Late policy briefs receive the same penalty as late assignments.

- **Exams**

- All exams (midterms and final) will be in-person. Please do not be late for any of those - no additional time will be given.
- I will not give any make-up exams. If you need to take an exam early, please let me know at least one week in advance. In the case that you have to miss any of the midterms because of a family or medical emergency, and only if you provide documentation to justify that absence, the weight for the corresponding midterm will be added to the final exam. In all other cases, a missed exam will result in a grade of zero for that exam.
- The final exam cannot be missed under any circumstances. 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 Framework**

Attendance	15%
Problem Sets	20%
Policy Briefs	15%
Midterm #1	15%
Midterm #2	15%
Final Exam	20%

- **Letter Grade Distribution:**

A	93.00-100
A-	90.00-92.99
B+	87.00-89.99
B	83.00-86.99
B-	80.00-82.99
C+	77.00-79.99
C	73.00-76.99
C-	70.00-72.99
D+	67.00-69.99
D	63.00-66.99
D-	60.00-62.99
F	0.00-59.99

University Policies:

- **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](#).

- **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.
- If you have a temporary illness, injury or required medical isolation for which you require adjustment, please alert me by email so that we can figure out what the best solution for the situation as soon as possible.

- **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.

- **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, 303-492-5550. 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.

- **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 violence (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 [support resources](#) can be found on the [OIEC website](#).
- Please know that faculty and graduate instructors must inform OIEC when they are made aware of incidents related to these policies regardless of when or where something occurred. This is to ensure that individuals impacted receive outreach from OIEC about resolution options and support resources. To learn more about reporting and support for a variety of concerns, visit the [Don't Ignore It page](#).

- **Religious Accommodations**

- Campus policy requires faculty to provide reasonable accommodations for students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Please communicate the need for a religious accommodation in a timely manner. In this class, I ask that you please inform me via email (preferably in person and by email) at least one week prior to any scheduled conflict. This will allow us to find a solution that gives you the time and ability to complete the assignment. See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.

- **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.

- **Economics Resources**

- The Economics Department provides a free drop-in tutorial office which offers assistance for all core courses in the major, and occasionally for other undergraduate courses in the Department. The link to information can be found on the right-hand panel of [this page](#).
- The Economics Department also maintains a list of tutors who are available for private hire. The link to information can be found on the right-hand panel of [this page](#).

Tentative Schedule

Week	Date	Content	Due
1	Aug 26, 28, 30	Introduction/Micro Basics	PS1 - 9/1
2	Sep 4, 6	The Ricardian Model	PS2 - 9/8
3	Sep 9, 11, 13	The Heckscher-Ohlin Model	PS3 - 9/15
4	Sep 16, 18, 20	Intra-Industry Trade/Economies of Scale/Product Cycle	PB1 - 9/22
5	Sep 23, 25, 27	Other Models of Trade	Nothing
6	Sep 30, Oct 2, 4	Review, Midterm Exam 1 Oct 4	Nothing
7	Oct 7, 9, 11	Tariffs	PS4 - 10/13
8	Oct 14, 16, 18	Other Trade Restrictions	PS5 - 10/20
9	Oct 21, 23, 25	Trade Policy in the Real World	PS6 - 10/27
10	Oct 28, 30, Nov 1	Preferential Trade Agreements	PB2 - 11/3
11	Nov 4, 6, 8	Review, Midterm Exam 2 Nov 8	Nothing
12	Nov 11, 13, 15	International Finance	PS7 - 11/17
13	Nov 18, 20, 22	The Balance of Payments	PS8 - 11/24
14	Dec 2, 4, 6	The Foreign Exchange Market	PS9 - 12/1
15	Dec 9, 11	Exchange Rates, Review	PB3 - 12/8
Final Exam	Dec 14 (Saturday)	Final Exam 4:30-7pm	Nothing