
[BUS 313] ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ENVIRONMENT OF GLOBAL
BUSINESS
SPRING 2024

SECTION:	003	E-MAIL:	essaidi@hawaii.edu
CLASS:	WF 1:30 - 2:45 PM BUSAD-D106	OFFICE HOURS:	W 11:30am-1:30pm or by appointment
INSTRUCTOR:	Hamza Essaidi	ZOOM CODE:	979 364 9407

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Economic & Financial Environment of Global Business introduces students to the theory of trade and international finance. Using that theoretical foundation, the course will examine a number of key global regions and particular case studies. The purpose of BUS 313 is to build upon and enhance the knowledge and skills gained in introductory courses to help you better understand the global economics and financial markets that will impact your careers and lives, and to begin to provide experience using these tools to make business decisions. This course covers:


- International trade: comparative advantage, tariffs and quotas, and commercial policy;
- International finance: balance of payments, exchange rates;
- Banking and international economic institutions. Global financial crisis;
- Regional issues in global economy;
- Ethics topics, in particular the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA);

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Build the economic, financial and analytical skills that will help you be a better business decision maker in the global economy.
- Develop an understanding for the key economic drivers, inter-relationships and institutions existing in international business and trade.
- Identify market opportunities and trends through independent research of markets, trade flows, financial data and other economic information.
- Analyze world financial and capital markets (e.g. efficient methods to fund a business enterprise, hedge forex and interest rate risk, make investment decisions)

TEXTBOOKS AND COURSE MATERIALS

 **ONLINE RESOURCES:** Lecture notes and PowerPoint slides will be posted on Laulima

 **TEXTBOOK:** Gerber, J. International Economics, (8th ed.). Pearson Education Inc. Pearson MyLab Economics is required for this course, since homework will be made on Pearson MyLab Economics website (cheaper e-book version available through IDAP)

GRADING

Course Component	Overall Weight	Tentative Period
Individual Work		
<i>Attendance & Participation</i>	10%	
<i>Homework</i>	25%	
Group Work		
<i>Project & Presentation</i>	20%	
Exams		
<i>Midterm Exam</i>	20%	March 6
<i>Final Exam</i>	25%	May 10

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION

Taking a course implies a commitment to regular attendance. Any absence, regardless of the reason, requires students to make up for missed work. It's crucial to recognize that frequent absences might, at the instructor's discretion, impact both the grade and the ability to stay in the course. Active participation is equally vital; students should be prepared to engage by answering questions, contributing comments, participating in discussions, and presenting in class. Attendance will be taken starting the last day to register for a course (January 17th). You are allowed up to four unexcused absences without penalty. Each subsequent absence (starting the 5th absence) will result in an automatic one point deduction.

HOMEWORK

There will be six assigned homeworks, all will be made on Pearson MyLab Economics website. Each homework is worth 5% of your grade, and I will drop the lowest grade you receive on a homework. Please submit the homework at MyLab Economics website in the due date before the due time. MyLab Economics does not accept late homeworks. Students with medical excuse can ask for an extension: please e-mail me for help no later than 24 hours after the due date and time, together with the doctor's note. Submitting your homework online is the only official way to prove you have finished homework on time. I will not accept other "proofs," including the homework answer creation time, access, or modification time stamp. Doing homework is the most effective way of mastering the course content. It is also important since it reflects the priority areas to which you should give attention.

GROUP PROJECT

The group project is a Country Profiles Course Project to be completed in groups of 3-4 students. It consists of a 15-minute presentation in the second to last week of class and a graded final report of up to 10 pages. Groups will assess and compare the business environments of a pair of countries chosen from the top 30 most competitive countries according to the latest World Competitiveness Report. One country of your pair must be from the Asia-Pacific region, and the other must be from Europe. Groups will need to register their choice of country pair and group members with the instructor by the due date. The group project is worth 20% of your final grade (15% report and presentation, 5% registration and peer evaluation). Additional details of the course project will be posted to Laulima.

Tentative Deadline of Project Deliverables:

Deliverables	Due Date
<i>Project Registration</i>	February 7
<i>Group presentations</i>	April 19 & April 24
<i>Written Report</i>	April 24
<i>Peer Evaluation Forms</i>	April 26

EXAMS

There will be one midterm exam and one final exam scheduled for this semester. The exams are non-cumulative and cover the assigned chapters. The midterm exam will cover Module 1 and Module 2 (Chapter 1 to 8) and the final exam will cover Module 3 and Module 4 (Chapter 9 to 17).

Exam Policy

- If you must miss a scheduled exam, you must notify me beforehand and provide documentation related to your absence.
- If the reason is sufficient to warrant the absence, the weight will be added to the final exam.
- If the excuse is insufficient, you will be assigned a grade of 0 if you fail to take the exam.
- Exams are closed-note & closed-book.

EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

There will be opportunities for extra credit that will be offered to the entire class throughout the semester. I will share the details of the extra credit assignments beforehand and will allow sufficient time to complete the assignments.

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY

All assignments are designed to reinforce your learning. They are due at specific dates/times and in proper formats. Assignments (excluding homework) handed in after the due date/time but during the next 24 hours will receive HALF credit. Assignments handed in more than 24 hours after the due time will receive NO credit.

NORMATIVE CLASS COMMUNICATIONS

Interactions are very important for effective learning and are highly encouraged.

- Attendance is mandatory, and students are strongly encouraged to participate in class discussions and raise questions. You are responsible for material covered in class and any assignments missed due to absence. It is recommended that you make pre-arrangements with me in this case.
- Besides office hours, email is the best way to reach me outside class. When sending e-mails regarding the class, please include "BUS 313" in the subject line and please remember to leave your name at the end of the email.

- Information will be communicated mainly through “Laulima” and group emails. You are responsible for checking “Laulima” and emails regularly. All scores are posted on “Laulima/Gradebook.”
- In order to be considered, all grading questions should be raised within two weeks of the score posting date.
- Please refrain from using laptops for any purpose not directly related to the current class since it affects/distracts other students.

USE OF LAULIMA

This class uses [Laulima](#). It may be used to distribute course materials, to communicate and collaborate online, to post grades, to submit assignments, and to take online quizzes and surveys. You will be responsible for checking Laulima course site regularly for class work and announcements. Scheduled Laulima downtimes are posted on the Laulima login page, and thus are not an excuse for late work. Laulima technical support can be reached at itech-l@hawaii.edu, so plan accordingly.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the KOKUA Program for information and services. Services are confidential and free of charge. In case of need, contact KOKUA at 956-7511, or kokua@hawaii.edu, or Student Services Center Room 13. Early contact is strongly recommended.

DROP POLICY

If the University policies permit, a student may withdraw or drop this class with approval by the withdraw/drop deadlines set by the University. For deadlines for dropping/withdrawing from business classes, please check the [Spring 2024 Academic Calendar](#).

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY POLICY

Acts of academic dishonesty are not tolerated in this class. Acts of academic dishonesty as defined by university policies may lead to redoing the assignment, receiving a failing or reduced grade for the course or being referred to the UH Dean of Students for University disciplinary action. Students should refer to the [UH Student Conduct Code](#) for detailed definitions and explanations of academic dishonesty.

MODULES OUTLINE

- **Module 1: Introduction and Institutions**

Chapter 1 An Introduction to the World Economy

Chapter 2 International Economic Institutions Since World War II

- **Module 2: International Trade**

Chapter 3 Comparative Advantage and the Gains from Trade

Chapter 4 Comparative Advantage and Factor Endowments

Chapter 5 Beyond Comparative Advantage

Chapter 6 Tariffs and Quotas

Chapter 7 Commercial Policy

Chapter 8 International Trade and Labor Environmental Standards

- **Module 3: International Finance**

Chapter 9 Trade and the Balance of Payments

Chapter 10 Exchange Rates and Exchange Rate Systems

Chapter 11 An Introduction of Open Economy Macroeconomics

Chapter 12 International Financial Crises

- **Module 4: Issues in the Global Economy**

Chapter 13 The United States in the World Economy

Chapter 14 The European Union: Many Markets Into One

Chapter 15 Trade and Policy Reform in Latin America

*Chapter 16 Export Oriented Growth in East Asia**

*Chapter 17 China and India in the World Economy**

*(*if time permits)*

TENTATIVE COURSE CALENDAR

Date	Topics	Chapters
10-Jan	Introductions & Syllabus/Course Overview	
12-Jan	An Introduction to the World Economy	Ch 1
17-Jan	International Economic Institutions Since World War II	Ch 2
19-Jan & 24-Jan	Comparative Advantage and the Gains from Trade	Ch 3
26-Jan & 31-Jan	Comparative Advantage and Factor Endowments	Ch 4
2-Feb	Concept Review Ch 1-4	
7-Feb	Beyond Comparative Advantage Project Registration Due	Ch 5
9-Feb & 14-Feb	The Theory of Tariffs and Quotas	Ch 6
16-Feb	Commercial Policy	Ch 7
21-Feb & 23-Feb	International Trade and Labor Environmental Standards	Ch 8
28-Feb	Midterm Exam Review	
1-Mar	Buffer Time	
6-Mar	Midterm Exam	
8-Mar & 13-Mar	Trade and the Balance of Payments	Ch 9
15-Mar	Exchange Rates and Exchange Rate Systems	Ch 10
20-Mar & 22-Mar	No Class: Spring Break	
27-Mar	Exchange Rates and Exchange Rate Systems	Ch 10
29-Mar	No Class: Good Friday	
3-Apr	An Introduction of Open Economy Macroeconomics	Ch 11
5-Apr	International Financial Crises	Ch 12
10-Apr	The United States in the World Economy	Ch 13
12-Apr	The European Union: Many Markets Into One	Ch 14
17-Apr	Trade and Policy Reform in Latin America	Ch 15
19-Apr & 24-Apr	Group Presentations Written Report Due	
26-Apr	Review Final Exam Peer Review Forms Due	
1-May	Last Day of Class	

NOTE: The above actual dates may be modified due to the requirements of the class. Also, the indicated dates may be moved backward or forward depending on class progress. **Exact dates and instructions will be announced on course webpage.**