

# EC 340: International Economics, Summer 2021, Portland State University

Portland State is located in the traditional homelands of the Multnomah, Wasco, Cowlitz, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Watlala Bands of Chinook, Tualatin Kalapuya, Molalla, and many other indigenous nations who made their homes along the Columbia and Willamette Rivers. By recognizing these communities, we honor their legacies, their lives, and their descendants.

Instructor: Dr. Tinkler E-Mail: [tinkler@pdx.edu](mailto:tinkler@pdx.edu)  
Class Time: Asynchronous (Meaning: no set meeting times)  
Office Hours: Wed. 2-3p, and by appointment on Zoom.

## Course description

International economics is the study of the economic ties between nation states. We will answer questions such as: Why do nations engage in, or restrict, trade? What is a trade war? Who is helped or hurt by free trade? Why does the US have a trade deficit? What determines exchange rates and why do they matter?

## Course materials

*International Economics* by Thomas Pugel (recent edition) and/or D2L content

## Course Requirements

Assignment	Percentage and due days
Weekly online quizzes (Lowest 2 scores dropped)	60% (Sundays)
Weekly online discussions	40% (Mondays)

## Course calendar

### **Week 1** (Starts 6/21)

Introduction to International Economics (Ch. 1)

The Basic Theory of International Trade (Ch. 2)

Deliverables:

- Join a country group ASAP
- Quiz 1 due Sunday, 06/27 and Discussion 1 due Monday, 06/28

### **Week 2** (Starts 6/28)

Comparative Advantage (Ch. 3)

Factor Proportions (Ch. 4)

Deliverables:

- Quiz 2 due Sunday, 7/4 and Discussion 2 due Monday, 7/5

**Week 3** (Starts 7/5)

The Gainers and Losers from Trade (Ch. 5)

Alternative Theories of Trade (Ch. 6)

Deliverables:

- Quiz 3 due Sunday, 7/11 and Discussion 3 due Monday, 7/12

**Week 4** (Starts 7/12)

Tariffs (Ch. 8)

Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade (Ch. 9)

Deliverables:

- Quiz 4 due Sunday, 7/18 and Discussion 4 due Monday, 7/19

**Week 5** (Starts 7/19)

Arguments for and Against Protectionism (Ch. 10)

Trade Wars (online materials)

Deliverables:

- Quiz 5 due 7/25 and Discussion 5 due Monday, 7/26

**Week 6** (Starts 7/26)

International Factor Movements (Ch. 15)

Deliverables:

- Quiz 6 due 8/1 and Discussion 6 due Monday, 8/2

**Week 7** (Starts 8/2)

The Balance of Payments (Ch. 16)

Deliverables:

- Group project on responses to pandemic due Tuesday, 8/3
- Quiz 7 due Sunday, 8/8 and Discussion 7 due Monday 8/9

**Week 8** (Starts 8/9)

The Foreign Exchange Market (Ch. 17)

Forward Exchange and International Financial Investment (Ch. 18)

Deliverables:

- Quiz 8 due Sunday, 8/15

## Course policies

### *Affirmative Action*

PSU supports equal opportunity for all, regardless of age, color, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion or creed, sex or gender, sexual or gender identity, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other basis in law.

### *Disability Resources at PSU*

Students with accommodations approved through the Disability Resource Center are responsible for contacting the faculty member prior to, or during, the first

week of term to discuss any accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval should contact the DRC immediately.

### ***Academic Honesty***

Academic honesty is expected and required of students enrolled in this course. Suspected academic dishonesty in this course will be handled according to the procedures set out in the *Student Code of Conduct*.