WINTHROP UNIVERSITY  
College of Business Administration

ECON 521  International Trade and Investment  
Fall 2013 Course Syllabus

Section 001 (12370)  TR  5:00PM - 6:15PM  THUR 312

Professor: Dr. W. Lewis  
Office: THUR 127  
Phone: (803) 323-4623  
Email: lewism@winthrop.edu

Office Hours:  
Monday and Wednesday  2:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
Other times are available by appointment only.

Catalog Course Description: Theory and policy in international trade and investment with emphasis on the motives and mechanisms of international economic and financial transactions. *Three semester hours.*

Prerequisites: Economics 215 (Principles of Microeconomics)


Supplemental Materials: To facilitate the mastery of course material, additional handouts will be presented in class.

Topics covered: Upon completion of the course, the student should have a thorough understanding of the global economy. The student should understand why countries engage in international trade as well as the costs and benefits of trade. The student should also have a firm grasp of the impact of government trade policies and the terms of trade.

Teaching Methods: This is a predominately lecture-based course and is quantitative in nature. It is expected that students have read the relevant chapters in the textbook prior to the lecture.

Grading: Grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 or higher</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87 – 89.99</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 – 86.99</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77 – 79.99</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 – 76.99</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67 – 69.99</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<tr>
<td>60 – 66.99</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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Grades will be calculated based on the following assignments:

- Exam 1: 20%  
- Exam 2: 25%  
- Exam 3: 30% **Saturday, December 7, 2013 from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm**  
- Paper: 15%  
- Quizzes: 10%  
- Homework: 5%
Graduate Students will have different exams. In addition, research paper will require additional length and more analysis.

Quizzes and homework will be conducted on Blackboard. The time period to complete these assignments will be restricted. **THERE ARE NO MAKEUP EXAMINATIONS OR QUIZZES.**

Grades will be posted on Blackboard.

**Attendance:** You are expected to attend all classes unless you are unavoidably prevented from so doing. This is a challenging course for most students and class attendance is essential to performance. If you have more than 5 absences, you will receive an "F" in the course. This grade will replace any other grade earned by a student. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class. If a student has not arrived prior to roll call, said student will be marked as being absent. If you are tardy to class or leave early, you will be assessed 1/2 absence for each occurrence. The student is required to notify the instructor once the class has ended to change an absent mark to tardy.

If you are a **student athlete**, you must provide your travel and game schedule in advance, indicating when you will need to miss class to participate in athletic events. You must also send me an email to remind me of your travel schedule for a given class and that you will be unable to attend. You will need to make up any missed work.

**Closed Door Policy:** Class begins when I close the door. The door will be closed and locked once roll has been called. Winthrop University implemented the “locked door” in response to the Virginia Tech incident.

**Academic Success:** Winthrop’s Academic Success Center is a free resource for all undergraduate students seeking to perform their best academically. The ASC offers a variety of personalized and structured resources that help students achieve academic excellence, such as tutoring, test taking strategies, time management counseling, study techniques, and academic coaching. The ASC is located on the first floor of Dinkins, Suite 106. Please contact the ASC at 803-323-3929 or success@winthrop.edu. For more information on ASC services, please visit [www.winthrop.edu/success](http://www.winthrop.edu/success). Also, free tutors are available in 107 Thurmond for lower level economics, accounting, and quantitative methods courses.

**Student Disabilities:**
Winthrop University is dedicated to providing access to education. If you have a disability and require specific accommodations to complete this course, Services for Students with Disabilities at 323-3290. Once you have your official notice of accommodations from Services for Students with Disabilities, please inform me as early as possible in the semester. Once you have your **Professor Notification Form**, please provide me with a copy so I am aware of your accommodations at the beginning of the course.

**Student Conduct Code:**
**DO NOT GET CAUGHT CHEATING.** Students caught cheating will receive an F in the course. The policy on student academic misconduct is outlined in the Student Conduct Code Academic misconduct Policy in the Student Handbook online [http://www2.winthrop.edu/studentaffairs/handbook/StudentHandbook.pdf](http://www2.winthrop.edu/studentaffairs/handbook/StudentHandbook.pdf).

**Course goals:** My goal in this course is to teach you how approach international trade like an economist. After completing this course you should have an understanding of important ideas in international trade, which covers trade, finance, and investment. The course will highlight reasons for trade, sources of comparative advantage, gains and losses from trade, and effects of trade barriers such as tariffs, quotas, voluntary export restraints, and export subsidies. Topics on international finance will include balance of payments, determination of foreign exchange rates, and international monetary system. International agreements promoting free trade (NAFTA, EU, WTO, etc.) will be also discussed. **WARNING:** Economics is not a course that can be regurgitated. You must learn to apply the concepts.
Assessment Responsibility - student learning outcomes:

Upon completion of this course students should be able to:
1. Explain the basic concepts of international trade and investment
2. Analyze the causes and consequences of international trade and investment.
3. Analyze the impact of various international economic policies

To achieve the course goals, students will be expected to:
1. Define and discuss comparative advantage and international trade theories through class discussion, assignments, and exam questions.
2. Define and discuss foreign capital flows and foreign exchange markets through class discussion, assignments, and exam questions.
3. Define and discuss gains and losses from trade through research papers. Define and discuss policies that promote trade barriers through research papers.

Global Learning Initiative: This course participates in the Global Learning Initiative by its very nature as the course focuses on the understanding trade in the global economy. Specific GLI components include a research paper that analyze the impact of foreign trade policies and another that analyzes the impact of international trade agreements like NAFTA, WTO, EU, etc.

Professionalism: The COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION is a professional organization with a well-defined and widely disseminated mission of student development. Accordingly, each class represents a gathering of professionals and professionals in-training. The instructor’s job as a professional is to deliver quality instruction in each class, to start and end class on time, to be responsive to student perspectives, issues and questions, and to treat students respectfully. The student’s job, as a professional in-training is to be prepared for class, to be on time, to attend all classes, and to be respectful of others in the classroom. In accordance with and pursuant to these roles the following guidelines were established to specify to students (both present and prospective) faculty expectations regarding their behaviors:

1. STUDENTS WILL ATTEND ALL CLASS MEETINGS: There are no automatically "excused" absences. In the event that you will be unable to attend a class session, you should inform your professor in advance as a matter of professional courtesy just as you would/should with an employer.
2. STUDENTS WILL ARRIVE IN ADVANCE OF THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS SESSION: Late arrivals are disruptive, inconsiderate and unprofessional. Professors may make arrangements for delinquents, but are not obliged to do so. Those not present at the beginning of the classroom period will be considered absent.
3. STUDENTS WILL NOT CONVERSE AMONG THEMSELVES DURING CLASS EXCEPT WHEN INSTRUCTED TO DO SO: When a student creates a disturbance in the classroom, instructors will either ask the student to desist immediately or speak to the student at the conclusion of class. Repeat offenders will be sanctioned.
4. STUDENTS WILL NOT LEAVE CLASS BEFORE ITS CONCLUSION: Early departures are disruptive, inconsiderate and unprofessional. Professors may make arrangements under some circumstance, but are not obliged to do so. Those not present at the conclusion of the classroom session will be considered absent.
5. STUDENTS WILL DRESS APPROPRIATELY: Pants should be above your waist, no baseball caps, no bandanas, doo rags, head wraps, etc. worn in-class, no short mini-skirts, “Daisy Dukes”, low-cut shirts, etc. Generally, I do not wish to see your underwear. If you must pull up your pants…they are too big. If you must pull down your skirts or pull up your shirt…they are too short.

Technology Policy: Cell phones or related devices are not allowed at any time during class. Each time I see a student using such a device I will deduct one point from his/her final grade. Any student who is caught using an electronic device such as a cell phone, PDA, Blackberry, iPod, etc. during an exam will be subject to academic dishonesty prosecution. Graphing calculators are also strictly prohibited.
Blackboard

**Homework Assignments**
You will complete daily online homework assignments through BLACKBOARD. They are located in the Quizzes folder and are denoted by H followed by a number. For example, H1 represents homework assignment for chapter 1. Log into Blackboard with the same user name and password as you use to login to Winthrop email. Each assignment will include about 10 exercises from the relevant chapter. Each assignment has a 20 minute time limit. Assignments will be automatically graded, based on the criteria set forth in Blackboard and may not be reviewed in class.

**Quizzes**
You will complete an end of the chapter quiz to review the main points of each chapter. They are located in the Quizzes folder and are denoted by Quiz followed by a number. For example, Quiz1 represents the quiz for chapter 1. Each quiz will include 5 exercises with a time limit of 5 minutes. The date assigned will be the date we conclude a chapter. Unlike the homework assignments, there is only one attempt to do the quizzes. Thus, you are advised to do the quizzes after completing the homework. Quizzes will be automatically graded, based on the criteria set forth under each quiz and may not be reviewed in class. MAKE SURE YOU ARE PREPARED TO GET THE QUIZ DONE ON TIME – there is no grace period allowed.

It is your responsibility for getting your own computer issues resolved and any technical issues resolved to be able to complete the Blackboard assignments. Contact Kimarie Whetstone at whetstonek@winthrop.edu or by telephone at (803)323-2551. NO ADJUSTMENTS WILL BE MADE TO YOUR BLACKBOARD GRADE FOR COMPUTER-RELATED GLITCHES THAT RESULT IN YOUR INABILITY TO COMPLETE AN ASSIGNMENT ON TIME. Plan ahead and do them in plenty of time so you have an opportunity to re-enter the system to complete the assignment should you have some technical issue, which kicks you out of the system before submitting your answer.

**Inclement Weather:** If the UNIVERSITY cancels classes due to snow, other inclement weather, or some other unexpected reasons, you should assume we will stay to the course syllabus unless otherwise instructed. This means you are responsible for having covered the material or completed the work that might have been the subject of the class that was canceled. If an examination is scheduled on the day the college closes and cancels classes, then you should assume the examination will be taken on the next day in which the college is open and classes are held for this course. Changes going forward in the course syllabus will then be discussed at that point as appropriate.

**Syllabus Change Policy**
The posted syllabus is a contractual policy between the instructor and student. It is presumed that every student has read the syllabus completely, understands his/her individual responsibilities, and accepts full responsibility for meeting all course requirements as set forth therein. Should there be a need to make a change in the posted syllabus, an announcement will be made in class and also through the WINTHROP LISTSERV; well in advance of any change, the relevant change will be incorporated into a syllabus marked revised as of the date of the revision, and the updated portion of the syllabus will be distributed to class or announced.