



***Welcome to ECO 2113A – Canada and the World Economy
Course Outline***

Professor: Lawrence Harris

Autumn 2017

Course Description

Official Course Description: The purpose of this course is to show the importance of international trade for Canada, and the role of Canada in international exchanges of goods and services. Examination of statistical data on the balance of payments will enable the student to analyze and understand the structure of the international transactions of Canada with the rest of the world, by product as well as by country of origin and destination.

Course Objectives

This course will familiarize students with practical and theoretical aspects of international trade, and the importance of international trade to Canada. News analysis, discussion of trade restrictions such as tariffs and quotas, the foreign exchange market, an overview of international trade agreements and organizations, and balance of payments data combine to give students an overview of issues, and insight into the realities of Canada's open economy.

Teaching Method

The course is presented in a lecture format, and students will be asked to participate in discussions. The lectures also include multimedia presentations and active note-making.

It is important for you to keep a journal of what takes place in class because the course involves following developments in several course topics simultaneously throughout the semester. Links to documents that you will be required to read and study will be provided on the course website. (A suitable textbook for this range of topics in the Canadian context does not exist!)

There is a diverse group of students in this class. Students in third and fourth year should bear in mind that this class has a large population of second-year students and some students who may not have a

background in basic Economics. Nonetheless, you will find many parts of the course interesting and informative; there is a lot of fact and theory that can make this a worthwhile course for you.

To keep the lectures at a sufficiently challenging and interesting level of economics, all students, especially those who have not completed any other economics courses, must realize that they have to acquire on their own the necessary insights needed to follow the explanations of the international trade models discussed in this course. Concepts such as Supply and Demand, and Consumers and Producers Surplus are indispensable, and can be learned or reviewed in any first-year Economics textbook. You may have to find and consult dictionaries of economics and other background material, which is readily available in libraries or on the Internet.

Thank you for your cooperation

Having students who are engaged in the course can make the experience of coming to class much more interesting and enjoyable.

Please be serious and attentive when you come to class. The Professor needs to concentrate, and other students want to hear clearly what the prof is saying.

During lectures, electronic devices should be used for this course's work only, and should not distract other students, or yourself, or the prof. You should not be on Facebook, YouTube, playing video games, wearing headphones, texting, or talking to seatmates. Cellphones should be off.

Your full attendance is expected — for the full duration of the semester and for the full duration of the lectures.

Copyright and Privacy

The following are not permitted in the lecture hall or during the class:

- taking photos or videos
- audio recording

...unless explicit permission has been given by the professor.

Also, you are not allowed to copy material from the course's Virtual Campus website and re-post it on other websites. It is for your personal use only while you are enrolled in the course.

No Class on October 26

Reading Week

Course Materials

- Make sure you have an introductory Micro- and Macro-Economics textbook (such as any fairly recent edition of Mankiw et al *Principles of Microeconomics*, and *Principles of Macroeconomics* which have been used for first-year economics courses here at the University of Ottawa), where you can study the following topics listed below. **THESE READINGS ARE MANDATORY FOR THIS COURSE.**
 - supply and demand
 - comparative advantage
 - balance of payments
 - foreign exchange markets
 - tariffs
 - consumer and producer surplus
- With the exception of the material from the introductory textbooks mentioned above, most readings will be downloadable from the Internet via our ECO2113 Virtual Campus website.
- If copyright, technical, or other reasons require it, certain materials may be required for purchase at the UOttawa Repro Centre. This would be announced on the course website.
- The Prof will be posting some review notes, etc. on Virtual Campus, but these are not a replacement for attending class and making your own set of notes.
- Check our ECO2113 Virtual Campus website frequently for course announcements and course materials that are added throughout the term.

Course Topics

This is a list of topics, but *not* a chronological agenda; we will be discussing trade models, StatsCan material, international trade institutions, and trade issues in the news on a weekly basis.

Canada's Trade Patterns

- relationships with trading partners
- importance of various sectors of the economy with respect to international trade
- current issues in Canadian trade
- free-trade developments

Balance of Payments

- Balance of Payment accounting
- Canadian statistics

Economic Data

- Canadian and regional/provincial economies
- International data, trading partners, major economies

International Trade Institutions

- World Trade Organization (WTO) and GATT
- Canadian Government initiatives
- Reports from organizations that monitor international trade

Reasons for Trade

- comparative and absolute advantage
- models with constant or changing opportunity costs
- barriers to trade, including tariffs, quotas, and non-tariff barriers (NTBs)

Welfare Analysis of Trade Impediments

- consumer and producer surplus
- quotas
- tariffs

Foreign Exchange Markets

- determination and quotation of foreign exchange rates
- demand and supply of foreign exchange
- fixed and flexible exchange rates

Assessment Method

Two exams; probably a mix of multiple choice and short answers:

45% –MID-TERM EXAM – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

- **Beginning at 7:00 p.m., in our regular lecture hall.**
- covers everything from the beginning of the course until the lecture before the midterm exam.

55% – FINAL EXAM

- **during official exam period – date will be announced in October.**
- covers the entire course; more emphasis on material after the midterm.

Computers, and other electronic devices are not permitted during exams unless expressly indicated on the exam questionnaire.

Absence from an Exam

- If you have an acceptable reason for missing the midterm or final exam, go to the Economics Department Office (FSS 9th floor) -- not the Professor -- and fill out a Deferred Exam Request form, and provide supporting documentation. Only medical certificates from doctors certified by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario or the College of Psychologists of Ontario, or their Québec equivalents, or a University of Ottawa Health Service certificate are accepted by the Economics Department.
- If your request is granted, the Economics Department will contact you to write a deferred exam at a time arranged by the Department. (The date for the deferred final exam is January 5, 2018.)
- Note: Regarding absences from exams, the University has sent all professors a reminder that: *“Reasons such as travel, employment and misreading the examination schedule are not accepted.”*

If You Need Help...

- Always feel welcome to ask questions during the lectures. Short, snappy questions are best!
- To get to the course web page, log on to Virtual Campus and click this course: 2113A Canada and the World Economy. As the course unfolds, I will be posting printed copies of the “Quick Reviews” that I present at the beginning of some lectures, and other material.
- If you have an individual question to ask the Prof, ask me in person at the end of a lecture. I try to stay until the last question gets answered. This has proven popular over the years because I am right here where you are. If you wish to keep the conversation confidential, just mention that when you come up to speak to me. You can also make an appointment to speak to me in my office on Wednesdays at 12:30pm.
- Prof's email: lawrence.harris@uottawa.ca
- ***Always include your full name, student number, and course code with your message in order to receive a reply!***
- This semester I am teaching over 400 students. If you email me, please make sure it is for something important! There may be a delay of several days in replying.
- Get to know other students in the course — they can help you too!

The University requires the following statement to be printed in the course syllabus

Be aware of academic fraud!

Academic fraud consists of dishonest and wrongful acts on exams, test or assignments, resulting in flawed grades and assessments. The University does not tolerate academic fraud, and anyone found guilty of this behaviour is liable to severe penalties.

Here are some examples of academic fraud: Plagiarizing or cheating in any way

Presenting falsified research data;

Submitting an assignment of which you are not the sole author
Presenting the same work from another course without written permission from the professors concerned.

With the development of the Internet these past years, it has become much easier to detect plagiarism. Indeed, given the powerful tools now at their disposal, your professors can, by typing a few simple words, readily trace the exact source of a text on the Web.

For more information on fraud and how to avoid it, you can refer to the Faculty web page, which offers tips to help you with your studies and the writing process for university-level projects at the following address: http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/eng/ugrad_tips.asp. You can also refer to the Faculty web page for information on plagiarism in university assignments: <http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/eng/ethics.asp>

Persons who commit or try to commit academic fraud, or who are accomplices in fraud, will be penalized. Here are some of the possible sanctions:

A grade of F for the assignment or course in question, the imposition of three to 30 more credits as a condition of graduation suspension or expulsion from their faculty.

To consult the regulation, go to:

http://www.uottawa.ca/academic/info/newsletter/fraud_f.html