

## ECO 5745: Global Trade and Policy

### Instructor

Dr. Thomas Knight

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### Required Materials:

International Trade, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Robert Feenstra and Alan Taylor (FT)

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this course is to develop an understanding of global trade flows and trade policy. The total volume of trade (including imports and exports) in the United States exceeds \$5 trillion annually. Companies, large and small, engage in the purchase and sale of goods and services across borders. In fact, 58% of small businesses have international customers. Understanding these international flows will enhance your ability to engage in and manage international transactions.

The content of this course will inform your understanding of international business and government policies. I want to emphasize that memorization is pointless. Instead, gaining a working understanding some basic microeconomic principles and international trade theories, as well as developing competence with the analytical tools covered in this course, will allow you to analyze numerous unfamiliar issues that arise in international trade.

### CORE REQUIREMENTS

1. Continued enrollment in this course is equivalent to acceptance of all stated responsibilities, policies, and due dates. If there is anything that is unclear, talk to me *immediately*. Waiting until the end of the term (in this case, week) often results in less favorable outcomes.
2. Students are expected to watch the lecture videos and submit assignments according to the schedule in this syllabus.
3. Students are expected to complete five analytic problem sets. These problem sets relate to the topics from that day's lecture videos and assigned reading. They are intended to offer you practice with the relevant mathematical techniques. In some cases, questions offer important extensions of the material covered in class. *See Page 2 for a more thorough explanation of problem sets.*

### COURSE DELIVERY

Global Trade and Policy is an online course. This means all lectures and assignments can be completed online. In fact, all course lectures and assignments have already been uploaded into the Canvas course site. Each day's page in Canvas links to assigned readings, short content lectures, practice worksheets, worksheet solution videos, and assigned problem sets.

This is a highly accelerated course – we will go through an entire course in a single week. This will require substantial engagement and dedication. While this course is entirely online, there are strict assignment due dates that must be met. And falling behind, even by a day or two, will make it hard to catch back up.

## COURSE COMMUNICATIONS

All important course announcements concerning the class will be made by email. You are responsible for all information communicated through this channel. I assume that you are checking your UF email account at least once per day.

Most of our one-on-one communication will occur via UF email. I will always respond to these emails within 24 hours, and typically much quicker. If you have not received a response within 24 hours, please assume that I have not seen your email and resend it.

## PROBLEM SET GUIDELINES AND DUE DATES

There are five problem sets required for successful completion this course. These problem sets are designed to provide you with practice with the theories, models, and analytical tools covered in this course. My hope is that these problem sets will assist you in understanding the content of this course. Because there is no exam in this course, they are also the only means of assessment.

You may not discuss these problem sets with your classmates or work in groups. Each student is responsible for turning in his or her own work, which must include his or her own individual mathematical derivations and written explanations. Submitting another student's work as your own or inappropriately collaborating on assignments constitutes a violation of the UF Honor Code and will be reported to the Dean of Students Office.

All Problem Sets should be submitted to Canvas by the posted due date and time. Late submissions will not be accepted, even a few minutes late.

## GRADING POLICY

Grades are calculated as follows: Average of Highest Four Problem Sets. Your lowest problem set will be automatically dropped at the end of the term. Your final course grade will be assigned according to the concordance table below.

92.00-100	A	77.00-79.99	C+
90.00-91.99	A-	72.00-76.99	C
87.00-89.99	B+	70.00-71.99	C-
82.00-86.99	B	65.00-69.99	D
80.00-81.99	B-	0-64.99	E

The scale listed above is firm. Students should assume that 91.99 is followed by an infinite number of nines and the rest of the cut-offs follow accordingly. No matter how close you may be to the next higher grade, I cannot change your grade. Although I will gladly review your grade to make sure you are evaluated fairly, I will not round final grades or offer extra credit at the end of the term.

Any late submissions that are not explicitly excused by the UF Attendance Policy will receive a score of zero. Any extensions or make-ups must be arranged before the due date/time and will only be offered for personal illness, UF-related scheduling conflicts, and religious commitments and worship. Keep in mind that your academic obligations *always* take precedence over personal and social commitments.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up assignments in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

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<http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

### **MAKE-UP POLICY**

Make-up problem sets will only be granted with documentation of an absence that is explicitly excused by the [UF Attendance Policy](#). While I understand that securing documentation for some legitimate absences will be difficult or even impossible, I cannot accommodate for these instances. For this reason, I drop your lowest problem set score.

In the case of known conflicts and all non-emergency illnesses/issues, requests for make-up problem sets must be made *two business days before* the regularly scheduled due date. Make-up requests may be sent to my email address, [thomas.knight@ufl.edu](mailto:thomas.knight@ufl.edu). If I do not respond in 24 hours, assume that I have not seen your request, and resend it. Emergencies will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

If conflicts between your personal life and the course schedule occur, the course schedule takes priority. You should address and resolve any such issues before proceeding in the course past the Drop/Add period.

### **INTERNET CONNECTIVITY ISSUES**

I only offer make-up assignments when there are known **system-wide outages**. These are the only outages that I can verify. I cannot verify individual connectivity problems, and thus, cannot accommodate them. This is why I drop your two lowest quiz scores.

You are responsible for verifying that any online assignment submission has properly been submitted through Canvas. As a best practice, after submitting any assignment, close your browser, reopen Canvas, and check that your assignment properly appears. As an additional best practice, never submit an assignment through the Canvas mobile app. This will help you avoid a situation in which you attempt to upload an assignment, but it is not properly accepted by Canvas.

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

You are expected to abide by the University's rules for academic honesty as outlined in the UF Student Honor Code. All suspicious evidence of cheating, plagiarism, making false statements, and any other violation of these rules will be reported to the Dean of Students Office. Additionally, I will advocate for the strictest of available sanctions (inc. dismissal from the University of Florida) for any student who is found responsible for violating these rules.

It is important to note that cheating and plagiarism are not the only forms of academic dishonesty. "Making a false or misleading statement for the purpose of procuring an improper academic advantage" is also a violation of the UF Student Honor Code. This includes making false statements to your instructor and/or presenting forged documents (e.g., doctors' notes). I verify suspicious claims, for example, by contacting the student's medical provider or by reviewing their UF systems connection data.

While collaboration on Problem Sets is permitted, any work that you submit for evaluation and grading should be your own. The complete UF Student Honor Code is available at: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

### **NOTE ON END-OF-TERM COURSE EVALUATIONS**

At the end of each term, you have the ability to evaluate the quality of each of your courses and the effectiveness of your instructors. I encourage you to take this opportunity seriously and to provide serious and informative feedback. Personally, I am always trying to improve my course – tweaking it bit-by-bit each term – and student feedback is essential to making real improvements. As the term nears an end, I will discuss this issue (numerous times) in lecture, as I believe the high quality of your education depends on your constructive criticism and affirming support. You can access end-of-term course evaluations at: <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>

**SPECIAL NEEDS AND GENERAL COMMENTS ON WELLNESS**

If you are a student with special needs and you require additional resources to participate successfully in this course, please contact me during the first week of classes. The [UF Disability Resource Center](#) may provide special accommodations for students. Once you obtain documentation from the DRC, please forward it to me and accommodations can be arranged.

Graduate school is an exciting learning experience and a unique opportunity for personal growth. It can, however, also be a stressful and difficult transitional period. If you are ever having general issues with your coursework *in any course* or trouble in your personal life, please seek help from myself or another faculty member. I also encourage you to utilize the *FREE* and *ANONYMOUS* services of the [UF Counseling and Wellness Center](#).

## **COURSE OUTLINE (AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE)**

### **Day 1: Monday, June 24:**

**Watch: Day 1, Videos 1-5**  
**Read: Syllabus and FT Chapter 2**  
**Review: Worksheets 1-4 and Solution Videos**  
**Complete: Problem Set 1 (Due at 11:59pm)**

### **Day 2: Tuesday, June 25:**

**Watch: Day 2, Videos 1-5**  
**Read: FT Chapter 8**  
**Review: Worksheets 1-3 and Solution Videos**  
**Complete: Problem Set 2 (Due at 11:59pm)**

### **Day 3: Wednesday, June 26:**

**Watch: Day 3, Videos 1-6**  
**Read: FT Chapter 3**  
**Review: Worksheets 1-3 and Solution Videos**  
**Complete: Problem Set 3 (Due at 11:59pm)**

### **Day 4: Thursday, June 27:**

**Watch: Day 4, Videos 1-5**  
**Read: FT Chapter 6**  
**Review: Worksheets 1&2 and Solution Videos**  
**Complete: Problem Set 4 (Due at 11:59pm)**

### **Day 5: Friday, June 28:**

**Watch: Day 5, Videos 1-5**  
**Read: FT Chapter 10**  
**Review: Worksheets 1-4 and Solution Videos**  
**Complete: Problem Set 5 (Due at 11:59pm)**