

ECON 405  
Spring 2009

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## Syllabus

**Preparation:** Successful completion of Economics 309 and 310, and a passing score on the Upper-Division Writing Proficiency Exam.

**Textbook:** Krugman and Obstfeld, International Economics: Theory and Policy, Pearson, 8th edition. This book is available at the Matador Bookstore. Trade and finance theories are abstract and technical, so it is strongly recommended that you read the assigned chapters before attending the lecture.

**Review:** The class website ([www.csun.edu/~lem50734/econ405index.html](http://www.csun.edu/~lem50734/econ405index.html)) contains answers to some questions that appear at the end of each chapter. These questions were selected to help you prepare for the type of questions that may appear on the exams.

**Presentation:** There is one formal presentation. You are responsible for forming teams that contain four or five students. Each team will use power point slides to present an analysis of a current topic in international economics. Details about the presentation are posted to the class website. Some teams will present in March while others will present in May. Absent presenters will receive no credit for the presentation.

**Exams:** There is one midterm exam and a non-cumulative final. The exams will contain true/false, multiple choice, and essay questions. The midterm will be held on March 12<sup>th</sup> during normal class time. The final will be held on May 12<sup>th</sup> from 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Make-up exams will not be given. The weight of a missed midterm is applied to your final exam.

**Assessment:** Course grades are determined in the following manner:

Presentation	20 percent
Midterm	40 percent
Final Examination	40 percent

\* Plus/Minus grading will be used in borderline grade cases. Incomplete grades will not be given.

**Office Hours:** Office hours will be held in JH 4250 on Thursdays from 10:00 to 10:50 a.m. and by appointment. If you cannot come to my office, please email your questions. I check my email frequently and welcome your questions. If you agree, I would like to post your emailed questions (*anonymously*) to the class website, along with my responses. This allows all students to have access to the same information.

**Classes:** We will meet 30 times for 23 lectures, 5 student presentations, and 2 exams. Attendance is *indirectly* part of your grade as the course material is extremely challenging and attending class is the least costly method of reviewing the material.

**Course Outline:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
Jan. 20 & 22	Ricardian Model	3
27 & 29	Specific Factors Model	4
Feb. 3 & 5	Hecksher-Ohlin Model	4
10 & 12	Standard Trade Model	5
17 & 19	Instruments of Trade Policy	8
24 & 26	Political Economy of Trade Policy	9
Mar. 3, 5, & 10	Student Presentations	-----
12	Midterm Exam	-----
17 & 19	Balance of Payments	12
24 & 26	Foreign Exchange Market	13
31 & April 7 & 9	** Cesar Chavez Holiday and Spring Break **	-----
April 2 & 14	Money, Interest Rates, and Exchange Rates	14
16 & 21	Price Levels and Exchange Rate in the Long Run	15
23, 28, & 30	Output and Exchange Rate in the Short Run	16
May 5 & 7	Student Presentations	-----
12	Final Exam	-----