



TEACHING GUIDE - 2026-2027

Global Macroeconomics and Trade

UGRA_016139

Departments	Department of Economics, Finance & Accounting
Teaching Languages	English
ECTS	6
Teacher responsible	Korie Ray Amberger - koriesay.amberger@esade.edu

Course Goals

We will analyze the causes and consequences of international trade. We'll develop the theoretical tools to understand why countries trade with each other, what is trade, and whom benefits from their trade. We will also study policies and reasoning behind trade barriers and trade organizations.

Previous knowledge

This course requires a decent level in math (ex: understand the concept of a derivative, algebra, and simple functions) and knowledge of microeconomics (ex: consumption and production theory, general equilibrium, consumer and producer surplus, perfect competition). We will cover things accordingly.

Description

Short description

This is a course on international trade, policies, and organizations. We will learn common arguments for why countries engage in trade, how it is modeled, and the implications for certain assumptions. In addition, we will see how policies may interact with trade and justifications for certain policies.

Bibliography

Krugman, Obstfeld, and Melitz, International Economics: Theory and Policy (Book)

Activities

In-class discussions and debates
Analyzing trade policies. Discussing if they are good policies or not.

Analytical exercises
Deriving implications from models. Understanding the assumptions behind them.

Quizzes/tests

There will be minor quizzes and tests to make sure you are understanding material.

Content

#	Topic
1	Introduction to International Trade- Overview, evolution, and importance for the world economy.
2	The Neoclassical model of fixed factors- A first model of trade. Introduces the welfare implications of trade--not everyone is better off.
3	The Ricardian Model- A classic trade model. Allows us to discuss the implications of trade deficits, population change, and technological change.
4	Heckscher-Ohlin Model- A trade model that allows us to explore other elements of the economy and how they interact with trade: different skill groups in the economy, the political economy of trade, and once again explore the winners and losers of trade in a different context.
5	Trade Policy- We explore tariffs and quotas. Why would a government use them? Are there situations where aggregate welfare can actually be improved by applying a tariff?

Assessment

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
Quizzes/tests	Quizzes	Ordinary round	20.00%
Quizzes/tests	Midterm	Ordinary round	25.00%
Participation in program activities	Participation	Ordinary round	10.00%
Quizzes/tests	Final	Retake and ordinary round	45.00%

PROGRAMS

BITLASI22-Bachelor in Transformational Leadership and Social Impact (Undergraduates: Business)
BITLASI22 Year 1 (Mandatory)

G114-Global Governance Exchange Program (Undergraduates: Law)
G114 Year 1 (Optative)

G114S-Global Governance Exchange Program (Undergraduates: Law)
G114S Year 1 (Optative)

GEL19-Bachelor in Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)
GEL19 Year 4 (Optative)
GEL19 Year 3 (Optative)

GEL23-Bachelor in Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)
GEL23 Year 4 (Optative)
GEL23 Year 3 (Optative)