**Kuwait University**

**College of Business Administration**

**Economics Department**

**Course Syllabus**

**ECON 510– Trade Theory**

**Spring – 2023/2024**

**Dr. Mohammad Alawin**

**Lecture Time and Location**

**ECON 510**: Mon. 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM, D0-room 1001

**Contact Information**

**Location**: Economics Department – 3rd Floor – Office No. 1016

**Email**: mohammad.alawin@kw.edu.kw

m\_alawin@hotmail.com

**Office Hours**: Mon., and Wed., 12:15 PM – 1:00 PM or by email appointment

**Teaching Assistant**

**Name**:

**Location**:

**Email:**

**Office Hours**:

**Tutorial**:

Course Description

This course starts with examining the basic theory using demand and supply, comparative advantage, and factor availability and factor proportions in determining the pattern of trade.

The course will cover the following aspects: who gains and who loses from trade? scale economies, imperfect competition and trade, growth and trade, non-tariff barriers to imports, and arguments for and against protection.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students are expected to

LG1: Understand the main concepts in international trade.

Explain the benefits from trade and who gain and who lose from trade.

LG3: understand and can analyze the constraints of trade and their arguments.

LG3+4: Presenting a research paper in one of the international trade fields making sure that all elements of the research are covered.

**Required Material:**

**Textbook** : Pugel, Thomas “International Economics”, 2020, 17th Edition, McGraw-Hill/Irwin.

Versteeg R. “International economics”, 2015, 2nd ed. University of London.

**Additional Material** :

**E-Learning System** :

**Course Website** :

**Course Requirements and Policies:**

**Homework:** There will be a number of homework. Some of the end chapter’s exercises will be solved at class. But you will be required to solve the rest of them.

**In-Class Tests:** There will be three exams (two midterms and the final). The dates of the exams and the material to be covered by each exam will be arranged in the class.

**Participation:** The quality of our classroom discussions in large part depends on you and your preparation for class. Participation should include, among other things, (1) presenting case facts, (2) defining the problem, (3) exploring different alternatives, (4) persuasive, thoughtful, integrated analysis supported by the data given in the case, (5) Implementation plan for proposed actions.

**Class Preparation:** It is very important that students are prepared for each class period. For each class there will be a required reading (case or chapter course pack).

**Attendance and Participation:** Every student in this course must abide by the Kuwait University Policy on Attendance (published in the Student Guide, Chapter 3, Section 13). A copy of the student guide can be accessed online on:

http://www.kuniv.edu/cs/groups/ku/documents/ku\_content/kuw055940.pdf

Class participation is critical to the learning experience. Participation will be assessed in each class period. Your class participation and attendance will both contribute to your score of in-class performance.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** Every student in this course must abide by the Kuwait University Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism (published in the Student Guide, Chapter 3; Section 2). A copy of the student guide is accessed online on:

http://www.kuniv.edu/cs/groups/ku/documents/ku\_content/kuw055940.pdf

Please carefully note all sources and assistance when you turn in your work. Under no circumstances should you take credit for work that is not yours. You should neither receive nor give any unauthorized assistance on any deliverable. If you have any questions about what constitutes “unauthorized assistance” please email me before the deliverable is submitted.

**Writing Style:** Students must refer to APA writing style for any of their homework or report writing. Refer to the English Language Center for help.

**Grading:**

The scores in this course will be the weighted average of the following items:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Weight** | **Description** |
| 20% | paper + assignments + presentations |
| 20% | First exam |
| 20% | Second exam |
| 40% | Final Exam |
| 100% | TOTAL |

**Grade Distribution:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Grade** | **Range** | **Or** | **Grade** | **Range** |
| A | ≥ 95 |  | A | ≥ 95 |
| A- | ≥ 90 and < 95 |  | A- | ≥ 90 and ≤ 94.9 |
| B+ | ≥ 87 and < 90 |  | B+ | ≥ 87 and ≤ 89.9 |
| B | ≥ 83 and < 87 |  | B | ≥ 83 and ≤ 86.9 |
| B- | ≥ 80 and < 83 |  | B- | ≥ 80 and ≤ 82.9 |
| C+ | ≥ 77 and < 80 |  | C+ | ≥ 77 and ≤ 79.9 |
| C | ≥ 73 and < 77 |  | C | ≥ 73 and ≤ 76.9 |
| C- | ≥ 70 and < 73 |  | C- | ≥ 70 and ≤ 72.9 |
| D+ | ≥ 65 and < 70 |  | D+ | ≥ 65 and ≤ 69.9 |
| D | ≥ 60 and < 65 |  | D | ≥ 60 and ≤ 64.9 |
| F | < 60 |  | F | ≤59.9 |

**Course Outline:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Chapter #** | **Topics** |
| Ch 2: | The Basic Theory Using Demand and Supply |
| Ch 3: | Why Everybody Trades: Comparative Advantage |
| Ch 4: | Trade: Factor Availability and Factor Proportions Are Key |
| Ch 5: | Who Gains and Who Loses from Trade? |
| Ch 6: | Scale Economies, Imperfect Competition, and Trade |
| Ch 7: | Growth and Trade |
| Ch 8: | Analysis of a Tariff |
| Ch 9: | Non-tariff Barriers to Imports |
| Ch 10: | Arguments for and against Protection |

**Important Dates**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Event** |
| March. 16th, 2024 | Last day to drop a course |
| May 13th, 2024 | Last day of classes |
| To be announced … | Final Exam |

**Master of Economics Competency Goals:**

1. **Economic Theory:** Our students should demonstrate expertise in applying core economic theories to solve global and complex economic problems.

**Student Learning Objectives:**

1.1 Acquire a deep understanding of how markets and economies operate

1.2 Apply micro/macro-economic theories to solve complex economic problems.

1.3 Analyze in depth the impact of alternative regulatory activities in individual markets and their effect on the welfare of the population

1.4 Recognize that although economists address economic problems with a common approach, the science is ever changing, and one’s approach must be regularly evaluated and updated.

1. **Quantitative Reasoning Skills:** Our students should acquire sufficient mathematical and statistical skills to be able to analyze economic problems and to make use of those skills in their future careers

**Student Learning Objectives:**

2.1 Understand how to collect and use empirical evidence to evaluate economic argument.

2.2 Conduct appropriate statistical analysis of data using appropriate econometric techniques and explain the statistical problems involved.

2.3 Interpret statistical results and understand the limitations of the analysis.

1. **Critical Thinking Skills:** Our students should demonstrate the ability to be critical thinkers when conducting qualitative and quantitative economic analysis.

**Student Learning Objectives:**

3.1 Creating abstract models of complex socio-economic systems

3.2 Drawing conclusions and policy prescriptions while critically evaluating them

3.3 Distinguish between causal relationships and spurious correlations

1. **Communication Skills:** Our students will demonstrate advanced communication skills in a variety of business settings.

**Student Learning Objectives:**

4.1 Deliver clear, concise, and persuasive presentations.

4.2 Write clear, concise, and persuasive business documents.