

Portland State University
Economics Department
EC 440/540: International Trade Theory and Policy
Leopoldo Rodríguez
Fall 2004

Office:

CH 241Q

M W F: 10:10 to 11:25

Class:

CH 158

M W F: 9:00 to 10:05

Appointments: (503) 725-3929 or leopoldo@pdx.edu

Course Description:

Undergraduate students will learn the basic elements of international trade theory. We will pay particular attention to the assumptions, implications and shortcomings of the standard theory. In addition, students will learn about international trade policy and its history, both in the United States and in developing nations. Graduate students will cover the same material, but will ground their knowledge with the assistance of journal articles in each of the topics.

Grading:

Participation & attendance	10%
WebCT discussion	10%
Midterm exam	30%
Final exam	50%

Computer Use:

This course will make use of WebCT. You will use a browser, such as Netscape or Internet Explorer to access course information, do homework and take exams (you must enable cookies to enter WebCT). Your WebCT username will be the same as your Odin computer account username (e.g., smithj). Your WebCT password will be the last four digits of your PSU ID number (NOT the same as your Odin password). If you do not have an Odin account, please create one as soon as possible at www.account.pdx.edu/setup. To access the course on WebCT go to www.webct.pdx.edu. If you experience problems call the HelpDesk at 725-HELP or contact me.

Textbook:

Dominick Salvatore, *International Economics*, Wiley & Sons, New York. Preferably edition 7 or 8. Available on reserve at PSU library. (Any recent book on international economics will work. You will be responsible for identifying the relevant chapters.)

David Ransom, 2001, *The No-Nonsense Guide to Fair Trade*, Verso Books, London.

Additional readings will be available on webCT.

Academic Dishonesty:

I have no tolerance for academic dishonesty. If I detect that a student has cheated in any course assignment, he/she will be penalized with an F in the course, no matter how small the offense detected.

Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a documented disability and registered with the Disability Resource Center, please contact me immediately to facilitate arranging academic accommodations.

Schedule of Topics and Readings:

Date	Subject	Readings
Week 1	Comparative Advantage	Salvatore 1 and 2
Week 2	Neoclassical Trade Theory	Salvatore 3
Week 3	Offer Curves	Salvatore 4
Week 4	Heckscher-Ohlin Model and Growth	Salvatore 5 and 7
Week 5	Imperfect Markets	Salvatore 6
Week 6	Tariffs and Non-tariff Barriers	Salvatore 8 and 9
Week 7	Trade and Development	Salvatore 11
Week 8	Economic Integration	Salvatore 10
Week 9	NAFTA and WTO	WebCT readings
Week 10	Political Economy of Trade	WebCT readings

Note: In addition to the readings from Salvatore you will be responsible for reading *Fair Trade* and other readings available on WebCT. I will announce in class what readings you should be doing every week.

Schedule of Assignments and Exams:

Assignment	Coverage	Date
WebCT discussions	Week's readings	Minimum of 10 substantial postings
Midterm Exam	Weeks 1 to 5	Friday, Oct. 29 to Monday, Nov. 1
Final Exam	All readings	Tuesday, December 7 th from 8 to 9:50 am