

International Finance

ECON244-10

Instructor: Patrick Collier

Tentative syllabus. Subject to change.

Basic information:

Time: 3:15 - 5:15 PM
Days: MTWR
Date Range: 06/05 - 07/07
Location: Reiss 284
Office Hours: TBD
Contact: jc2536@georgetown.edu

Course Description and Objective:

The course is divided into two parts. We will begin with an introduction to exchange rates and balance of payments. Then, we will discuss monetary and fiscal policies, currency regimes, and international financial crises.

The course aims to equip students with the tools necessary to analyze and understand international macroeconomic issues. Throughout the course you will be exposed to various quantitative methods and data sources for policy analysis. I expect that by the end of the semester you will have a solid grasp of the fundamental analytical and empirical tools for analysis of international macroeconomic policy, and that you will be able to apply these concepts to analyzing and solving concrete policy questions of interest to you.

The course assumes some familiarity with introductory economics (supply and demand analysis, etc.), but the material will otherwise be self-contained.

Course Materials:

The lectures, problem sets, and examinations draw heavily from the required text *International Economics*, 3rd edition by Feenstra and Taylor (details below). The student is expected to obtain a copy of the text and read it along with the lectures as the course progresses.

Grade Distribution:

Problem Sets: 30%
Short Comments: 20%
Class Participation: 10%
Final Exam: 40%

Course Policies:

- **Problem Sets**

- There will be four problems sets published in Blackboard on 06/09, 06/16, 06/23, and 06/30 (all Fridays). Students must submit solutions the following Monday BEFORE solutions are posted at the start of lecture.
- Students are permitted to discuss the problems with each other, but each student must submit their solutions separately.
- **No late assignments will be accepted under any circumstances.**

- **Short Comments**

- Every student is expected to upload a brief comment to Blackboard prior to every lecture, no later than 1:00 PM of the corresponding day. Though there are no strict guidelines for the content, each comment should be related to the material that is being discussed. For example, the comment can range from questions regarding the underlying assumptions of the models under consideration, to an observation of the real-world applicability of a particular concept. The focus is to keep the student engaged in thinking about the applicability and limitations of the theory.
- Each comment is worth 1% of the final grade, and will be graded in a 0 - 0.5 - 1 scale. If no comment is sent, a grade of 0 will be awarded.

- **Final Exam**

- The exam date is TBA
- The exam is a closed book examination and it is to be solved individually.

- **Attendance and Absences**

- General Georgetown rules about attendance and absences apply.

Academic Honesty Policy Summary:

- Georgetown's Honor System applies.

Tentative Course Outline:

1. Introduction
2. Exchange Rates and the Foreign Exchange Market
3. Exchange Rate Determination in the Long Run and the Short Run
4. National Income Accounting and the Balance of Payments
5. Financial Globalization
6. Macroeconomic Policies and the Balance of Payments
7. Exchange Rate Regimes
8. Currency and Debt Crises