Syllabus

Syllabus for Nuts and Bolts of US Trade Policy

Attached Files:  
- Dobson__Two_centuries_of_tariffs.pdf (1.831 MB)  
- trade glossary moore.xls (39 KB)  
- CRS Trade Primer, Dec 2010.pdf (461.381 KB)

Classroom: State Room (7th floor 1957 E St. NW)
Class times: Wednesday, September 12th (8am-5:30pm) and Thursday, September 13th (8:30-4 pm).
In addition, students will attend a single one-hour meeting with Professor Moore on Thursday, September 6th at 4 pm. (Students who cannot make that time should alert Moore as soon as possible).
Voice: 202.370.1806
Email: mom@gwu.edu

Office Hours:
Tuesday and Wednesday 4-5 pm and by appointment. You do not need to make an appointment during office hours and do not need a specific question to come by.

I. Course Overview

This one-credit skills course focuses on the practice of trade policy in the U.S. government. It is offered in conjunction with the Washington International Trade Association, a premier trade policy group in Washington DC. The speakers for this two-day seminar are noted practitioners in the U.S. government and the broader Washington trade community. Most of the attendees will be representatives of various foreign embassies here in Washington.

WITA’s own website has the most up-to-date version of the program: [http://www.wita.org/en/cev/1400](http://www.wita.org/en/cev/1400)

The objective of this course is to provide you with concrete information about the conduct of trade policy in the “real world.” Students will learn about US trade policy institutions, policymaking, and current policy issues. There is much less focus on academic and theoretical approaches to international economic policymaking.

There are currently nine scheduled sessions over the two days. Students are expected to attend at least seven of those sessions. Students will check in with an Elliott School
attend at least seven of those sessions. Students will check-in with an Elliott School representative to demonstrate participation. Students who miss a session must get prior approval from Professor Moore.

Students will also prepare a research paper for the course that will be evaluated by Professor Moore.

Before you come to the seminars, be sure to read the attached material. You should also review basic trade theory. Please note that trade policy discussions are filled with the use of obscure terms and acronyms. Please keep the "trade glossary" attached handy.

II. Course Readings:

Students should make every effort to keep abreast of current developments in international trade. Useful general sources include the Wall Street Journal, the Financial Times, the Washington Post and the New York Times.

A particularly useful source for detailed information about U.S. trade policy in particular is Inside U.S. Trade. There are hard copies of the publication in the Institute for International Economic Policy in Suite 502 of the Elliott School. You will also be able to access this publication on line from the suite (" http://insidetrade.com/", otherwise only available by subscription). It could be extremely helpful for your research paper. A broader set of issues can be found in http://ictsd.org/news/bridgesweekly/ but with a decidedly more international (and sometimes skeptical) approach.

III. Scholarly Requirements

This class has four requirements:
1. Students must attend 9 of the lectures.
2. Students must attend the separate meeting held with Professor Moore.
3. Students must meet with Professor Moore during office hours at least once, and receive approval for the paper topic.
4. Students must write a paper on how an agency resolved a recent compelling trade issue or the policy options available for an ongoing issue. The paper will focus on how that agency worked to address the problem.

Specifics on the Paper:
The paper will be 10-15 pages (double-spaced, Times Roman 12 point) and based at least in part on primary sources (though secondary sources may also be used). Professor Moore will not read any text exceeding 15 pages (not including tables and charts). Primary sources include the websites of the organization, interviews with participants, papers and publications of the organization, created during the time that the issue is resolved or under consideration. Secondary sources would be newspaper articles, commentaries, etc. that interpret or analyze the event under study. Potential topics might include: extension of Trade Adjustment Assistance; ratification (or not) of proposed U.S. free trade agreements; US-China intellectual property disputes; US-EU trade disputes. You are welcome to address other issues.

The paper topic must be approved by Professor Moore no later than October 1.
A hard copy of the paper is due by 5 pm on October 25. Late papers will be marked done ½ letter grade for every day that the paper is late.

IV. Grading
Attendance: 50%
Paper: 50%