

ECON 182: INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS
Department of Economics
The George Washington University
Spring 2007

Section 11: TR 9:35am-10:50am, 2020 K 15

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Office hours: T & R after class or by appointment.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The aim of this course is to provide an overview of international finance and open-economy macroeconomics. We will study theoretical models of exchange rate determination, relationship between exchange rates and prices and between exchange rates and interest rates. We will also focus on policy aspects of international finance, on currency crises and on the history of alternative international monetary systems.

PREREQUISITES

Econ 11 and 12 (introductory macroeconomics and microeconomics). Knowledge of basic algebra and graphical analysis is also needed.

TEXTBOOK AND OTHER READINGS

The main textbook is *International Economics, Theory and Policy* (seventh edition) by Paul Krugman and Maurice Obstfeld. The *Student Guide* provides a review of central concepts from the text, further illustrative examples and additional practice problems. It also provides the solutions to the odd exercises in the textbook. Neither the textbook nor the Student Guide is required, since I will only be testing you on the material covered in class. Any additional readings will be distributed in class.

BLACKBOARD

During the semester I will post additional readings, homework assignments and any material useful for the course on Blackboard. Moreover, I will use the Blackboard mailing list to send you emails if I have any announcements to make.

PROBLEM SETS

During the course, I will post problem sets on blackboard (typically one every two weeks) along with the solutions. You are not required to hand the problem sets in, but you are encouraged to use them to practice for the exam.

QUIZZES

In addition to the problem sets, I will also post on blackboard multiple choice and/or true/false quizzes. You are required to solve them on your own within the indicated deadline. Quizzes completed online after the indicated deadline will be given a grade of zero. Overall, quizzes will account for 15% of your grade.

EXAMS

There will be one midterm exam and one final exam. The midterm exam will cover the material up until the date of the exam itself. The final exam will only include the material covered after the midterm.

Exams will test your knowledge of the course material and your ability to apply this material to new problems. Unless I explicitly indicate otherwise, you will be tested on the material covered in class only.

All examinations, papers, and other graded work products and assignments are to be completed in conformance with The George Washington University Code of Academic Integrity.

GRADING

Quizzes: 15%

Midterm: 40%

Final: 45%

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Class participation is not required. If you cannot attend a class (or you choose not to), however, it is your responsibility to talk with your colleagues and make sure you know the topics I covered in class or any announcement I made.

Since class participation is not required, I expect those who attend to pay attention to what is being taught and to participate actively in the class. I will ask anyone who fails to do so to leave. Although not required, class participation is strongly encouraged. It will raise the grade for cases that are on the margin (e.g., between B and B+).

MAKE-UP POLICY

If, with good reason and prior approval, you miss the midterm exam, you will take it the same day as the final exam. If, with good reason and prior approval, you miss the final exam, I will give you a make-up exam, which you will take on a day of my choosing, if possible during the exam period.

Students who do not show up for exams without prior approval or without documentation of inability to appear will be given a grade of zero.