

## SYLLABUS

**COURSE: ECON 4450, section N01. NAME: International Economics.  
Department of Economics. University of West Georgia.  
CRN: 50552. Term: Summer 2016. Dates: 6/6/2016 – 6/30/2016.  
Days & Time: Online.**

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Office Hours: by appointment.

**Textbook Reference:** Macro ECON by William McEachern, 4th Edition: Chapters 17-19 (copies available in D2L). Textbooks are not required but students are encouraged to use any Economics textbook to review the sections on supply and demand, aggregated demand and aggregate supply, and monetary and fiscal policy.

**Course Description:** The course will provide an overview of international economics topics including impact of monetary and fiscal policies on trade, trade between countries, trade disputes, exchange rates, and the role of international organizations such as the IMF, World Bank and WTO. Course emphasis is on current policy issues and the impact of the global economy on the business environment.

### **Learning Objectives:**

The overall objective of this course is for you to learn basic economic concepts, specifically international trade/finance and open economy macroeconomics. To this end, upon completion, students should:

- Communicate effectively in oral presentations and writing, accomplished by extensive case studies in class (LG1), apply quantitative skills to analyze exchange rates, from the classical to the modern (LG6).
- Possess substantial knowledge of international economic concepts including exchange rates models, international banking and financial system, along with the EURO (LG 10) and apply knowledge of economic concepts to strategies for addressing public policy issues (LG11) and also demonstrate an ability to generate and interpret descriptive statistics, specifically in exchange rate forecasting (LG12).
- Note: A complete list of expected learning goals (LG) for the Economics Department can be found at the department website ([www.westga.edu/~econ/outcomes.html](http://www.westga.edu/~econ/outcomes.html)).

### **Course Evaluation:**

Students will take seven quizzes and will submit a summary and analysis of a current-news article. Each quiz and the research project are assigned 12.5% of the final grade. The

“summary of evaluation” below shows each one of these items, the material covered and due dates.

Quizzes: Each chapter quiz consists of 33 multiple-choice questions covering every section in each chapter. There is only one attempt to take each quiz, so make sure to read each chapter carefully before taking it. Any questions or doubts you may have, please do not hesitate to contact me by email ([slopez@westga.edu](mailto:slopez@westga.edu)) or telephone (678-839-4778). The maximum time allowed for each one of these quizzes is one hour. The quizzes for the videos vary in size but are relatively shorter. The time allowed to take those quizzes varies between 20 and 45 minutes and there is also one attempt. At the beginning of each week, you will see an announcement reminding you the material covered, the number of questions on the quiz and time allowed.

Article: by the end of the fourth (shorter) week, Thursday, 6/30 (11:59pm), you need to submit a summary and analysis of a current-news article. Specifically, you need to select a country and find a current-news article published in one of many free websites available such as google.com, yahoo.com, usatoday.com, msnbc.com, etc. Then you need to provide a one-page, single space, summary of the article and a specific URL linked to it. Finally, you need to explain how the article relates to two important concepts discussed in either chapters 17-19, or the Money, Power and WS videos. You may also consider referring to one concept from each section. This second (analytical) part also needs to be submitted using a single-space page. You need to upload the two pages as a Word document in the “dropbox” section of the course including a link to the article at the bottom of the first page. Type your name on your first page along with a title. Please upload your file using your own name. For example: “john smith.”

Evaluation of the article: quality of article used (10%), organization (10%), grammar and clarity of language (20%), quality of summary (20%), quality of analysis relating the article to two relevant class concepts (40%).

Important: two identical articles and pages will receive a zero grade. No excuses will be accepted.

Class Resources: there is a copy of each chapter as well as powerpoint slides. In addition, there are videos discussing the most important concepts of each chapter. Before taking each quiz, you should carefully read every chapter, not just the slides. Same applies to the videos. Watch them carefully before taking the corresponding quizzes.

**Summary of Evaluation:**

Activity/Assignment	Percent	Date
Quiz 1, Chapter 17	12.5%	Sunday, 6/12 (by 11:59pm)
Quiz 2, Chapter 18	12.5%	Sunday, 6/12 (by 11:59pm)
Quiz 3, Chapter 19	12.5%	Sunday, 6/19 (by 11:59pm)
Quiz 4, Money, Power and WS 1	12.5%	Sunday, 6/19 (by 11:59pm)
Quiz 5, Money, Power and WS 2	12.5%	Sunday, 6/26 (by 11:59pm)
Quiz 6, Money, Power and WS 3	12.5%	Sunday, 6/26 (by 11:59pm)
Quiz 7, Money, Power and WS 4	12.5%	Thursday, 6/30 (by 11:59pm)
Summary and analysis of article	12.5%	Thursday, 6/30 (by 11:59pm)

**Grade Distribution (strictly enforced):**

<u>Numerical Grade</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
0-59.99	F
60-69.99	D
70-79.99	C
80-89.99	B
90-100	A