

SYLLABUS

**COURSE: ECON 4450, section N01. NAME: International Economics.
Department of Economics. University of West Georgia.
CRN: 50397. Term: Summer 2017. Dates: 5/31/2017 – 6/26/2017.
Days & Time: Online.**

Instructor: Salvador Lopez, Ph.D.
Office: RCOB 1317.
Telephone: 678-839-4778.
E-mail address: slopez@westga.edu.
Office Hours: by appointment.

Important Message: The evaluation of this course is based on five quizzes and a small project. Quizzes in the course have to be taken on the specific dates shown in this syllabus. Please do not request to take any quiz earlier or later than those dates. In other words, there will be no exceptions.

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 including health care systems, 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).

Course Evaluation:

Students will take five quizzes and will submit a summary and analysis of a current-news article. The first three quizzes are assigned 20% of the final grade, the following two quizzes are assigned 15% each, and the article summary and analysis 10%.

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) or telephone (678-839-4778). The maximum time allowed for each one of these quizzes is one hour. The quizzes for the health care videos are shorter (15 questions) and the time allowed for each quiz is 30 minutes. At the beginning of each module (four total), you will see an announcement reminding you the material covered, the number of questions on the quiz and time allowed.

You may use your notes, slides, etc. while taking the quizzes, but you should take them individually.

Article: by the end of the fourth week, Friday, 6/23 (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 first a one-page, single space, summary of the article and a specific URL linked to it. In a second page, also using single space, you need to explain how the article relates to two important concepts discussed in either chapters 17-19, or the health care videos. To facilitate grading, type the concepts using CAPITAL LETTERS. Each page should contain at least 250 words.

You need to upload the two pages as a Word document in the “assignments” section of the course (inside “assessments”) 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.”

Advice: type “google.com”, then click on the “news” app, and then click “world” or “business”. Select the headline or title that fits better with the material of the course. Whichever country is involved, that should be your selected country.

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 (summaries and relation to important concepts) 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 | Dates (all due by midnight) |
|---------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Quiz 1, Chapter 17 | 20% | 6/5 |
| Quiz 2, Chapter 18 | 20% | 6/9 |
| Quiz 3, Chapter 19 | 20% | 6/15 |
| Quiz 4, Sick Around America | 15% | 6/21 |
| Quiz 5, Sick Around The World | 15% | 6/23 |
| Summary and analysis of article | 10% | 6/23 |

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 |