

University of Missouri – Columbia

Spring 2023

***ECONOMICS 4326 / 7326 Online:
Economics of International Trade***

Syllabus

Instructor: Vitor Trindade (trindadev@umsystem.edu)

Office Hours: Thursday, 8-9 am (use Zoom link in Canvas); or by appointment (simply send me an email to make an appointment, if you wish to talk).

Time Zone: all times (including test times) are in U.S. Central Standard Time.

COURSE OVERVIEW

We live in a globalized world, in which more people travel and work abroad, and more goods and services cross national borders, than ever was thought possible. This course helps you to understand this environment.

The emphasis will be on the causes and consequences of trade between countries. We will also take side trips into many other issues, such as international migration, the tools and the political economy of trade policy, the impact of economies of scale, trade with less developed countries and the trade effects of economic growth.

Even though the emphasis will be on explanations for why and how countries trade with one another, it will not be a purely theoretical course, as we will also explore the empirical evidence of international trade.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of the course, you will be able to:

- Identify the causes and consequences of international trade.
- Understand how countries can gain by engaging in international trade.
- Distinguish how the causes and gains from trade change with different market structures.
- Calculate the welfare impact of different international trade policies.
- Have an intelligent and informed discussion about the legitimate and the illegitimate arguments for and against free trade.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

This is a technology-enhanced course, delivered entirely through the internet. This technology provides you with many benefits, in terms of flexibility and access. But it does put the burden on each student to keep up with the material. To enhance your learning, and help you successfully achieve the Learning Objectives above, you are expected to perform the following duties:

- Your first task is to read this syllabus in its entirety!
- Soon after the beginning of the semester please introduce yourself. I'll create a discussion forum thread for that purpose, make sure that you post something in it. Tell me and your classmates about your background, academic goals, your prior preparation for this course, and anything else that might you consider relevant.
- You must access the course (through Canvas, see below) often, and at least twice each week. This will allow you to keep up with all course announcements, and with all new materials. Typically, new materials will be posted at the beginning of each unit, consisting of a combination of: lecture videos; homework sets; online quizzes; and others.
- In the instruction videos I will often suggest that you pause the video to think about a question by yourself. The question is answered in the continuation of the video. Please do pause the video often, if not every single time I suggest you do so, and restart the lecture only when you think you know the answer. This is a great way to watch the class interactively, and to check your understanding of it up to this point. Even if your answer is wrong, understanding *why* it is wrong will greatly enhance your learning.

- Please submit all online work (homework sets, online quizzes, and tests) promptly and before the due date. Extensions will be given for *certified* emergencies only, with proper documentation (such as a doctor's note).

STUDY GROUPS

This course makes extensive use of Study Groups. This is voluntary. If you don't know anyone in the class, don't worry: I will help you form a Study Group. An announcement will be sent on the first day of classes with instructions on what you have to do. Although I don't try to force students to join a study group, I have found through past experience that Study Groups tend to be very helpful in enhancing student learning. Therefore, I highly encourage you to be in one!

ONLINE ACCESS

You will be able to access all course content through your Canvas account, found here: <https://canvas.umsystem.edu/>. If you haven't already done so, please take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with the Canvas site. If you run into any technical issues, by all means feel free to ask me, but note that the university has a lot of technical support, which can be found here: <https://doit.missouri.edu/tech-support/>.

PANOPTO

Lectures will be delivered through videos using the Panopto service. These videos are jointly copyrighted by the instructor and the Curators of the University of Missouri. You can view them and download them to view them in a mobile device, but you cannot share them with anyone in any form. Sharing them or posting them to other websites, including YouTube, Facebook, or any other site without express, written permission may result in disciplinary action and possible prosecution.

TEXTBOOK

Krugman, Paul R., Maurice Obstfeld and Marc J. Melitz, *International Trade: Theory and Policy*, 11th Edition.

This course is part of the University's AutoAccess program. You should already have received an email from the AutoAccess team with your course's unique access code. You can also click on VS Materials to reveal this code. This allows you to access the textbook and all homework from the Canvas website. You should have been given an opt out date (in case you want to want to purchase a paper copy of the textbook, for example). If you do no opt out, your student account will be charged for the cost of the digital material.

Important: If you opt out, please make sure that you do purchase separate access to MyLab & Mastering from Pearson. MyLab & Mastering will be used extensively throughout the course, and your work on it will count for your final grade.

For any additional questions or help on the AutoAccess program, email AutoAccess@missouri.edu or visit www.themizzoustore/autoaccess.

PREREQUISITES

For Economics 4326: Economics 3251 or 4351.

For Economics 7326: Economics 7351 or instructor's consent.

TESTS

There will be two types of tests.

- Tests labeled Econ 4326 (undergraduate) Test 1 etc., will be taken by all students, both those enrolled in Economics 4326, and those enrolled in Economics 7326. These tests are taken online from within Canvas. They will be proctored using the Smarter Proctoring service, which is made available free of charge by the University. The tests consist entirely of multiple-choice and numerical calculation questions and take 100 minutes. They will be in a 36-hour testing period. However, once you start, you'll need to finish the test in one session. Please make sure that you prepare ample time to work on it before you start, as you will not have the chance to save your work and come back to it later.
- Tests labeled Econ 7326 (graduate) Test 1 etc., are to be taken by students enrolled in Economics 7326 only. These are take-home tests. You will download the test as a PDF file during the 36-hour testing period, and you must submit your answers (either as a Word document, or as a scan of your handwritten answers), also during the testing period. Other than that, the test is untimed. There will be rules about what you can and cannot consult for this test, to be announced through Canvas.

Given that the test dates were announced months ahead of time, and that you have a 36-hour window, please manage your schedule (your work, other classes, other activities) in such a way that you have time to prepare for, and to take, the tests. Excuses will be given for true and certified emergencies only. The three testing periods are:

Test 1 – at the end of the 5th week of classes

Friday, February 17, 10 am, to
Saturday, February 18, 10 pm

Test 2 – at the end of the 10th week of classes

Friday, March 24, 10 am, to
Saturday, March 25, 10 pm

Test 3 – at the end of the 15th (and last) week of classes

Saturday, May 6, 10 am, to
Sunday, May 7, 10 pm

POLICY ON MAKE-UP TESTS

Make-up tests will be for true and certified emergencies only. Acceptable forms of certification would be a doctor's note, or an obituary notice for a death in the family. Having to attend your cousin's wedding is not an emergency! At the discretion of the instructor, make-up tests may consist of an oral exam, or a different written exam.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

There are several ways to participate in class, but the main ones are: the discussion forum, my office hours, or my email. You are encouraged to ask and answer questions in the discussion forum, and this may be the best way to interact in the class. From my experience, students that engage in the discussion are more likely to do well in the class.

GRADUATE CREDIT

If you are enrolled in Economics 7326, and as explained above, you will take an additional test after each regular test. These additional tests will be worth collectively 15% of your grade.

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Your final grade will be determined according to the weights in the following table:

	Econ 4326	Econ 7326
Homework	10%	10%
Test 1 (undergraduate)	30%	25%
Test 2 (undergraduate)	30%	25%
Test 3 (undergraduate)	30%	25%
Test 1 (graduate)		5%
Test 2 (graduate)		5%
Test 3 (graduate)		5%

FINAL GRADING SCHEDULE

Grades will be awarded with + / -.

If your total points \geq	Your guaranteed grade is:
90%	A-
80%	B-
70%	C-
60%	D-

UNIVERSITY NOTICES

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. The academic community regards breaches of the academic integrity rules as extremely serious matters. Sanctions for such a breach may include academic sanctions from the instructor, including failing the course for any violation, to disciplinary sanctions ranging from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, collaboration, or any other form of cheating, consult the course instructor or the [Office of Academic Integrity](#).

Students are expected to adhere to this honor pledge on all graded work whether or not they are explicitly asked in advance to do so: "I strive to uphold the University values of respect, responsibility, discovery, and excellence. On my honor, I pledge that I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this work."

ACCOMMODATION OF DISABILITIES

The goal of the University of Missouri is to ensure an inclusive learning environment for all students. [The University of Missouri Disability Center](#) provides services and accommodations for students to participate fully in the learning experience and to experience equitable evaluation of their performance. Students (including online students) with a documented disability can contact the Disability Center to establish an [Accommodation Plan](#). Documented disabilities include hearing, vision, mobility, learning and attention, psychological health, and physical health. Students' accommodations are implemented with the input of students to maximize the learning experiences. The MU Disability Center keeps information about a student's disability confidential.

Please notify me of your eligibility for accommodations as soon as possible. Additionally, if there are aspects of the course that present as barriers, such as inaccessible course content (e.g., learning assessments, PowerPoints, non-captioned videos, images, tables, PDFs) or if you need an immediate accommodation due to an injury, please contact me or the Disability Center as soon as possible.

INTELLECTUAL PLURALISM

The University community welcomes intellectual diversity and respects student rights. Students who have questions or concerns regarding the atmosphere in this class (including respect for diverse opinions) may contact the departmental chair or divisional director, the [Office of Academic Integrity](#), or the [MU Equity Office](#).

ACADEMIC INQUIRY, COURSE DISCUSSION, AND PRIVACY

When students record something that happens in a course (a lecture, class discussions, meetings, etc.) it has an impact on the rights of the people captured in that recording. For example, the instructor and the University may have rights to the intellectual property contained in that recording. At the same time, another student who may have been recorded has the right to privacy. In order to protect these rights, MU employs a policy (called “Executive Order No. 38”) to govern both situations you may encounter while taking a course – when an instructor allows recordings and when they do not.

Instructors should inform students which applies to their course:

- In this class, students may not make audio or video recordings of course activity, except students permitted to record as an accommodation under section 240.040 of the Collected Rules.
- In this class, students may make audio or video recordings of course activity unless specifically prohibited by the faculty member. However, the redistribution of audio or video recordings of statements or comments from the course to individuals who are not students in the course is prohibited without the express permission of the faculty member and of any students who are recorded.

If the instructor doesn’t specifically prohibit recording course activity, then the students are allowed to record and the same prohibitions regarding distribution apply.

Students who violate this policy are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of section [200.020](#) of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.

FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 is a federal law designed to protect the privacy of educational records; to establish the rights of students to inspect and review their education records; and to provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate and misleading data through informal and formal hearings. The law applies to any individual who is or has been in attendance at an institution and regarding whom the institution maintains educational records. Once students have matriculated to the University of Missouri, i.e. enrolled in course work, FERPA rights transfer to the student, regardless of the student’s age.

Students can enable certain individuals to have access to their education records by signing a FERPA waiver. The consent must specify records to be disclosed, state the purpose of the disclosure and identify the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure must be made.

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

The University of Missouri does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex* (including gender), pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender

expression, age, disability, protected veteran status, and any other status protected by applicable state or federal law. Discrimination includes any form of unequal treatment such as denial of opportunities, harassment, and violence. *Sex discrimination includes rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, unwanted touching, stalking, dating/domestic violence, stalking, and sexual exploitation. Retaliation for making or supporting a report of discrimination or harassment is also prohibited.

If you experience discrimination or sexual violence, you are encouraged (but not required) to report the incident to the MU Office for Civil Rights & Title IX. Learn more about your rights and options at civilrights.missouri.edu or call 573-882-3880. You also may make an anonymous report online.

If you are a survivor, or someone concerned about a survivor, and need immediate information on what to do, see RSVP Resources page. Both the Office for Civil Rights & Title IX and the RSVP Center can provide assistance to students who need help with academics, housing, or other issues.

In the event that you choose to write or speak about having experienced any of these forms of prohibited discrimination or harassment, Mizzou policies require that, as your instructor, I share this information with the MU Office for Civil Rights & Title IX. They will contact you to offer information about resources, as well as your rights and options as a member of our campus community.

MENTAL HEALTH

The University of Missouri is committed to supporting student well-being through an integrated network of care, with a wide range of services to help students succeed. The MU Counseling Center offers professional mental health care, and can help you find the best approach to treatment based on your needs. Call to make an appointment at 573-882-6601. Any student in crisis may call or go to the MU Counseling Center between 8:00-5:00 M-F. After hours phone support is available at 573-882-6601.

Visit our website at <https://wellbeing.missouri.edu/> to take an online mental health screening, find out about workshops and resources that can help you thrive, or learn how to support a friend. Download Sanvello, a phone app that teaches skills and strategies to help you maintain good mental health. Log in with your Mizzou e-mail to unlock all the tools available through Sanvello at no additional cost to you.

LAST DATE OF ATTENDANCE AND IMPACT ON FINANCIAL AID

Federal regulations for financial aid require the student financial aid office to document the attendance of students who have received federal financial aid if they do not successfully complete any courses during the term. As a result, the last day of attendance (or activity) for any student receiving an F, U, or FN in this course will be recorded in the grade roster and reported to the financial aid office. **Based on the last day of attendance, students may be required to repay a portion of their financial aid award for the semester.**

A student's last day of attendance (or activity) is the last day on which a student participates in an academically-related activity at the University. These include:

- Attendance in class, lab, or an instructor's office hours
- The completion of an assignment or examination
- An appointment with a professor or e-mail correspondence regarding course material
- (Online courses only) For online courses, the last day a student submits an assignment or exam. Only logging into an online class without participating is *not* acceptable for last day of attendance

Please note that discussing a course withdrawal or notifying the instructor of an absence in class does not constitute participation for financial aid purposes. Moreover, any office hour visits or email correspondence must be related to the course material.

NETIQUETTE

Your instructor and fellow students wish to foster a safe online learning environment. All opinions and experiences, no matter how different or controversial they may be perceived, must be respected in the tolerant spirit of academic discourse. You are encouraged to comment, question, or critique an idea but you are not to attack an individual. Our differences, some of which are outlined in the University's nondiscrimination statement, will add richness to this learning experience. Please consider that sarcasm and humor can be misconstrued in online interactions and generate unintended disruptions. Working as a community of learners, we can build a polite and respectful course ambiance.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS & ACCOMMODATIONS

Many religious faiths are represented in the student body. The University of Missouri does not restrict student free exercise of religion, unless 1) the restriction is in the form of a rule of general applicability, and does not discriminate against religion or among religions; and 2) it can be demonstrated that the application of the restriction is essential to furthering a compelling university interest, and is not unduly restrictive considering the relevant circumstance. The policy of the University attempts to strike a reasonable balance between accommodating the religious practice of students and meeting academic needs and standard.

Consult IDE's [Guide to Religions](#) for the form that can be used to notify an instructor of an absence associated with religious practice. Students are expected to notify their instructor(s) by completing and submitting this form in a manner that is consistent with the procedure outlined in the university's policy on student religious accommodation. Providing false information regarding sincerely held religious practice is a violation of the university's Standard of Conduct and will not be tolerated.

DECREASING THE RISK OF COVID-19 IN CLASSROOMS AND LABS

If you have tested positive for COVID-19 or have been identified as someone who needs to quarantine, do not attend class in person until the mandated period for isolation or quarantine has

passed. Your instructor will work with you on arrangements to access class material while you are in isolation or quarantine.

Additionally, if you are experiencing any COVID-related symptoms, or are otherwise feeling unwell, do not attend in-person classes and contact your health care provider and/or student health immediately. COVID symptoms include: fever greater than 100.4 or chills; cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; fatigue; unexplained muscle or body aches; headache; new loss of taste or smell; sore throat; congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting; diarrhea.

Instructors or students with concerns about how a student is following any University-mandated COVID-19 policies and protocols should report those concerns to the Office of the Dean of Students. Concerns can be documented on a COVID Safety Measures Reporting Form.

Please note that sub-groups of students may have specific needs during COVID or online learning. One group is international students, who may be participating in class from their home countries and in different time zones. The instructor may be able to make reasonable accommodations to support the success of international students currently living in time zones that differ significantly from that of Columbia, MO. International students are expected to consult with their instructor about possible accommodations as soon as possible after the start of the course.

- [Info for Students & Families](#)
- [Info for Faculty](#)
- [Info for Staff](#)

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

UNIT	WEEKS	TOPICS	READINGS
1	1	Introduction to the class. The gravity model of international trade. The pattern of international trade.	Chapter 1 Chapter 2
2	2-3	The Ricardian model of international trade.	Chapter 3
3	4-5	The specific factors model. International migration.	Chapter 4
		Test 1 Friday, February 17, 10 am, to Saturday, February 18, 10 pm	
4	6-7	The factor-proportions (Heckscher-Ohlin) model of international trade.	Chapter 5
5	8	The standard model of international trade.	Chapter 6
6	9-10	The instruments of trade policy	Chapter 9
		Test 2 Friday, March 24, 10 am, to Saturday, March 25, 10 pm	
7	11	Trade policy in the presence of market power	Section 8.1 (monopoly review only) Chapter 9 - Appendix
8	12	External economies of scale and international trade.	Chapter 7
9	13-14	Firms in the global economy.	Chapter 8
		Test 3 Saturday, May 6, 10 am, to Sunday, May 7, 10 pm	