

Text: James Gerber, *International Economics*, 2nd Edition

Web Site: <http://www.economicissues.net/global/globalblog.html>

Objective: Learn to think in a manner consistent with the existence of scarcity, with special emphasis on the gains from trade, trade restrictions, trade agreements, and international monetary relations.

Office Hours: You are encouraged to ask questions during and after class. If you want to speak with me at length or need assistance, I am usually available in my office, Business 324-J, from 3:00 – 5:30 Monday and Wednesday, and by appointment. Set up an appointment by calling (244-3989) or emailing me. I will work around your schedule.

Examinations, Presentation, Blogging, and Homework: There will be three homework assignments, eight blogging assignments, three in-term exams, and one final group presentation. The weights are as follows:

<u>EXAM, PRESENTATION, BLOGGING, & HOMEWORK</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>
Homework	10%
Blogging	20%
First Exam	15%
Second Exam	20%
Third Exam	20%
Group Presentation	15%

These exams will consist of multiple-choice and discussion questions. All exams will be cumulative and comprehensive, including all material covered before the exam.

No make-ups for the in-term exams will be given. If you miss one in-term exam, its weight will automatically shift to the other exams (including the Final), at no penalty to you. ***No exam grades will be dropped.*** If you choose to take an exam, the grade you receive will become part of your average for the class. If you miss more than one in-term exam, I reserve the right to either give you a zero on one or both missed exams, or require additional work from you.

Homework Assignments (HM) will consist of 10% of your grade and will be due on the dates listed on the calendar. These assignments will consist of essay and short answer questions that reinforce the topics discussed in class. Homework can be done alone or in groups of up to four. If a group works on the homework together, only ***one set*** of questions and answers should be turned in for the individual group members. This way everyone in the group will receive exactly the same grade for the assignment. Absolutely **NO** late homework assignments will be accepted.

Blogging: (BL) One written component of this class will consist of weblogging (blogging). A blog for this class has been set up at www.economicissues.net/global/globalblog.html/. You will be e-mailed an invitation containing a link to a webpage. Copy this link into your browser, click enter, and follow the directions. You may choose to write your posts and comments under a pseudonym. *Note that an invitation only works once; if you goof it up, I will have to send you another. Please don't be embarrassed to ask.*

Blogging is an interactive and hopefully entertaining process between writers and readers. Readers, including me, may not agree with the opinions you express, and are free to tell you so. I attempt to stick to assertions, facts, and conclusions that are within the mainstream of economics. Please try not to be offended at any blog comments I or others may make, but please do inform me if you are offended.

Blog Grading: The grading system for blogging is unusual. Each student is required to create three posts 100 words or more. Each post will link to an online article and summarize the merits of the piece. Each post is worth 20 points and due on the dates listed on the calendar. Each comment, where you critique someone else's post, is worth 5 points. These can be performed at anytime during the semester. In addition, I may subtract points for errors in analysis, spelling, grammar, or style. In order to get 100 points on the blogging portion of your grade, you must flawlessly compose 3 posts and 8 comments during the semester. The topics for each post are as follows:

- BLOG POST #1: Global Institutions
- BLOG POST #2: Trade Policy
- BLOG POST #3: Foreign Exchange Markets

Presentations: Students will be assigned to one of six groups that will develop an executive report (2 pages) and make presentations the last 2 days of class. Each group will discuss a current event or issue in international trade. You will introduce the issue, define the important points, and present an analysis of the topic as a policy maker. Each group member will be graded based on their group presentation, their group report, the group's ability to answer questions from the class, and individual effort as assigned by the other group members. Your group may choose any topic, however, it must first be approved by me.

Grading: Academic regulations and procedures as found in the *AUM Catalog* govern all grading and academic policies. Because each class and assignment is unique, the grading scale may vary. This is a rough idea of the scale you can expect:

$$85 - 100 = A \quad 70 - 84 = B \quad 55 - 69 = C \quad 45 - 54 = D \quad < 45 = F$$

The actual grading scale will be determined only at the end of the semester.

Grade Disputes: Any course grade dispute must be initiated within five weeks of the grade being posted, in accordance with University and School policies.

Attendance: If I plan to give a worthless lecture, I will cancel class. Attendance is not required, though highly recommended. Initially, I will take role as an inexpensive way to learn your names. If I am late, please wait 10 minutes before leaving the classroom. Please switch all phones and pagers to vibrate. If you are late, minimize your disturbance.

Students with Disabilities: As a Faculty member in the School of Business I will make every reasonable effort to accommodate the unique and special needs of students with respect to speech, hearing, vision, seating, or other possible disabilities. During the first week of class please contact me if you require special accommodations and I, along with representatives from the Center for Special Services, will work with you.

Academic Integrity: Academic dishonesty will be treated per the stated regulations in the AUM Student Handbook. All work must be your own or the groups own as it pertains to group work. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are not in conflict with the stated regulations.

NOTE 1: All chapter numbers refer to Gerber.

NOTE 2: Reading assignments may be changed at any time. I will announce any changes in class.

NOTE 3: Exam dates are shown in boldface, thus: **27**, **20**, and **1**

Date	Readings	Topic
23-Aug		Introduction
25-Aug	2	Global Economic Institutions
30-Aug	3	Ricardian Model; Comparative Advantage
1-Sep	3	HM #1 Assigned ; Efficiency Gains From Trade
6-Sep		Labor Day Holiday
13-Sep	4	Factor Endowment Theory, Heckscher-Ohlin
15-Sep	4	Factor Endowment Theory, Heckscher-Ohlin, Part 2
20-Sep	4	HM #1 Due ; The Product Cycle
22-Sep	2-4	BL #1 Due ; Review
27-Sep	2-4	First Exam Monday, September 27th
29-Sep	5	Intra-Industry Trade
4-Oct	5	External Scale Economies
6-Oct	6	HM #2 Assigned ; Tariffs
11-Oct	6, 7	Quotas; Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade
13-Oct	7, 8	HM #2 Due ; Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade, Part 2
18-Oct	2-8	BL #2 Due ; Review
20-Oct	2-8	Second Exam Wednesday, October 20th
27-Oct	9	Balance of Payments
1-Nov	10	Exchange Rates in the Long Run
3-Nov	10	Exchange Rates in the Short Run
8-Nov	10	HM #3 Assigned ; Exchange Rate Regimes
10-Nov	13	Integration in North America
15-Nov	13	Impact of NAFTA
17-Nov	14	EU Integration
22-Nov	16	HM #3 Due ; East Asia Export
24-Nov		Thanksgiving Holiday
29-Nov	2-10, 13-14, 16	BL #3 Due ; Review
1-Dec	2-10, 13-14, 16	Third Exam Wednesday, December 1st
6-Dec		Student Presentations
8-Dec		Student Presentations
13-Dec		Executive Reports Due, Monday December 13th before 7pm

I reserve the right to make adjustments to the syllabus at any time during the course.