

ECON International Economics (PhD) Module 2, 2024-2025

Course Information

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Email:

Q&A sections: TBA

Classes: Lectures:

Venue:

1. Course Description

1.1 Context

Course overview:

This is an elective class open to PhD students in Economics. The course will cover two parts: International Finance and International Trade. This is a topic course, and students who take the class are expected to be proactive: Basic theories will be covered in class, and students should actively study outside the class, survey academic papers on your preferred topic.

Prerequisites:

Knowledge of advanced macroeconomics and microeconomics. (Ph.D. required sequence.)

1.2 Textbooks and Reading Materials

Lecture notes and supplemental materials will be provided to students. Check also the reading lists of papers.

2. Learning Outcomes

2.1 Intended Learning Outcomes

Learning Goals	Objectives	Assessment
1. Our graduates will be	1.1. Our students will produce quality business	Project
effective communicators.	and research-oriented documents.	research proposal
	1.2. Students are able to professionally present	In-class discussion
	their ideas and also logically explain and defend	
	their argument.	
2. Our graduates will be	2.1. Students will be able to lead and participate in	No
skilled in team work and	group for projects, discussion, and presentation.	
leadership.		
4. Our graduates will have a	4.1. Students will have an international exposure.	Class material and
global perspective.		homework
5. Our graduates will be	5.1. Our students will have a good understanding	Homework
skilled in problem-solving	of fundamental theories in their fields.	
and critical thinking.	5.2. Our students will be prepared to face	Project
	problems in various business settings and find	research proposal
	solutions.	
	5.3. Our students will demonstrate competency in	Research proposal
	critical thinking.	

2.2 Course specific objectives

2.3 Assessment/Grading Details

Component	Weight
Homework assignments	15%
Quizzes	20%
Project:	55%
Background Facts	20%
Literature Review	20%
Proposal	15%
Class Participation	10%

Homework: There will be several homework assignments. Homework covers the more technical part of the class (i.e. models and data). Students are expected to complete these homework assignments independently, unless otherwise specified.

Quizzes: There will be 3-4 in-class quizzes. Quizzes cover the non-technical part of the class (i.e. concepts and intuition). Material we covered in class, as well as in required readings, may appear in the quizzes.

Project: The project will invite students to explore a specific topic of interest, collect data on the topic, survey recent literature, and come up with an idea to extend the current literature.

Participation: Class attendance is expected. Please notify the instructor before the class for any *foreseeable* absence. Students who miss class beyond reasonable frequency will automatically lose the class participation grade. In-class discussion and participation are strongly encouraged, and I reserve the right to make small upward adjustments to your final grade using participation performance.

2.4 Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

It is important for a student's effort and credit to be recognized through class assessment. Credits earned for a student work due to efforts done by others are clearly unfair. Deliberate dishonesty is considered academic misconducts, which include plagiarism; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; or altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying of data, research procedures, or data analysis.

All assessments are subject to academic misconduct check. Misconduct check may include reproducing the assessment, providing a copy to another member of faculty, and/or communicate a copy of this assignment to the PHBS Discipline Committee. A suspected plagiarized document/assignment submitted to a plagiarism checking service may be kept in its database for future reference purpose.

Where violation is suspected, penalties will be implemented. The penalties for academic misconduct may include: deduction of honour points, a mark of zero on the assessment, a fail grade for the whole course, and reference of the matter to the Peking University Registrar.

For more information of plagiarism, please refer to PHBS Student Handbook.

3. Topics, Teaching and Assessment Schedule

Time	Class Coverage
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Week 1 – 4.5	International Finance
	Introduction: Issues in international finance
	International goods pricing
	- Real exchange rates
	- Terms of trade
	- Pricing to market
	International asset pricing
	- Uncovered interest rate parity
	- Foreign exchange risk premium
	- Delayed portfolio adjustment
	Baseline open-economy NK DSGE model
	- Canonical model
	- Shocks, news and exchange rates
	- Forecasting exchange rate changes
	Current account and international portfolios
Weeks 4.5 - 9	International Trade
	- Neoclassical Trade Theory
	- Ricardian
	- Eaton Kortum
	- Firm Heterogeneity
	- Economic Geography
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^{*} Tentative and subject to adjustment