EC 371: International Trade  
Fall 2012

Basic information

Time and location: 9:00-10:15am, Tue and Thur, Campion 302  
Instructor: Ben Li, ben.li[at]bc.edu  
Office: 462K, Maloney Hall  
Office hours: Tue, 1:00-3:00pm.  
Web: https://cms.bc.edu/webct/

Course description

This course is a rigorous introduction to the international trade theory. It builds on the materials covered in the introductory and intermediate microeconomic courses, and will discuss causes of trade, gains from trade, and trade policies. At the end of the course, students will be able to analyze the global trade from a coherent microeconomic perspective.

Prerequisite

Microeconomic Theory: Standard (EC201) or Honors (EC203).

Textbook


Grading

Midterm 1: 30%, Tue, Oct. 2, in class;  
Midterm 2: 30%, Tue, Nov. 6, in class;  
Final: 40%, time and location as specified in the registration system.

Please note that:

- You are expected to come to each class. In-class assignments are often given.  
- There is no make-up for midterms or the final.  
- I reserve the right to curve the grades and give extra credits.  
- The final is cumulative. I will not allow you to take the final on an earlier or later date. This means that you have to make sure you have no other exams during the scheduled final.  
- I do not change grades that I give on exams, except for documentation errors (very rare, e.g., 67+12=79 points but only 76 points were given). Some students like writing ambiguous answers on exams and after the exam argue that their unclear answers “are not wrong,” “also make sense,” or “deliver the same meaning [as the correct answer].” Ambiguity results from either a lack of understanding they did not realize, or attempts to avoid a real answer (as done by some politicians). Those later defenses will not be accepted. Any compromise on this would be unfair to students who wrote both correct and clear answers.
Absence policy

Your own illness or injury: confirmation from a physician is required. Be advised that physicians usually do not provide such verifications unless they have provided treatment and you authorize release of information to me.

Family emergencies or university-approved activities: you must provide verifiable documentation. I assume that you agree with me that one's personal account of her family emergency is rarely verifiable. Provide evidence.

If you miss either of the two midterms due to the above reasons and have provided qualified documentation, the other midterm and the final will automatically account for 40% and 60%, respectively, of your final grade.

Additional notes

1. University rules do not allow instructors to disclose/discuss grades via emails.

2. Disability
If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from the Disability Services Office in a timely manner. See http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/offices/odsd/disabilityservices.html.

3. Religious holidays
If any of the scheduled exams in this syllabus conflicts with your religious holiday(s), notify me within the first week of classes so that I can accommodate you as reasonably as possible.

4. Academic integrity
Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to academic sanctions from me and the university. See http://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/academic/integrity.html.

5. University policy on discrimination and sexual harassment
See http://www.bc.edu/offices/diversity/compliance/harassment.html.

6. Behavioral standards
Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. See http://www.bc.edu/publications/studentguide/judicial.html.