



# Lincoln University

## BA 310 – International Economics

### COURSE SYLLABUS

Fall, 2015

**Credit:** 3 units (45 lecture hours)  
**Instructor:** Dr. Alexander Anokhin  
**Office Hours:** By arrangement  
**E-mail:** aanokhin@lincolnuca.edu

**Required textbook:** International Economics, 6/E  
James Gerber. Prentice Hall, 2014  
(ISBN-10: 0133407934;  
ISBN-13: 9780133407938).

Previous editions are OK.

**Revised:** August 8, 2015

#### **Catalog description**

This course is intended to deal with the fundamental theories of international relations, global interdependence, the modern nation-state system, and the causes of war and conditions of peace. It covers theories of direct foreign investments, behavior of MNC's, country risk analysis, money and finances, investment restrictions and incentives, prospects for international investments. (3 units)

#### **Course Objectives**

In our study we will attempt to break artificial barriers that divide trade theory, international finance and political economy in order to gain a better understanding of the highly interconnected modern world.

Upon completion of the course students will be able to:

- 1) Define key ideas and concepts in the field of international economics
- 2) Identify various types of political, legal and economic systems as well as corresponding threats and opportunities for business and investment.
- 3) Analyze cultural variables and their effect on business activities.

- 4) Discuss and compare rationales and limitations of international financial and monetary systems as well as governmental trade policies.
- 5) Critically analyze risks and benefits of international business activities as related to global investment and marketing strategies.

### **Procedures and methodology**

Lecture method is combined with in-class discussions, case studies and assignments of various kinds. Participation in in-class activities is an essential part of the course and will be graded.

### **Class Rules**

1. **Class attendance** is required. Attendance will be taken each class at a time chosen by the instructor.
2. Students are required to **arrive to class on time**. Showing up late disturbs the natural flow of the lecture and affects everyone's experience. Usually, up to 10 minutes of "grace period" is allowed. However, if students choose to show up 10 minutes into class on a regular basis, this rule will be reviewed and no one will be allowed after the start of the class.
3. Note, that the only email that students are allowed to use is the one provided by the Lincoln University. Once you receive an invitation to the course website, make sure to **set up your profile** in such a way that it would be possible for the instructor to identify you - use your name (as it is in the Lincoln University records) as your primary ID and your Lincoln University email as you secondary ID as well as a profile photo.
4. Submissions of home assignments will be conducted via the course website only (Canvas Instructure). **Absolutely no hard copy or email submissions will be accepted!** The acceptable format for assignment submission is .txt, .doc, .docx, and .pdf.
5. All quizzes, exams, assignments and projects must be completed and handed in on time. **Late submissions will result in lower grade** (each day of delay costs 2% points). Since all assignments are available on the website and outlined in the present syllabus with due dates clearly visible, the fact that you haven't been in class when the assignment was given cannot be used as an excuse to submit it later.
6. All quizzes, exams, and class assignments **cannot** be made up.
7. **No cheating and no plagiarism, please!** Detected cheating/plagiarism will result in "F" for the assignment. (This rule is very strictly enforced, no exceptions!).
8. All grades will be made available to students through the **course website**.

### **Exams**

The exams will consist of questions based on lectures, assigned chapters and supplementary reading.

### **Group Project**

Every student must work on a research project for an in-class presentation as a part of a group. The broad topic of the group project is “Challenges in the world economy”. Even though this work is done in groups each student is expected to have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the whole project. Specific format of a research project will be presented in class. Research projects must comply with the Lincoln University guidelines.

### **Assessment Criteria**

All assignments, quizzes, projects and exams are evaluated using the indicated system:

94-100	A	73-76	C
90-93	A-	70-72	C-
87-89	B+	67-69	D+
83-86	B	60-66	D
80-82	B-	0-59	F
77-79	C+		

### **Tentative Weights**

Participation (discussions, in-class assignments)	15%
Group Project Presentation	30%
Mid-term Exam	25%
Final Exam	30%

## Course Outline

Topic	Chapter	Assignments Due
1. Introduction. Price system, Globalization, and International Economic Institutions.	Ch. 2	
2. Theories of International Trade: Comparative Advantage Theory	Ch.3	Assignment 1. Perils of Globalization
3. Theories of International Trade: Factor Proportion Theory, New Strategic Theory, and more.	Ch. 4 - 5	Assignment 2. Comparative Advantage.
4. The Theory of Government Intervention.	Ch. 6	Assignment 3. Modern Trade Theories
5. The Practice of Government Intervention: Political Economy of Trade	Ch. 7	Prepare for the debate: "Free trade - Pros and Cons"
6. Midterm	Ch. 2 - 7	
7. Trade and Balance of Payments	Ch. 9	
8. Exchange Rate Systems	Ch. 10	Assignment 4. Balance of Payments
9. International Financial Crises	Ch. 12	Flipped classroom session: Prepare for the discussion of financial crises.
10. Regional Issues: United States	Ch. 13	
11. Regional Issues: EU	Ch. 14	Assignment 5. Old Leaders.
12. Regional Issues: East Asia	Ch. 16	
13. Regional Issues: BRIC	Ch. 17	Assignment 6. Future Leaders.
14. Course Project Presentations		
15. Final Exam	Comprehensive	