

## Syllabus

**Course code:** 7VG32NBKF7M

**Course name:** Trade and FDI policies: Current Issues in the Global Trading System

**Number of credits:** 6

**Course leader:** Vígvári Gábor

**Aim of the course:** This conventional trade policy course covers the usual and most important problems of trade policy related issues in the world economy. The course starts with theoretical foundations, then moves toward the discussion of the economic and political rationale of trade policy interventions. The course deals with the international institutional background of trade policies focusing mostly on the WTO. And also the most up-to-date problems of international trade is covered, like trade in value added and environmental problems.

**Sustainability:** The course deals with environment related trade policy issues.

**Connection:** The course is part of the curriculum of the specialization international economic analysis. The aim of the course is to develop students' analytical skills by showing them on one hand the possible numerical indicators that can be used for trade policy analysis, and on the other hand, gives the theoretical background for policy analysis, as well. The course relies on theoretical knowledge in trade theory from international economics.

**Number of lessons:** 2+2

**Ad Frequency:** fall

**Pre-study obligations:** none

**Method of evaluation:** The seminar work will add up to 30% (30 points) of your total points. Students, who were not present (incl. homework) on at least 7 seminars will be not graded at the end of the semester. You will get feedback of your seminar performance after each seminar, via Moodle. Your end-of-year-project will add up to 70% (70 points) of your total points. Students, who miss any deadline about the final project will be not graded at the end of the semester.

Any ethical violations, including plagiarism will result in failing the course.

The assessment of the final project will be composed as follows:

Out of the 70 points 15 points will be handed out on following formal requirements. Inadequate referencing, too long, or too short essays will result in deduction of points (in case of length each 300 words above or below requirement means an automatic 5-point deduction: ie. an essay with the length of 5000 words only means a 10-point deduction).

Another 15 points is going to be given for the structure of the project: please follow the above mentioned requirements. Please, also do not forget to include the required graphs and tables.

10 points goes for the choice of topic: please, consult on your choice of topic with your tutor.

The rest of points (30 points) are handed out for the professional content of your paper. Please, make sure, you follow the above mentioned requirements. Make sure, you use one of the approaches we used during classes. Make sure, you use the concepts and the methodology adequately. Try to argue logically. Missing the deadline of handing in the draft will also result in an automatic 10-point deduction. Missing the final deadline within a week will result in a 15-point deduction. Handing in the project after the 31st December will result in failing the course.

The final grade is composed as follows:

End-of-year-project 70 per cent

Seminar work 30 per cent

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Grading: 60% pass, 70% satisfactory, 80% good, 90% excellent

**Type:** mandatory

**Timetable:** According to Neptun

## Learning results

Professional Competences - Knowledge: Knows the basic rules of the WTO

Knows about the most important functional issues of the WTO

Knows the effects and problems of regional trading agreements

Professional Competences - ability: Can interpret the international environment of trade policy decisions

Professional Competences - attitude: Recognizes the importance of global cooperation

## Learning activity

Activity: Written assignments to be handed in at the end of the course

Pair of students are required to develop a project paper during the semester. In this project they need to find and develop a case study of a trade policy related problem: a country's trade policy, or a systemic issue. In this report you are required to use the toolkit we developed throughout the course. You can use either a state centered or a society centered approach, or do a systemic analysis of a trade dispute. What is important, that you have to introduce the problem using numerical and statistical methods, don't forget to write about both the trading profile and trade policy profile if applicable; introduce the 'story', described what had happened and why it is worth of an analysis; you have to write about the possible causes behind the problem using one of the above mentioned approaches.

The pairs are put together on a voluntary basis. Should there be odd number of students in the class, one group will contain three students.

The length of the paper should be 6000 words (+/- 5%), follow academic standards. Make sure, it contains self-created tables and graphs (at least 4 of them). In case of a trio the length of the paper must be 7000 words (+/- 5%)

The papers need to fulfill academic criteria of referencing.

The completion of the project is the responsibility of the two students. At the end of the year, each student will have the opportunity to assess her/his partner's and his/her own work. The final points for the projects are going to be distributed according to these evaluations.

During the semester there will be opportunities for consultations during classes. Also there will be an opportunity to submit the papers twice, first a draft, then a final version. The first draft/outline is due on 3rd November. For this occasion at least the outline should be ready, including the proposed topic, and the analytical introduction. You will receive a feedback on the outline in 10 days via Moodle and, if required in class or during office hours. The final version of the project is due on the 23rd of December (12 PM). You will receive feedback on your project until mid January

Workload: 110

## **Mandatory and recommended literatures**

Mandatory literature:

No mandatory text for lectures. Lectures are based on the advised literature. Mandatory texts for seminars are available on Moodle

Recommended literature: Pugel, Thomas A. (2009): International Economics, 14th edition, Mc Graw Hill (Pugel)

Krugman – Obstfeld – Melitz (2015): International Economics, Tenth edition, Pearson (KOM)

Oatley, Thomas (2012): International Political Economy, 5th edition, Pearson (Oatley)

Hoekman – Kostecki (2008): The Political Economy of the World Trading System. The WTO and Beyond.

3rd Edition (Hoekman)

UNCTAD – WTO: A Practical Guide to Trade Policy Analysis (WTO)

Gaisford – Kerr (ed.) (2007): Handbook on International Trade Policy, Edward Elgar (HB) and the readings for seminars!