



Faculty of Economic Sciences, Communication and IT
Economics

Syllabus

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty Board of Economic Sciences, Communication and IT on 12 September 2012, and is valid from the Autumn semester of 2013 at Karlstad University.

Course Code: NEGB15

International Trade Theory, 7.5 ECTS Credits
(Internationell handelsteori, 7.5 Swedish credit points)

Degree Level: Bachelor

Progressive Specialisation: G1F (First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements)

Language of Instruction

The language of instruction is English if non-Swedish speaking students or teachers participate in the course. If not, instruction is in Swedish.

Prerequisites

Economics 30 ECTS Credits.

Major Field of Study

NAA (Economics)

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should

- understand the driving forces behind the international division of labour and its consequences for national and international income distribution,
- understand the logic behind arguments in support of international trade profits, and assess proposals to restrict trade from the perspective of welfare theory,
- understand the motives and driving forces, as well as the consequences, of foreign direct investment and labour migration,
- understand the motives behind the protectionism and resistance to increased international integration that is expressed by political interest groups and
- be able to apply their theoretical knowledge in practice in the analysis of a selected problem in the field of international trade theory, and present their results in both oral and written form.

Content and Form of Instruction

The course begins with a series of lectures on classical, neoclassical, and modern trade theories, with the help of which international trade and specialisation patterns can be explained. The lectures will also cover theories on multi-national corporations and international direct investment, political motives for protectionism, and the effects of various strategies by which the state can restrict trade. In addition, the course will cover motives for granting state subsidies to national and foreign businesses, as well as trade and industrial policy for the economic development of under-developed countries. At the end of the course, the students are required to submit a group assignment in the form of a report on a current issue in the field of international trade theory.

There will be an examination seminar at the end of the course, in which students present their results and give critical feedback on a report submitted by another group.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on a written exam and written and orally presented hand-in assignment. Students are also required to critically comment on the work presented by another group.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course assessment is based on student views and experiences as reported in written course evaluations and/or group discussions. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of the measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional Information

Students who enrolled before 1 July 2007 will complete their studies in accordance with the requirements of the earlier admission. Upon completion students may request degree and course certificates to be issued under the current ordinance if they meet its requirements.

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor's and Master's levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.

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