York University
Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
Department of Economics
International Trade AP/ECON 3150 B
Fall 2025

Course Instructor:
Dr. Andrea Podhorsky
Teaching Assistant: TBA
Email: andrea@yorku.ca
Course Webpage: http://eclass.yorku.ca
Virtual Office Hours: Fridays 12:00 pm – 1:15 pm
Please sign up on eClass to schedule a 15-minute appointment on Zoom

Lecture Time and Location:
Tuesdays, 8:30 am; CLH C

TA Hours: TBA

Prerequisite/Co-requisite:
AP/ECON 1000 3.00 and AP/ECON 1010 3.00 or equivalents.

Course Description:
This course studies the interdependence that arises from international trade in goods and services. The course will cover the most fundamental trade models and will often refer to the current issues of international trade politics and globalization. Among the treated questions are: Why do countries trade? Does international trade deepen wage inequality? Is growth in emerging economies bad for Western countries? How does trade affect competition? What are the consequences of protectionism? Although the course will emphasize the understanding of past and current events in the world economy, we will heavily rely on formal economic modelling to help us understand these events. Additional topics include understanding what is Fair Trade and analyzing its certification system.

Required Course Materials:
eText: International Economics: Theory & Policy, 12th Edition, by Paul Krugman, Maurice Obstfeld and Marc Melitz.
MyLab: Online learning platform from Pearson used for weekly assignments.

Access and Billing Information:
To access the eText and MyLab, you can opt yourself in to the digital materials through the Day1Digital link provided on eClass. Billing occurs only if you remain opted in after the two-week trial period. The total cost is $100 (no tax) and you will be charged through your student fees rather than a retail transaction.
If you do not opt in within the first two weeks but later decide you want access, you must contact askyub@yorku.ca to be manually opted in.

Evaluation:

Test 1 (Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5)	30%	Oct 21
Test 2 (+Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9)	40%	Nov 18
Assignments	20%	
Participation	10%	

Topics:*

Sept 9	World Trade: An Overview (Chapter 2)
Sept 16	Labor Productivity and Comparative Advantage (Chapter 3)
Sept 23	Specific Factors and Income Distribution (Chapter 4)
Sept 30	Resources and Trade: The Heckscher-Ohlin Model (Chapter 5)
Oct 7	The Standard Trade Model (Chapter 6)
Oct 14	Reading Week
Oct 21	Review; Test 1
Oct 28	External Economies of Scale and the International Location of Production (Chapter 7)
Nov 4	Firms in the Global Economy (Chapter 8)
Nov 11	International Trade Policy (Chapter 9)
Nov 18	Review; Test 2
Nov 25	Trade Policy in Developing Countries (Chapter 11) – Classroom debate
Dec 2	Controversies in Trade Policy (Chapter 12) – Classroom debate

* While supplemental readings may be added during the semester, we will follow the text closely. It is strongly recommended that assigned readings be completed prior to attending the class.
Additional readings may be assigned or recommended during the course.

Grading Policy:

- There is no final exam in this course. Test 2 will be cumulative.
- If a student misses a test, there will be no make-up test. The weight of a missed Test 1 will be transferred to Test 2 only for medical reasons. The student must provide the instructor with an attending physician's statement within one week of the missed exam.
- If a student misses Test 2 or both tests for medical reasons, the student must provide the instructor with an attending physician's statement within one week of the missed obligation(s) and will complete an original term paper on a topic covered by the course that is assigned by the instructor. The length and requirements of the term paper will be determined by the instructor according to how much of the course work has not been completed. Upon completion of the paper, the student will also be required to demonstrate an understanding of the assigned material during a scheduled meeting with the instructor.

Important Course Information:
Final course grades given by the instructor will use the standard York grading scale and may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles. In addition, all students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Academic Standards, Curriculum & Pedagogy webpage:
https://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/files/CourseInformationForStudentsAugust2012-.pdf

- Senate Policy on Academic Honesty and the Academic Integrity Website
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation

Academic integrity is a fundamental and important value of York University. To maintain a fair and honest learning environment, students in this course are responsible for understanding and upholding academic integrity in all of their academic activities. To better understand expectations, familiarize yourself with the Senate Policy on Academic Conduct. To learn more about how to demonstrate academic integrity in your courses and to access related resources and support, visit the Academic Integrity website.

Course ADD/Drop Deadlines:

Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept 16
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept 23
Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov 4
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of "W" on transcript – see note below)	Nov 5 – Dec 2

Policy and Guidelines on Withdrawn from Course:
https://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/policies/academic-forgiveness-policy-senate/