

ECN330 Economic Integration and Multilateral Trade Liberalization

Autumn 2025

Contact information:

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Objectives: A theoretical foundation for economic integration and trade liberalization provides a basis for a practical understanding of the case for and the limitations of these processes, as experienced through EU treaty and WTO agreements. These institutional arrangements serve as platforms to address issues or voice concerns related to the economic and business-relevant implications of globalization, i.e., trade in goods and services and flows of capital and labor. These implications are covered across broad sectors of the economy (agriculture, manufacturing, and services) and by how these sectors are regulated through trade policy or domestic law.

Learning outcomes: The student is expected to develop:

- An understanding of the institutional differences between economic integration and trade liberalization as platforms to govern globalization and their cost in terms of limits on sovereignty and policy space;
- An appreciation for how business activity in different countries is governed by WTO Agreements (Agriculture, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Technical Barriers to Trade, Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, Trade-Related Investment Measures, Intellectual Property Protection, etc.); and
- The ability to analyze trade policy and the trade policy equivalence of domestic regulations governing trade in goods and services, and to assess whether a country's trade policy and domestic regulations (from an economic and business perspective) are compliant with EU treaty or WTO commitments.

Required reading materials:

- Hoekman & Kostecki, *The Political Economy of the World Trading System*
- Appleyard and Field (AF), *International Economics*, McGraw-Hill, Inc., latest edition or earlier
- Supplementary reading packet (SRP) – newspaper articles provided electronically
- Related readings (RR) – selected chapters or papers provided electronically

Class meetings and exam schedule: There are 10 3-hour lecture sessions which include 2-3 group exercises. There is also a semester project presentation session, and a final exam review session. The date for the oral portion of the final exam will be arranged by agreement (likely 29 Nov) prior to the written final exam.

Class meetings in U-306		Assessment activities			
			Final draft semester project	Oral defense	Oral final exam
Thursday 14.15 – 17.00	Friday 12.15 – 15.00	Date	21 Nov ?	05 Dec ?	
		Time		10 min	20 min

Course requirements and evaluation criteria: The in-class group exercises, demonstrating competence over lecture material, require an approval. A semester project written on a topic related to trade policy analysis (e.g., a WTO trade dispute) is required. Students working in groups write a paper and make a presentation. The final draft and an oral defense count toward 60% of the final grade and an oral final exam to 40%.

Evaluation Criteria		Grading Scale	
Course activity	Weight toward grade, %	Number	Letter
Exercises	Approval required, 0	90-100	A
Semester project	40	80-90	B
Oral defense of project	20	70-79	C
Oral final exam	40	60-69	D
Total	100	50-59	E
		< 50	F

