# GENERAL INFORMATION

**ECON2210A**  
Instructor: Dr. Hongsong ZHANG  
Email: hszhang@hku.hk  
Office: Room 906 K K Leung Building  
Phone: 2859 2780  
Semester: 1  
Lecture: Monday, 2:30-5:20pm  
Consultation times: TBA  
Tutor: TBA  
Venue: Online

Pre-requisites:  
ECON1210 Introductory Microeconomics and ECON1220 Introductory macroeconomics.

Course Website: Moodle  
Other important details: N.A.

# COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course analyzes the causes and consequences of international trade and investment. It aims at providing students with a global perspective on economic and business decisions. We will discuss topics including why countries trade, how they trade, how trade generate welfare gains, who benefits and who loses from trade, what the best trade policies are, foreign direct investment, etc.. We will also discuss recent globalization issues in this class.

# COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To help students develop a solid background in the Theory of International Trade  
2. To understand important global relationships and issues from the economic perspectives  
3. To acquire the ability to apply theory of International Trade to real world policy issues and problems

# FACULTY GOALS

Goal 1: Acquisition and internalization of knowledge of the programme discipline  
Goal 2: Application and integration of knowledge  
Goal 3: Inculcating professionalism and leadership  
Goal 4: Developing global outlook  
Goal 5: Mastering communication skills
### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Aligned Faculty Goals</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLO1. understand and apply standard international trade models</td>
<td>Goal 1, 2, 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLO2. understand the effects of typical trade policy instruments</td>
<td>Goal 1, 2, 3, 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLO3. understand the role environmental concerns, inequality, and politics play in shaping international trade relationship and policy</td>
<td>Goal 1, 2, 3, 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLO4. be conversant with important global economic issues and and develop their own critical views on them</td>
<td>Goal 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</td>
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### COURSE TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Teaching and Learning Activities</th>
<th>Expected contact hour</th>
<th>Study Load (% of study)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T&amp;L1. Lectures</td>
<td>33 hours</td>
<td>27.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T&amp;L2. Tutorials</td>
<td>11 hours</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>T&amp;L3. Self study</td>
<td>76 hours</td>
<td>63.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>120 hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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### Assessment Methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>Brief Description (Optional)</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Aligned Course Learning Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1. Midterms</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>CLO1, 2, 3, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2. Final</td>
<td></td>
<td>50</td>
<td>CLO1, 2, 3, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3. Problem sets</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>CLO1, 2, 3, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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### STANDARDS FOR ASSESSMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Grade Descriptors</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+, A, A-</td>
<td>All or almost all of the questions are clearly and accurately responded. All or almost all of the responses are well organized, clear, fluent, and with sufficient elaboration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+, B, B-</td>
<td>Most of the questions are clearly and accurately responded. Most of the responses are well organized, clear, fluent, and with sufficient elaboration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+, C, C-</td>
<td>Some of the questions are clearly and accurately responded. Some of the responses are well organized, clear, fluent, and with sufficient elaboration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+, D</td>
<td>Few of the questions are clearly and accurately responded. Few of the responses are well organized, clear, fluent, and with sufficient elaboration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Little evidence of basic familiarity with the subject.</td>
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**Assessment Rubrics for Each Assessment**  
(Please provide us the details in a separate file if the space here is not enough)

Answers to Homework, Midterm and Final examinations are to be graded in accordance with the standards stated above in course grade descriptors.

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**COURSE CONTENT AND TENTATIVE TEACHING SCHEDULE**

Topics that will be covered can include:

1. Review of Economic Knowledge & Trade Basics in Global Economy
2. Ricardian Model of Trade
3. Specific-Factors Model of Trade
4. Heckscher-Ohlin Model of Trade
5. Standard Trade Model
6. Increasing Returns to Scale and Trade
7. Outsourcing and Offshoring
8. New Trade Theory
9. Trade Policies
10. The recent development of global protectionism

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**REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED READINGS & ONLINE MATERIALS**  
(e.g. journals, textbooks, website addresses etc.)

**Required**

**Optional References**

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**MEANS/PROCESSES FOR STUDENT FEEDBACK ON COURSE**

- conducting mid-term survey in additional to SETL around the end of the semester
- Online response via Moodle site

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**COURSE POLICY**  
(e.g. plagiarism, academic honesty, attendance, etc.)

The University Regulations on academic dishonesty will be strictly enforced! Please check the University Statement on plagiarism on the web: [http://www.hku.hk/plagiarism/](http://www.hku.hk/plagiarism/)

Academic dishonesty is behaviour in which a deliberately fraudulent misrepresentation is employed in an attempt to gain undeserved intellectual credit, either for oneself or for another. It includes, but is not necessarily limited to, plagiarism and unauthorized collaboration on out-of-class projects.

Where a candidate for a degree or other award uses the work of another person or persons without due acknowledgement:

1. The relevant Board of Examiners may impose a penalty in relation to the seriousness of the offence;
2. The relevant Board of Examiners may report the candidate to the Senate, where there is prima facie evidence of an intention to deceive and where sanctions beyond those in (1) might be invoked.

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**ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION**  
(e.g. e-learning platforms & materials, penalty for late assignments, etc.)

The university is closely monitoring the current development of COVID-19. The format of exams and some related teaching activities might be updated accordingly as the class goes on.