



Faculty of Science: Department of Economics
Course Syllabus

Econ3330.03: International Trade (Winter, 2026)

Dalhousie University operates in the unceded territories of the Mi'kmaw, Wolastoqey, and Peskotomuhkati Peoples. These sovereign nations hold inherent rights as the original peoples of these lands, and we each carry collective obligations under the Peace and Friendship Treaties. Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights in Canada.

We recognize that African Nova Scotians are a distinct people whose histories, legacies, and contributions have enriched the part of Mi'kma'ki known as Nova Scotia for over 400 years.

Instructor: Ruth Forsdyke, Ruth.Forsdyke@Dal.ca, room C12, Maxwell House

Lectures: Mon., Wed. 4:05 pm - 5:25 pm, LSC Common Area, rm C332

Office Hours (Ruth): Tues. & Thur. 3 pm- 4:20 pm, in person, room C12, Economics Dept.

TA: Aaron Klein, aaron.klein@dal.ca

Office Hours (Aaron): Time and location TBA

The above office hours are "drop-in" (no appointment is necessary). If you need help but are unable to attend these office hours, please email us to set up an appointment. These may be online via "**Collaborate**" under "**Brightspace**">> "**Content**".

Course Delivery: In person, lectures not recorded.

Part A: Course Information

Course Description:

CREDIT HOURS: 3

This course examines the theory and empirics of international trade, including standard historical trade theories, more recent theories, and evidence regarding these theories. The course investigate factor movements, the welfare effects of trade policies in both industrial and developing countries, and the institutions that have developed to regulate those policies.

FORMAT: Lecture

Course Prerequisites and Exclusions:

LECTURE HOURS PER WEEK: 3

PREREQUISITES: ECON 2200.03 (or ECON 2210.03 or ECON 2220.03) with minimum grade of C

Course Materials:

Required Text:

Krugman, P., Obstfeld, M. & Melitz, M.J. (2022) International Economics: Theory and Policy, Pearson Education.

Ebook of 12th edition can be purchased from:

<https://bookstore.dal.ca/CourseSearch/?course%5B%5D=SUB,202620,ECON,ECON3330>

- This book is no longer being printed on paper. If you prefer a paper book, **older editions** can be **purchased online** through second-hand book vendors. The main drawback would be that textbook readings pages outlined on this syllabus won't perfectly correspond to the textbook pages, and some case studies and content may differ.

Brightspace Learning Management System, & Library Reserves:

- Readings, videos, and other media are **posted on Brightspace** under “**content**”, “**discussions**”, “**announcements**”, and “**Assessments**”.
- Some readings will be placed on reserve in the Library.
- A reading list is shown with each topic in the chart in the "Content" section below.
- **lecture slides** are posted *after the class* and should be thought of as complements (not substitutes) to attending lectures and reading the textbook. Not all material in slides is necessarily covered in the lectures and some lecture material is not covered in slides. If you miss class, you should find out what you missed from other students and/or attend Ruth's office hours to ask about what you missed.

Course Objectives/ Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Understand some basic trade models and use them to predict: i) the pattern of trade, ii) gains from trade and iii) the effects of trade upon income distribution.
- 2) Apply these models to help to understand contemporary and historical real world trade issues.
- 3) Describe and analyze welfare effects and pros and cons of trade policies such as tariffs, import quotas, and trade agreements (ex. World Trade Organization (WTO), North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)).
- 4) Describe limitations of these models.
- 5) Develop analytical and more generally problem-solving skills while practicing applying microeconomic theory within the context of international trade.
- 6) Learn some tools and acquire a factual basis to facilitate learning more about international trade on your own.
- 7) Improve skills in critical thinking.
- 8) Relate international trade to theories learned in other courses.
- 9) Improve communication skills by participating in in-class activities.

“The human mind is our fundamental resource” —John F. Kennedy

"Because Morel speaks fluent French, his company sends him to Belgium every few weeks to supervise the loading and unloading of ships on the Congo run. Although the officials he works with have been handling this shipping traffic for years without a

second thought, Morel begins to notice things that unsettle him. At the docks of the big port of Antwerp he sees his company's ships arriving filled to the hatch covers with valuable cargos of rubber and ivory. But when they cast off their hawsers to steam back to the Congo, while military bands play on the pier and eager young men in uniform line the ships rails, what they carry is mostly army officers, firearms, and ammunition. There is no trade going on here. Little or nothing is being exchanged for the rubber and ivory. As Morel watches these riches streaming to Europe with almost no goods being sent to Africa to pay for them, he realizes there can be only one explanation for their source: slave labour."

-- Adam Hochschild (1998) "King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism In Colonial Africa", Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, NY

Course Assessment:

Conversion of numerical grades to Final Letter Grades follows the Dalhousie Common Grade Scale

A+ (90-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (65-69)	D	(50-54)
A (85-89)	B (73-76)	C (60-64)	F	(<50)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (55-59)		

There are two course assessment schemes as indicated below. Your grade for both schemes will be calculated and you will receive the higher of the two grades.

Component	Scheme 1 (weights %)	Scheme 2 (weights %)	Date
Assignments	24	24	- best 3 out of 4. Submit via Brightspace under "assessments" >>"assignments or/and "assessments">>"quizzes"
Midterm Exam	25	22	- in person (in class/ paper) Date: Wed. Feb. 25th
Final Exam	51	44	- in person, on paper, scheduled by the Registrar
Participation	0	10	based on attendance, and engagement including participation in in-class exercises, discussions, in-class work such as worksheets, surveys, breakout group questions, and, short written reflections, paying attention.

Details on Course Work and Assessment

Lectures and Questions: You are encouraged to ask questions during or after class, on the discussion board, and during office hours. If your question is likely to be of general interest to the class, you may wish to ask in class or on the Discussion board to help other students. Alternatively, ask during office hours. You may **email** your questions to the TA or professor particularly if it is of a private nature or is not likely to be of general interest to the class, and does not require a lengthy answer. Rapidity of responses to email questions depends on email volumes. Questions which require lengthy detailed answers will not be addressed by email and should be asked in class or during office hours.

Participation: The participation grade will be based on taking attendance for some classes and class engagement. Engagement includes paying attention (such as by taking notes, trying questions in class as the professor works through them, answering and asking questions), and participating in in-class discussions, exercises like breakout groups, worksheets, surveys, and reflections. A good example of "not paying attention" is sitting in the backrow so the laptop screen cannot be seen, and constantly scrawling on laptop, phone, or e-pad while barely looking at the board or teacher.

Midterm and Final Exam: The midterm is held in class during the regular class time and the final exam is scheduled by the Registrar and both are on campus and on paper.

Assignments: Your grade will be the average of the **best 3 out of 4** assignments. One of the best ways to learn is to teach and you may wish to work together on assignments. However, *you must hand in an individual assignment, which **must be written using your own ideas in your own words.*** If you worked in a group, please write down other group members, names on top right hand side of assignment. Submit via Brightspace "**Assessments>>Assignments**" and/or "**Assessments>>Quizzes**".

Practice Problems: These are provided for practice and are NOT to be handed in. **Answers** will be posted so that you can check your answers. If you get stuck, peak at answers to help you to see how to proceed. However, I recommend that you try your best to solve the problem on your own before peaking at the answers. This method will, hopefully, enable you to become good at solving problems!

Discussion Board: You are encouraged to participate in online forums such as "**Ask a Question or Make a Comment**" and "**Trade in the News**". These are accessed via the "Discussions" tab in Brightspace. You may participate by using your real name or anonymously (meaning that other students will not know who you are but the professor and teaching assistants will know your name).

Office Hours: The office hours listed at the top of the syllabus are "in person" and are "**drop-in**" meaning that **you do not need to make an appointment.** If you are unable to make these hours but have a question, please email the professor or TA to set up an appointment. "By appointment office hours" can either be virtual via "Collaborate"

(please see below) or in person dependent upon availability. Dependent upon Covid conditions, office hours may be moved entirely Online.

Virtual Rooms (Collaborate): These may be used for "by appointment office hours" and meetings and allow students to interact via video, audio, and chat. A room will be open all the time for meetings and can be accessed via "**content**">> "**office hours and virtual meeting rooms**". You may wish to meet with classmates in these rooms.

Math Background: Students should be familiar with basic algebra like solving equations to find unknowns, the rules of exponents, natural logarithms, and the key concepts learned in **2000-level microeconomics**.

Course Content

- topics and readings are tentative as time permits.

* refers to required background reading while "no *" are extra.

- other readings, videos, and other media will be posted or linked to on Brightspace.

Lecture #	Topic	Textbook readings
L1	Introduction. Overview of world and Canadian trade patterns, gravity model	Ch. 1,2 (all editions)
International Trade Theory		
L2	Ricardo's Model: - Gains from trade, comparative advantage, and pattern of trade.	Ch. 3
L3	Specific factors model - Trade and income distribution	Ch. 4
L4	The Heckscher-Ohlin Model: - Effects of different factor endowments on trade - more on trade and income distribution - Factor price equalization	Ch. 5
L5	Standard trade model as a tool to examine issues like trade and growth.	Ch. 6
L6	External Economies of Scale & the International Location of Production	Ch. 7
L7	- Economies of scale/ model of imperfect competition. - Foreign Direct Investment, Multinational Corporations (MNCs), Outsourcing decisions	Ch. 8, pg 170 - 201 201 - 211
Applications: Trade Policy, International Trade Negotiations, Institutions, Current Trade Issues		
L8	Trade Policy Instruments (Partial Equilibrium Analysis).	Ch. 9
L9	Political Economy	Ch. 10
L10	Challenges to social policy and trade including environmental policy, and labour standards. Fair Trade and ethical consumption movement.	Ch. 12, other reading to be supplied.
L11	Factor flows (if time permits)	reading to be

	- some material is covered in Ch. 8	supplied
L12	Trade & Development (if time permits), development issues are covered in various contexts throughout the course).	Ch. 11

Course Policies:

1) Students are responsible for ***checking the final exam schedule prior to booking any flights***. Due to challenging logistics, there are ***no early exams under ANY circumstances***.

2) ***Late or Missed Midterms or Assignments***: If you miss a midterm due to illness, as soon as possible, inform the professor via email and attach a **Student Declaration of Absence (DOA)** form. **DOA forms may only be used for the midterm but NOT for the final exam**. These are available at:
https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/missed-or-late-academic-requirements-due-to-student-absence.html

3) If you submitted a DOA, in the case of a ***missed midterm***, the ***entire test weight will be moved to the final exam***. There will be ***no make-up midterm***.

4) If the ***final exam is missed*** due to illness, death in the family, or other traumatic circumstances, please inform the professor by email as soon as possible to arrange to write an alternative exam. **It is unacceptable to start the exam and then claim you are ill, and leave and request a re-write because you have seen the exam and hence have an unfair advantage over other students.**

5) ***Late assignments*** receive a ***maximum penalty of 5% per day***, and ***will NOT be accepted after answers have been posted on the Brightspace***.

6) Students are responsible for ***checking Brightspace “Announcements” regularly***. Important information to guide your learning as well as occasional corrections to assignments, or test review questions is posted there.

7) ***Online Access***: When connecting to online resources, you are ***responsible for observing any applicable laws of the country you are connecting from***.

8) You are responsible for ***establishing whether you have access to all course material as soon as the term begins and before the ADD/DROP date***. If you cannot access certain material, inform the instructor as soon as possible. Alternative access methods are not guaranteed.

9) ***If you are sick***, it is recommended that you take a ***covid test***. If you are sick, it's recommended that you rest at home and find out what you missed via emailing other students (or TA or professor if you do not know other students) and catch up via online content. You are encouraged to email us to set up an online office hour

appointment. If you feel sick and for some reason decide to write a test or attend class, **please wear a mask**.

10) **Academic Integrity**: Please see University Policy Statements on Academic Integrity below -- You are advised to read about what constitutes **plagiarism** at the link given. Note that communicating with anyone other than the professor, TA, or exam invigilators during midterms or final exams is considered to be a violation of academic integrity. Specific details on issues of academic integrity, will be included with individual assignments, tests, and midterms, and will be discussed in class. If you have questions, please ask the professor.

11) **Gifts** may be a conflict of interest, so please do NOT give either the professor or the teaching assistant gifts. If you want to thank us by email, a small written card, or dropping by the office, AFTER you receive your grade, that is fine.

How to Learn in this Course:

- read through the course syllabus to get an idea of what lies ahead.
- attend class and pay attention. If you do not attend to class, it will be difficult to determine what the professor focused on during the lecture. If you have to miss a lecture, due to illness, for example, find out what you missed and read the textbook to try to learn the material on your own.
- attend class to establish a rhythm and reduce chances of falling behind.
- taking notes in class requires thinking about and engaging with the lecture and may help you to pay attention.
- Trying the problems while the teacher does them on the board is an excellent way to "learn by doing". Bring paper, papers, and pens, or an electronic pad to take notes.
- make a schedule, write down due dates in your planner and set aside times to study.
- Manage your time and avoid distractions such as social media while studying.
- After logging into Brightspace, check **Announcements** for new information.
- do all assignments-- start early -- if you get stuck, come and ask for help during office hours. Other students may also be helpful!
- read and work through the readings (as able) using the lectures material to guide your focus. Taking notes may help you to organize the material in a manner that makes sense to you and relates material to prior knowledge. Charts, flow charts and mind maps may be helpful. Work through the mathematical problems and write down and/or talk through the method used. It may help to make summaries to identify key points.
- do the practice problems on your own. If you get stuck, peak at the solution and then try on your own again. Repeat as necessary. Note down where you went wrong in your initial attempt. Ask questions.
- relate course concepts to other things you know.
- ask questions while studying, in office hours and on discussion boards.
- start studying early for tests. Do review sheet problems.
- explaining concepts to yourself and friends (orally using words) can be a great way to learn. Test yourself.
- If you are having trouble focusing your study, please visit office hours for advice.

- working in groups with other students can make studying more fun and you can learn from each other by trying to teach each other.

Part B: University Policies and Statements

Recognition of Mi'kmaq Territory

Dalhousie University would like to acknowledge that the University is on Traditional Mi'kmaq Territory. The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel, and support. Visit or e-mail the Indigenous Student Centre at 1321 Edward St or elders@dal.ca. Additional information regarding the Indigenous Student Centre can be found at:

https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html

Internationalization

At Dalhousie, 'thinking and acting globally' enhances the quality and impact of education, supporting learning that is "interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, global in reach, and orientated toward solving problems that extend across national borders."

Additional internationalization information can be found at: <https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/internationalization.html>

Academic Integrity

At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility, and respect. As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity. Additional academic integrity information can be found at: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html

Accessibility

The Student Accessibility Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for matters related to student accessibility and accommodation. If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or experiences within this course (online or in-person) that result in barriers to your inclusion, please contact the Student Accessibility Centre

(https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html) for all courses offered by Dalhousie with the exception of Truro. For courses offered by the Faculty of Agriculture, please contact the Student Success Centre in Truro (<https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/agricultural-campus/student-success-centre.html>)

Conduct in the Classroom – Culture of Respect

Substantial and constructive dialogue on challenging issues is an important part of academic inquiry and exchange. It requires willingness to listen and tolerance of opposing points of view. Consideration of individual differences and alternative viewpoints is required of all class members, towards each other, towards instructors,

and towards guest speakers. While expressions of differing perspectives are welcome and encouraged, the words and language used should remain within acceptable bounds of civility and respect.

Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness (Strategic Priority 5.2). Additional diversity and inclusion information can be found at:

<http://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html>

Student Code of Conduct

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner - perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution. The full Code of Student Conduct can be found at:

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html

Fair Dealing Policy

The Dalhousie University Fair Dealing Policy provides guidance for the limited use of copyright protected material without the risk of infringement and without having to seek the permission of copyright owners. It is intended to provide a balance between the rights of creators and the rights of users at Dalhousie. Additional information regarding the Fair Dealing Policy can be found at:

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/fair-dealing-policy.html

Originality Checking Software

The course instructor may use Dalhousie's approved originality checking software and Google to check the originality of any work submitted for credit, in accordance with the Student Submission of Assignments and Use of Originality Checking Software Policy. Students are free, without penalty of grade, to choose an alternative method of attesting to the authenticity of their work and must inform the instructor no later than the last day to add/drop classes of their intent to choose an alternate method. Additional information regarding Originality Checking Software can be found at: <https://www.dal.ca/about/leadership-governance/academic-integrity/faculty-resources/ouriginal-plagiarism-detection.html>

Student Use of Course Materials

Course materials are designed for use as part of this course at Dalhousie University and are the property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Third party copyrighted materials (such as books, journal articles, music, videos, etc.) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law. Copying this course material for distribution (e.g. uploading to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a violation of Copyright law.

Part C: Student Resources and Support

University Policies and Programs

Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates):

http://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html

Classroom Recording Protocol:

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/classroom-recording-protocol.html

Dalhousie Grading Practices Policies:

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html

Grade Appeal Process: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/grades-and-student-records/appealing-a-grade.html

Sexualized Violence Policy:

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/health-and-safety/sexualized-violence-policy.html

Scent-Free Program: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/occupational-safety/scent-free.html>

Learning and Support Resources

General Academic Support – Advising (Halifax):

https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html

General Academic Support – Advising (Truro): <https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/agricultural-campus/ssc/academic-support/advising.html>

Student Health & Wellness Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness.html

On Track (helps you transition into university, and supports you through your first year at Dalhousie and beyond): https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/On-track.html

Indigenous Student Centre:

https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html

Indigenous Connection: <https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/indigenous-connection.html>

Elders-in-Residence (The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel, and support. Visit the office in the Indigenous Student Centre or contact the program at elders@dal.ca or 902-494-6803:

<https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/academics/UG/indigenous-studies/Elder-Protocol-July2018.pdf>

Black Student Advising Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html

International Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/international-centre.html

LGBTQ2SIA+ Collaborative: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/vpei/edia/education/community-specific-spaces/LGBTQ2SIA-collaborative.html>

Dalhousie Libraries: <http://libraries.dal.ca/>

Copyright Office: <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office.html>

Dalhousie Student Advocacy Services:

<https://www.dsu.ca/dsas?rq=student%20advocacy>

Dalhousie Ombudsperson: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html

Human Rights and Equity Services: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/hres.html>

Writing Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html

Study Skills/Tutoring: http://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html

Faculty of Science Advising Support: <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/science/current-students/undergrad-students/degree-planning.html>

Safety

Biosafety: <http://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/biosafety.html>

Chemical Safety: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/chemical-safety.html>

Radiation Safety: <http://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/radiation-safety.html>

Laser Safety: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/radiation-safety/laser-safety.html>