

MEDGAR EVERS COLLEGE (CUNY)
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
ECON 330 Global Issues: Political economy of Trade and Finance
Proposed Syllabus

Proposal for the General Education Curriculum (GEC)

GEP Cluster: This cluster is proposed for the **Socio-Cultural Diversity Cluster III**

Pre-Requisite: SSC 101 – Society Culture and Change, or ECON 212 principles of Macroeconomics

This course should be accessible to any student who has had minimal exposure to basic concepts in economics. Essential concepts in economics will be introduced during the course.

Essential Learning Outcomes:

This falls primarily under the category of ELO-1 (The study of Human Cultures) and ELO 3 (Civic Knowledge and Engagement and Intercultural Knowledge and Competence).

Opportunities for Acquiring Skills: In the classroom, *students will participate in discussions, and be required to complete required reading from textbooks, contemporary policy discussions and received knowledge and research. Students will also be required to demonstrate their performance through exams, quizzes, homework assignments and short written assignments. Exams will include written essay questions that include conceptual and quantitative questions, short essays, and critical analysis questions. Exam questions will include basic concepts, applications and synthesis of concepts of ideas and perspectives.*

Outcomes Assessment

Quizzes, exams and written assignments will be used as instruments of **Outcomes Assessment**. In this regard, each of these quizzes and assignments will include short essay questions designed to assess Quantitative Skills, Writing Skills and Critical Thinking Skills.

Quantitative Skills Assessment

A quantitative question will be used in each examination to assess students' quantitative skills. The response to the question will assess the ability of the student to differentiate between relevant and irrelevant data in a problem and solve the problem accurately or identify the right answer for a multiple choice problem.

Writing Skills Assessment will be done through short Exercises and in the **exams** and other assignments

Instructor (s): Chinyere Egbe, Veronica Udeogalanya, C. Nathaniel Ezuma, Ki-ho Kim

Required Texts:

Theodore Cohen, Global Political Economy, 6/E, New York Pearson, 2010

Philip G King and Sharmila Kumari King, International Economics, Globalization, and Policy: A Reader, Boston, McGraw Hill, 5th Edition, 2009

Course Description:

This course interdisciplinary and focuses on the interplay between politics and economics. It will begin by discussing and explaining classical areas of international areas trade, monetary and fiscal policies, foreign direct investment (FDI) and economic development. The course will then address how domestic and international political dynamics affect trade policies both in the USA and foreign countries. Notwithstanding political resistance to free trade economies, this course will explain why countries still find trade essential. While economic theory would lead us to believe that free trade is ideal, this course will explain why there is resistance to free trade domestically and around the world. The paradox of resistance to trade and its essence will be illustrated and discussed by reference to far reaching influences of bodies and organizations that facilitate trade, such as Multinational Corporations, IMF, World Bank, the World Trade organization (WTO) and regional cooperation agreements such as NAFTA, ECOWAS, OECD, the European Union and others. The role of organized labor and industry associations and other pressure groups will be discussed in historical context.

Introduction and Overview

Introduction

Elements of Trade

Managing the Global Economy since World War II: The Institutional Framework

Theoretical Perspectives

The Realist Perspective

The Liberal Perspective

Critical Perspectives

The Issue Areas

International Monetary Relations

Global Trade Relations

Regionalism and the Global Trade Regime

Multinational Corporations and Global Production

International Development

Foreign Debt and Financial Crises

Current Trends in the Global Political Economy

Grading

Mid Term Examination	25%
Homework Assignments	10%
Final Term Paper / Project	25%
Short Essays and Quizzes	10%
<u>Final Examination (Comprehensive)</u>	<u>30%</u>