THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy  
and  
Department of Economics

PubPol/Econ 541  
INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY

SYLLABUS  
Fall 2016, Alan Deardorff

PURPOSE: The aim of this course is to teach you a lot about the economics -- and a little about the institutions -- of international trade and trade policy. The course is companion to SPP/Econ 542, International Finance Policy, which deals with international macroeconomic topics such as the balance of trade and balance of payments, determination of exchange rates, and international macroeconomic policies. Each course will also include the bare essentials of the other course so that if you take only one of them, you won't be lost in the world economy. The course is mainly about trade policy. You will learn what trade policies are, how they are used by the United States and other countries, and how their use is restricted by international agreements. More importantly you will learn how to use economic modeling to understand the effects of trade policies and to quantify these effects. Along the way you will also learn about the institutions of the world economy, especially those that have to do with trade. And you will learn a little bit about the economic theories of why nations trade, and why they gain from trade.

Prerequisite: PubPol/Econ 555 or equivalent course in intermediate microeconomics

Organization: The course meets twice a week, Mondays ad Wednesdays, 8:30-10:00 AM, in room 1220 Weill.

TEXTs

The textbooks for the course are

Krugman, Paul R., Maurice Obstfeld, and Marc Melitz ("KOM" below), one of the following as explained below:


There will also be a number of additional readings that are required. All are available under Files/Resources/Readings on Canvas. Most of the readings are also available free to the public on the web, through links included on this syllabus. A few readings are available through subscription sites, including ones subscribed to by U of M (e.g., JSTOR, Proquest). And a few are available only on Canvas.

Because of the speed with which issues evolve, readings selected in advance can never cover all of the latest developments. We will therefore spend some time each week discussing recent news related to trade and trade policy. You should follow current issues of international trade policy by reading daily periodicals such as the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, or *Financial Times* or weekly publications such as *Business Week*, or *The Economist*. Student subscriptions to these publications are available at reduced prices. I also post links to relevant news items on my personal website. We will devote some time each week to discussing the news.

**NOTES on the Krugman, Obstfeld, Melitz text:**

The most recent edition, the 10th, came out last year, 2015. Unlike previous editions, this is in three forms: one that combines international trade and finance like previous editions (which I ordered for you, but the publisher did not send me); a second that covers only trade (that they did), and a third that covers only international finance. If you intend to buy this new edition, you might want to choose based on whether you plan to take PubPol 542, International Financial Policy, at some point, since it will likely use the same book and you'll save money by buying the combined text rather than the two separate ones. However, 542 is not being offered this year. Alternatively, you might want to buy a used copy of the 9th edition from 2012, or even an earlier one. Coverage should be roughly comparable.

I provide chapter and page numbers for the trade-only version of the 10th edition and for the 9th edition. If you have the combined 10th edition, I suspect that the chapters and page numbers will be very similar to the 9th edition.

**QUESTIONS ON READINGS**

For each topic I will provide a link to a page or more of questions on the readings. Links to the first few are here from the start, and others will be added as the term progresses. These questions have several purposes:

- To assist your studying the material. I suggest that, when you finish reading and making notes on an assigned reading, you immediately see if you can answer these questions. If not, go back and look for the answers while the reading is fresh in your mind.
- To provide the basis for in-class discussion. I will ask a few of these questions during class discussion, and by preparing beforehand you'll be able to participate.
- To give you a glimpse of a small part of what will appear on exams. In addition to asking you to understand and use the economic tools in the course, exams will also include a few more
qualitative questions and some of these will be drawn from these posted questions.

**REQUIREMENTS**

Requirements for the course consist of a series of problem sets that will *not* be graded, three short papers that will be handed in during the term and graded, and two exams. The weights on each of these requirements, as well as class participation, in determining your grade will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Problem Sets</td>
<td>0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Papers</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam #1</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td>30%</td>
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**SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper #1</td>
<td>Wednesday, October 12</td>
<td>8:40 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam #1</td>
<td>Monday, November 7</td>
<td>in class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper #2</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 16</td>
<td>8:40 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper #3</td>
<td>Monday, December 12</td>
<td>8:40 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam #2:</td>
<td>Tuesday, December 20</td>
<td>8:00-10:00 AM</td>
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**WRITING ASSISTANCE**

Your papers will be graded on both content and presentation, which means you should take full advantage of the Ford School resources for helping you with your writing. See [http://fordschool.umich.edu/writing-center/](http://fordschool.umich.edu/writing-center/) for more information, including links to the websites for signing up for advising appointments.

**EXPECTATIONS AND ACCOMMODATIONS**

Please see [http://fordschool.umich.edu/academics/expectations](http://fordschool.umich.edu/academics/expectations) for the Ford School's policies regarding the following, all of which will be followed in this course:

- Academic integrity
- Accommodations for students with disability
- Student mental health and wellbeing
- Inclusivity
- Attendance and assignments

Regarding technology in the classroom, you are welcome to use laptop computers and handheld devices during class for legitimate class-related purposes, such as looking up current news and other information relevant to class discussion.

**WHERE AND WHEN TO FIND ME**

Alan Deardorff:
Office: Weill Hall, Room 3314
Phone: 764-6817
Office Hours: Mon 10:15-11 AM
Thu 2-3 PM
E-mail: alandear@umich.edu

Feel free to e-mail me with questions or to request a meeting outside of my office hours. Also, if my door is open, ask if I have time to meet with you and I probably will.

Course Home Page:
http://www-personal.umich.edu/~alandear/courses/541/541.html

COURSE OUTLINE AND READING LIST

NOTES:
1. Click title for citation; click Online for item if on the web; for the few items not on the web, see Canvas.
2. Copies of all readings other than from the two textbooks are also available in Canvas.
3. All readings are required unless marked "optional," but those marked with a tilde, ~, represent views that are not necessarily justified by economic analysis. They contain useful factual information, but I disagree with some of their interpretations, and they are here so that you will be aware of a range of views.

0. Introduction to the Course (Sep 7)

No readings for today. For all subsequent classes, you should read everything assigned before the class meets.
I've listed the numbers of pages for each reading and for each topic, so plan accordingly.

I. Overview of the International Economy

A.1. The State of Play in International Trade and Trade Policy (Sep 12) [51 pp] Questions
KOM, Chs. 1, 2 (any edition) [21 pp]
WTO:
Cottier, "Common Law of International Trade", Section I only, pp. 3-6 | Canvas. [3 pp]
FTAs:
Fergusson & Williams, "The Trans-Pacific Partnership", Summary only | Online. [2 pp]
Barfield, "Tipping Our TPP Hand" | Online. [3 pp]
~Stiglitz, "Stiglitz calls TPP 'outrageous'" | Online. [4:52 video]
Luce, "US-led globalism is dying with the TPP" | Canvas. [3 pp]
DG-Trade, "Inside TTIP", pp. 5-9 only | Online. [5 pp]
Siles-Brügge et al., "TTIP: The State of Play" | Online. [11 pp]
Economist, "The EU-Canada trade deal" | Online-Proquest. [3 pp]

A.2. The State of Play in International Trade and Trade Policy, continued (Sep 14) [47 pp] Questions
Brexit:
Wheeler and Hunt, "Brexit: All you need to know" | Online [21 pp]
Sandbu, "Brexit showroom" | Online [5:13 minute video]

**Disputes:**

Buttonwood, "Russian Sanctions" | Canvas [2 pp]
Economist, "Torture by Tariff" | Online-Proquest [2 pp]
ST&R, "Senators Work to Avoid Sanctions" | Online [1 pp]
ST&R, "U.S. Argues for Lower Retaliation" | Online [1 pp]
Miller, "U.S. Steelmakers Again Ask for Tariffs" | Online-Proquest [3 pp]
Miller, "U.S. Steel Tariffs Create a Double-Edged Sword" | Online-Proquest [4 pp]
Donnan, "US Steel given green light to seek China import ban" | Online-NewsBank [3 pp]
Mauldin, "U.S. Challenges China Over Chicken as Trade Friction Rises" | Online-Proquest [4 pp]
Mauldin, "U.S. WTO Challenge Against China Over Minerals" | Canvas [3 pp]
Bradsher, "Union Seeks Higher Tariffs on U.S. Imports of Raw Aluminum" | Online-Proquest [3 pp]

**B. Exchange Rates (Sep 19) [21 pp]**

Questions (to be added) - Kathryn Dominguez substitutes for Deardorff:

KOM, 9th Ed. Ch 14, pp. 320-328 [10 pp] Canvas (for those who bought the trade-only text)
Economist, "The Big Mac index : Patty-purchasing parity" | Canvas [4 pp]
Wei, "China Lets Yuan Depreciate" | Online-Proquest [4 pp]
Fick, "Nigeria adopts unorthodox measures" | Canvas [3 pp]
Blackstone, "The World's Most Powerful Currency" | Online-Proquest [4 pp]

**C. Tariffs and Quotas (Sep 21, 26) [24 pp]**

Questions (to be added)

KOM: [12 pp]
9th Ed.: Ch. 9, pp. 205-207
10th Ed. (trade only): Ch. 9, pp. 205-207

Deardorff, "Nontariff Barriers and Domestic Regulation", pp. 1-12 | Online [12 pp]

**D. International Transactions and the Trade Balance (Sep 28) [67 pp]**

Questions (to be added)

BEA, "International Transactions" | Online [8 pp]
~Scott, "Trade deficits and lost U.S. jobs" | Online [3 pp]
~Buffett, "Selling the Nation" | Online [5 pp]
WTO, "World Trade Developments 2015" | Online [28 pp]

**E. Policies and Institutions: International (Oct 3, 5) [88 pp]**

Questions (to be added)

KOM: [11 pp]
9th Ed.: Ch. 10, pp. 234-244
10th Ed. (trade only): Ch. 10, pp. 252-262

Jackson, Ch. 1 pp. 1-11, Ch. 2 [59 pp]

Bouët and Laborde, "Cost of a Failed Doha Round" | Online [8 pp]
WTO, Trade Facilitation Agreement | Online [8 pp]
Economist, "Bargaining Chips" | Online-Proquest [2 pp]

F. Policies and Institutions: National, United States (Oct 10) [39 pp] Questions (to be added)
   Jackson, Ch. 3 [26 pp]
   Verrill, "U.S. Trade Remedies" | Canvas [3 pp]
   USTR, The President's Trade Policy Agenda 2016, pp. 1-4 only | Online [4 pp]
   ~Public Citizen, "Fast Track: An Undemocratic Path to Unfair "Trade"" | Online [1 pp]
   Kabel, "What's the Hold-Up?" | Online [1 pp]
   Calmes, "Senator Stymies the Export-Import Bank" | Online-Proquest [4 pp]

G. Policies and Institutions: National, Other (Oct 12) [28 pp] Questions (to be added)
   European Union:
   EC, "The EU In Brief" | Online [2 pp]
   EC DG-Trade, "Policy Making" | Online [2 pp]
   EC DG-Trade, "Anti-dumping" | Online [2 pp]
   Charlemagne, "The Trade War Within" | Online-Proquest [3 pp]
   Japan:
   Solis, "Japan's Trade Policy" | Online [6 pp]
   WTO, "Trade Policy Review: Japan" | Online [3 pp]
   China:
   WTO, "Trade Policy Review: China" | Online [7 pp]

III. Trade Barriers
   A. Non-tariff Barriers (Oct 19) [36 pp] Questions (to be added)
      KOM: [8 pp]
      9th Ed.: Ch. 9, pp. 202-205, 208-211, 215-218
      10th Ed. (trade only): Ch. 9, pp. 217-220, 224-227, 232-235
      Jackson, Ch. 5, pp. 153-156 [3 pp]
      Deardorff, "Nontariff Barriers and Domestic Regulation", pp. 12-16 | Online [5 pp]
      Feenstra, "How Costly Is Protectionism?" | Online-JSTOR [20 pp]
   B. Multi-Market Analysis (Oct 24) [7 pp] Questions (to be added)
      Deardorff, "Trade Policy with Interacting Markets" | Online [7 pp]
   C. Cost-Benefit Analysis of Trade Policies (Oct 26) [41 pp] Questions (to be added)
      Fetzer, "U.S. Flat Rolled Steel" | Canvas [26 pp]
      Fetzer, "Tires from China" | Canvas [15 pp]
   D. Why Countries Restrict Trade (Oct 31) [76 pp] Questions (to be added)
      KOM: [15 pp]
      9th Ed.: Ch. 10, pp. 219-234
III. The Theory of International Specialization and Exchange

A. The Standard Trade Model (Nov 2, 9) [19 pp] Questions (to be added)
   KOM, Ch. 6 (any edition) [19 pp]
   
   *** EXAM #1, in class, Monday Nov 7 ***
   (Covers through assignments for Oct 26, Why Countries Restrict Trade.)

B. Behind the Standard Trade Model: Comp. Adv., Inc. Dist. (Nov 14) [51 pp] Questions (to be added)
   KOM, on comparative advantage: [15 pp]
   9th Ed.: Ch. 3, pp. 24-40
   10th Ed. (trade only): Ch. 3, pp. 24-40
   KOM, on effects of trade: [10 pp]
   9th Ed.: Ch. 5, pp. 89-98
   10th Ed. (trade only): Ch. 5, pp. 94-103
   Deardorff, "Intro to Comparative Advantage" | Online [7 pp]
   Freeman, "Are Your Wages Set in Beijing?" | Online-ISTOR [19 pp]

C. Scale Economies and Imperfect Competition (Nov 16) [22 pp] Questions (to be added)
   KOM: [22 pp]
   9th Ed.: Ch. 7, pp. 137-148; Ch. 8, pp. 155-166
   10th Ed. (trade only): Ch. 7, pp. 145-156; Ch. 8, pp. 164-174

IV. Uses and Abuses of Trade Policy

A. Preferential Trading Arrangements (Nov 21, 23) [59 pp] Questions (to be added)
   KOM: [4 pp]
   9th Ed.: Ch. 10, pp. 245-249
   10th Ed. (trade only): Ch. 7, pp. 263-268
   WTO, "Causes and Effects of PTAs" | Online [30 pp]
   Posen, "The case for trade" | Canvas [2 pp]
   Deardorff, "Trade Implications of the TPP" | Online-Proquest [20 pp]
   CerameUnie, "EU Free Trade Agreements" | Online [3 pp]
B. Safeguards and Trade Adjustment Assistance (Nov 28, Nov 30) [70 pp] Questions (to be added)
   Jackson, Ch. 7 [37 pp]
   Brainard et al., "Insuring America's Workers" | Online [8 pp]
   ~James, "Maladjusted" | Online [13 pp]
   Rosen, "Strengthening Trade Adjustment Assistance" | Online [10 pp]
   Lawrence, "A Numbers Argument for Renewing TAA" | Online [2 pp]
   Optional: USDOL, "TAA Reauthorization Act of 2015" | Online [2 pp]

C. Dumping and Anti-Dumping Policy (Dec 5, 7) [40 pp] Questions (to be added)
   Jackson, Ch. 10 [33 pp]
   Deardorff, "Economic Perspectives on Anti-Dumping Law" | Online [15 pp]
   ~Jakob, "Lesser Duty Rule and Community Interest in Anti-dumping" | Online-Springer [5 pp]
   Hufbauer and Cimino-Isaacs, "The Outlook for Market Economy Status for China" | Online [7 pp]
   Beesley, "Brussels prepares market economy compromise" | Canvas [3 pp]

D. Subsidies and Countervailing Duties (Dec 12) [31 pp] Questions (to be added)
   KOM: [6 pp]
   9th Ed.: Ch. 9, pp. 203-204, Ch. 12 pp. 274-277
   10th Ed. (trade only): Ch. 9, pp. 217-218, Ch. 12 pp. 293-296
   Jackson, Ch. 11 [25 pp]

   *** EXAM #2 (Semi-cumulative) ***
   Tuesday, Dec 20, 8:00-10:00 AM