



## Dillard College of Business Administration

SYLLABUS: International Agricultural Trade

**AGBU 4643 Sec 101, Fall Semester 2023**

Monday/Wednesday 9:30 AM - 10:50 AM

Dillard Building, Room 175

### Contact Information

Instructor: Tony Dunkerley

Office hours: By Appointment

Office Number: Dillard Building 296

Office Phone: (940) 397-2868

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*If you need to email me, please do so at the email address listed above, please do not email within D2L.*

### Course Materials

- Required: Connect Access and Textbook International Economics, 18th Edition. ISBN10: 1264436793 | ISBN13: 9781264436798 By Thomas Pugel © 2024., McGraw-Hill.

Required digital materials for this course are part of the Courseware Access and Affordability Program at MSU Texas. Students are charged for required course materials on their student account with the Business Office. Any students who wish to opt-out of the Program and purchase the required course materials on their own must do so based on instructions sent to you. Opt-out instructions are sent to students' official my.msutexas.edu email address after the first day of class. Please contact the MSU Bookstore if you have any questions about the opt-out process.

- You must have access to the Internet. (It will also be helpful to have access to a printer, but that is not mandatory.) All homework and SmartBook assignments will be completed online via Connect. The Desire2Learn (D2L) website will be utilized extensively for posting grades and information about the class. You should have access to a PC/laptop/tablet with webcam capability (Chromebooks won't work due to insufficient computing power in the event that COVID-19 disrupts our plan to meet face-to-face.)
- Calculator - Each student also needs to have a calculator (i.e. TI-30x IIS) & will need to bring it to each class when working through lab assignments. Financial calculators will be allowed. Graphing calculators such as TI-83 or TI NSpire are not allowed on exams.
- Web base Agricultural news outlets
  - <https://www.morningagclips.com/>
  - <https://www.agweb.com/>

### Course Description

This course gives students an introduction to trade theory and policies and their application to international agricultural trade. It will include absolute and comparative advantage and international agricultural trade; imperfect competition and international agricultural trade; partial and general equilibrium analysis of international agricultural trade; analysis of trade policies such as tariffs, quotas, and subsidies; the exchange rate and international agricultural trade; foreign direct investment in the food industry; and international agricultural trade and development.

## Learning Goals

### *General Learning Goals:*

The following general learning goals are among those established by the Dillard College of Business Administration. Meeting these educational goals will provide students with the essential skills needed for career success. Students should be able to:

- Demonstrate problem-solving and decision-making abilities through the critical analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of business information.
- Exhibit proficiency in all oral and written communications.
- Utilize available technology used by typical business applications.
- Apply ethical reasoning skills within a business environment.
- Recognize the influence of global and multicultural issues have on local, national, and international business activities.

### *Course-Specific Learning Goals:*

After completing this course, students should be able to:

- Comprehend the theory of absolute advantage.
- See and learn about the theory of comparative advantage and the gains from trade.
- Understand the economics of scale and international trade.
- Realize trade policies and their effect on agricultural trade.
- Learn about the exchange rate and international agricultural trade.
- Identify multinationals corporations in the food industry.
- Discover about agricultural trade and development.

## Course Policies

### *Attendance Policy:*

Students are expected to attend all class meetings for this course, following the university attendance policy. (See Midwestern State University Undergraduate Catalog, Vol. LXXV, No. 2, p. 88). Due to the nature of this course, you are allowed a maximum of four absences in this course, even though there are participation points deducted after you miss your second class. Once you exceed four absences, the professor has the right to drop you from the course. Each meeting of the class will run as scheduled. Therefore, as not to disturb the class, you are not to walk in and out of the classroom during the class time except for an emergency. Cell phone activity (including texting) is prohibited.

### *Class Participation:*

Most of the class sessions will be discussion-oriented with ample opportunity for students to provide input to those discussions. An essential characteristic of business students is the ability to communicate ideas and thoughts verbally. Participation will be a part of your grade and is directly contingent on your involvement in class discussions. Furthermore, everyone should be motivated to develop this characteristic since it is so crucial in business. If you have a question, please ask it!!

### *Food and Beverage Policy:*

Food and beverages of any kind will not be permitted in classrooms at any time. However, food and drink may be consumed in public areas of this building. This is a Dillard College of Business rule and is an effort to keep the Dillard Building beautiful.

### *Desire2Learn (D2L)*

The website for the course. Students are expected to check this website for important course information, course documents, and correspondence from the instructor multiple times per week.

### *File Submission Policy*

All files for this course will be submitted through our online component, Desire 2 Learn (D2L). Please do not submit any assignments directly to me unless you are specifically instructed to do so. More details on assignment submission can be found in assignment instructions.

### *Late Work Policy*

Late work is generally not accepted for any reason. Students have the opportunity to submit papers early.

### Grading and Evaluation

Student performance assessed using the following elements:

Course Work	Points
Short Personal Biography (Desire2Learn)	20
Quizzes (12 @ 15 points each)	180
Commodity Moment Group Discussion/Presentation	30
Exam (3 exams @ 50 pts ea.)	150
Applied Professional Development/Networking	60
General Class Attendance/Participation	60
Final Exam Score (optional)	50
Total Point Available with the final	550

Grades will be determined based on the total points earned as compared to possible available. Letter grades are assigned according to the following scale:

Letter Grade	Points Earned omitted Final Exam	Points Earned with Final Exam
A	Greater than 450	Greater than 495
B	449-400	494-440
C	399-350	439-385
D	349-300	384-330
F	Less than 300	Less than 330

### *Grade Reporting*

To help students keep track of their progress toward course objectives, the instructor for this class will provide a Midterm Progress Report through each student's Web World account. Midterm grades will not be reported on the students' transcript, nor will they be calculated in the cumulative GPA. They simply give students an idea of where they stand at the midpoint of the semester. Students earning below a C at the midway point should schedule a meeting with the instructor.

Final semester grades are reported through normal University channels with no exceptions. After any grade is reported in D2L, students will have five days to discuss it.

### *Quizzes*

All quizzes in this course will be of the pop quiz variety and available through the D2L platform **OR** on paper. Quizzes will be given over the material we are studying, guest speakers who visit the class and any agricultural related current new events articles posted instructor identified news outlets. Please make sure to attend class and pay attention to what is being discussed. Online quizzes will have a fixed time window for students to access and take a quiz. Online quizzes will also have a time limit. **No makeup quizzes will be allowed.**

## *Exam*

Exams will be given in class on paper or at the instructor's discretion the use of online testing through the D2L platform. On-line testing will require to use online proctoring software such as Respondus or a similar software. Students will also be required to have a webcam on the computer where exams are conducted.

There will be three midterm exam and an optional comprehensive final exam that can be used to replace one of the two midterm exams. The exams' structure can include definitions, problems, and multiple-choice questions. Students may use a calculator to solve some problems in the exams, however only non-programmable calculators will be allowed (i.e. TI-30X IIS calculator).

If you miss an exam without prior approval from the instructor, please do not expect a makeup exam. With prior consent, you may take a makeup exam during the week of finals if you wish. If you anticipate a valid reason for missing an exam, please inform the instructor in advance by email. An unexcused absence from an exam will result in a score of zero on that exam and may be compensated for by counting your final exam in its place with my approval, and a 20% penalty on that exam's score will be assessed.

The exam dates are noted in the Tentative Course Schedule in this syllabus. The instructor can change the exam dates if it is necessary. Any changes in those dates will be announced as soon as possible and posted prominently on D2L.

## *Professional Development/Networking*

Professional networking is vital for career success because it offers diverse opportunities, knowledge sharing, skill development, emotional support, visibility, collaboration chances, and access to decision-makers. It aids in career progression, provides industry insights, and enhances personal branding by fostering meaningful relationships.

Full participation in at least one schedule AgBU Business and Industry tour is required for this course. Students who attend the AgBU tour also can be eligible for bonus points.

An alternate option is available for students who are unable to join the AgBU Business and Industry tour due to scheduling conflicts. This substitute professional development activity serves as a replacement. Every student is expected to engage in a minimum of three distinct business-focused professional development events over the course of the semester.

Students participating above the required expectation in regard to professional development/networking will be eligible for up to 20 point bonus credit.

Specific instructions will be presented in class and available on the D2L class site.

## *Business Communications*

### *Short Personal Biography*

- Each student will be required to write a short personal biography with a portrait photo of yourself. The assignment will be submitted using the D2L web-based platform. Specific instructions will be presented in class and available on the D2L class site.

### *Commodity Moment Group Discussion/Presentation*

- Each student will be required complete a presentation and lead a class discussion on a assigned agriculture commodity that is traded on the international market.

- Each presentation will be 4 to 5 minutes in length followed by 5 minutes of open class discussion to answer any related questions or concerns about the presentation topic.
- Specific instructions will be presented in class and available on the D2L class site.

Professional Thank You note.

- Each student will be required to write hand write a thoughtful thank you note/card to all individual(s) guest speaking to the class. All notes/cards need to be handwritten in blue or black ink on a business professional styled thank you note/card. Students must provide their personal note cards and envelopes. Specific instructions will be presented in class and available on the D2L class site.

## Other Course Policies

### *Professional Conduct*

Students in this course should always behave professionally. This includes classroom conduct, group interactions, presentations, and correspondence with the instructor. Emails to the instructor that are not professional will not be answered. Please see the later section of the syllabus for the full professionalism statement of the Dillard College of Business Administration.

### *Americans with Disabilities Act*

This class follows the guidelines suggested by the Disabilities Support Office for those students who qualify for disability services. For more information, see Midwestern State University Undergraduate Catalog.

### *Campus Carry Statement*

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at <https://mwsu.edu/campus-carry/rules-policies>.

### *Academic Integrity*

Concerning academic honesty, students are referred to as the "Student Creed" on p. 23 of Midwestern State University Undergraduate Catalog, Vol. LXXV, No. 2.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any student who plagiarizes on any written assignment will receive a 0 for the assignment and/or course and be referred to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action.

### *Syllabus Change Policy*

Please note that all items in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. This syllabus is a guide for this course and is subject to change with advanced notice.

## Professionalism Statement from the Dillard College of Business Administration

The faculty, staff, and students of the Dillard College of Business Administration are committed to being a "professional" in our words, conduct, and actions. The qualities of a professional include:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A commitment to the development of specialized knowledge</li> <li>● Competency in analytical, oral and written communication skills</li> <li>● Self-discipline</li> <li>● Reliability</li> <li>● Honesty and integrity</li> <li>● Trustworthiness</li> <li>● Timeliness</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Accountability for words and actions</li> <li>● Respect for others and other cultures</li> <li>● Politeness and good manners</li> <li>● A professional image</li> <li>● An awareness of their environment and adaptability to different settings</li> <li>● Confidence without arrogance</li> <li>● A commitment to giving back to your community</li> </ul> |
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## Course Content and Outline

Please understand this is only a guideline, and some minor details may change!

Week	Day	Date	Topic	Class Schedule Note
1	M	28-Aug	Syllabus/Intro/Intl Economics Is Different	
	W	30-Aug	Ch 2 - Intl Demand and Supply	
2	M	4-Sep	<b>NO CLASSES</b>	Labor Day
	W	6-Sep	Ch3 - Why Everybody Trades: Comparative Advantage	Personal Bio Due
3	M	11-Sep	Ch 4 - Trade Factors (Availability and Proportions)	
	W	13-Sep	Ch 4 - Trade Factors (Availability and Proportions)	
4	M	18-Sep	Ch 5 - Who Gains and Who Loses From Trade?	
	W	20-Sep	Ch 5 - Who Gains and Who Loses From Trade?	
5	M	25-Sep	Ch 7 - Growth and Trade	
	W	27-Sep	<b>Exam</b>	<b>AGBU B&amp;I Tour 1 (Tentative) Fri</b>
6	M	2-Oct	Ch 8 - Analysis of a Tariff	
	W	4-Oct	Ch 8 - Analysis of a Tariff	
7	M	9-Oct	Ch 9 - Nontariff Barriers to Imports	
	W	11-Oct	Ch 9 - Nontariff Barriers to Imports	
8	M	16-Oct	Ch 10 - Arguments For and Against Protection	
	W	18-Oct	Ch 10 - Arguments For and Against Protection	<b>AGBU B&amp;I Tour 2 (Tentative) T/Th</b>
9	M	23-Oct	Ch 11 & 12 - Pushing Exports & Trade Blocks	
	W	25-Oct	Ch 11 & 12 - Pushing Exports & Trade Blocks	
10	M	30-Oct	TBA	
	W	1-Nov	<b>Exam</b>	
11	M	6-Nov	Ch 14 & 15 - Developing Countries & Factors Movements	
	W	8-Nov	Ch 14 & 15 - Developing Countries & Factors Movements	
12	M	13-Nov	Ch 17 - Factor Movements	
	W	15-Nov	Ch 17 - Factor Movements	<b>AGBU B&amp;I Tour 3 (Tentative) Fri</b>
13	M	20-Nov	TBA	
	W	22-Nov	<b>NO CLASSES</b>	Thanksgiving
14	M	27-Nov	Ch 19 - What Determines Exchange Rate	
	W	29-Nov	Ch 19 - What Determines Exchange Rate	
15	M	4-Dec	<b>Exam</b>	
	W	6-Dec	TBA	
16	M	11-Dec	<b>Final Exam (Optional)</b>	