



## **Course Syllabus: International Economics and Finance**

College of Business Administration  
ECON 4643 Section X30  
Summer I 2026

### **Contact Information**

Instructor: Dr. Pablo A. Garcia Fuentes

Office: DCOBA 292

Office hours: If you need help, please send me an email to arrange a Zoom meeting at [ZoomMeeting](#), or we can do email discussion.

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### **Instructor self-introduction**

Dr. Garcia-Fuentes is a native of Nicaragua, Central America. He received his Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Louisiana State University in 2009, his M.S. in agricultural economics from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in 1997, and his B.S. in agronomy from the Universidad Nacional Agraria, Nicaragua in 1992. He taught economic courses from 2010-2012 at Southeastern State University in Hammond, LA. He taught a graduate course in international agricultural trade in the spring 2013 at LSU. He has been teaching economic courses at Midwestern State University since the fall 2014. He represents the college of business on the EURECA committee and is the sponsor of the Financial Management Association. He has mentored several EURECA research projects and has been organizing the DCOBA forecast competition. He has been conducting research on issues of economic growth and development, exchange rate, price analysis, remittances, and foreign direct investment. He is pleased to be your instructor of intermediate microeconomics and thanks you for taking this class.

### **Course Description**

This course gives students a comprehensive introduction to international economics and finance. The first half of the course focuses on international trade theory and policy. This includes comparative advantage and the basis for trade, trade models, the international location of production, and the role of firms in the global economy. The second half of the course focuses on international finance and open economy macroeconomic issues. This includes issues of balance of payments, exchange rates, money, interest rates, price levels and output.

### **Textbook & Instructional Materials**

Krugman, Paul, M. Obstfeld, and M. Metlitz. 2022. *International Economics: Theory and Policy*. 12th ed. New Jersey: Pearson Education, Inc. (*Required*). You may purchase the book at the MSU bookstore, at the Pearson website, or at any other online website that you prefer.

## **MyLabEconomics Registration**

Students must sign up for MyLabEconomics at [MyLabEconomics](#) to complete the chapter assignments. Please download the registration instructions that are posted on D2L. To create your MyLab account, you must use the access code: HSCOEE-WHIRR-SCONE-CHOKY-BRUSH-MOOSE. You do not have to purchase an access code because your MSU account has already been charged.

## **Copyright**

The class materials associated with this course are provided to facilitate student learning and are protected by the United States copyright laws. Dissemination or sale of the class material (including the World Wide Web) is not permitted. The class material is only available to students enrolled in the course that requires the use of the corresponding textbook. Students should abide by these restrictions. The publisher of the textbook owns the copyright for the class materials associated with this course.

## **Computer Operating System**

The instructor uses Microsoft computer operating system. Students are responsible for submitting assignment documents/files that can be managed with the Microsoft operating system. The instructor will not be able to help students who use Mac computers due to different computer operating systems. I recommend you use a Microsoft operating system computer.

## **Course Prerequisites**

Junior standing or above or consent of the chair, ECON 2333 and ECON 2433.

## **Course Learning Goals**

The main goal of this course is to help students learn about international economics theory and policy as well as their relations to international business.

### **A. General Learning Goals:**

1. Critical thinking and problem solving. Students will demonstrate their critical thinking and problem-solving abilities by analyzing issues of international trade theory and policy as well as of exchange rate and open-economy macroeconomics when solving problems in the homework, quizzes, and examinations, or when engaging in class discussions.
2. Communication skills. Students will demonstrate their abilities in effectively communicating their analyses of issues that are related to the applications of trade theory and policies and of exchange rate and open-economy macroeconomics.
3. Ethical decision makers. Students will demonstrate their ethical reasoning skills when analyzing applications of international trade theory and policy as well as of exchange rate and open-economy macroeconomics to cases that are related to national and global economic issues.
4. Globalization and business. Students will demonstrate their ability in understanding the influence of economic factors that are related to globalization and business operations in the world.

These general learning goals either represent or are related to those established by the Dillard College of Business Administration. The learning goals represent the skills that graduates will carry with them into their careers. While assessing student performance in obtaining these general learning goals, the College

seeks to assess its programs. The assessments will assist us in improving our curriculum and curriculum delivery.

#### B. Course Specific Learning Goals:

- Learn about comparative advantage and basis of trade
- Learn about issues of trade policies
- Understand economies of scale and international location of production.
- Learn about open-economy macroeconomics
- Learn about the balance of payments
- Learn about balance of payments adjustments
- Learn about foreign exchange rate determination

#### Teaching Method

Given that this is an online course, the course starts on 06/01/2026 and ends on 07/01/2026 as stated in the 2025-26 academic calendar. Students must review the assigned class materials as shown in the course outline below. In addition, students must submit assignments on MyLabEconomics by the due date. Class notes for each chapter and related class materials will be posted on D2L. Students can ask questions on any point that is not understood. The instructor has academic freedom to bring in class material and technology in his own way. In this class, you will use the internet to access the class material posted on D2L and to do assignments on MyLabEconomics. D2L will also be used for posting announcements and scores, and perhaps bonuses.

#### Course Policies

##### A. Attendance Policy

Attendance will be checked based on assignment submissions. Students are expected to submit all assignments (attend all scheduled classes) for this course given the university attendance policy. Missing two-chapter assignments is considered excessive by the instructor. Therefore, students who reach this level of missed assignments will be dropped from the class by the instructor with a grade of “F”, given the university attendance policy, as shown in the Student Handbook and Activities Calendar which may be found at [Handbook](#).

##### B. Other Policies

###### Academic Integrity:

Regarding academic honesty, students are referred to the “Student Honor Creed” (See the Student Handbook).

Assignment submissions that do not represent students’ own work will receive zero credits. Be careful when using ChatGPT/AI because it can cause zero credit on a submission.

###### Exam Policies:

Exam policies are related to academic integrity and can also be stated on the first page of the test.

###### Syllabus Change Policy:

This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change.

### Correspondence:

All correspondence regarding class issues must be conducted in person or by email using your Midwestern State University (MSU) email only. I will not return answers to questions to other email accounts. Grades will be posted on D2L and on MSU Banner. I will not discuss grades or class standing over the phone or by emails. Since email is often the most convenient means of communication, it is recommended that students use and regularly monitor their MSU email account. Grades will not be transmitted electronically (e.g., emails).

Please link your D2L email with your MSU email, so the messages sent through D2L will be delivered to your MSU email. To do this,

- Log in to D2L.
- Click on your name on the right upper corner of the screen.
- Click on “account settings”.
- Click on “email”.
- Check “Forwarding incoming messages to an alternate email account” and enter your email in the box.
- Click on “save and close”.

### Netiquette: Communication Courtesy Code:

Students are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, class discussions, lecture hall posts, chats, etc. If I consider any of them to be inappropriate or offensive, I will forward the message to the Chair of the department and the online administrators and appropriate actions will be taken.

### Deadlines:

We cannot totally rely on cyberspace—emails get lost, and servers disconnect temporarily. Do not wait for the last hour to do your homework. Reply and check for replies on every email sent and received. The student is responsible for checking deadlines on D2L and submitting the work to the instructor on time. *I will not reply to emails regarding homework issues during the last 7 hours prior to the deadline.*

### Proctoring of exams:

Because this class requires online proctoring such as ProctorU or similar software, students will be required to pay the proctoring fees when taking the exams. In addition, because this is an online course, students are required to have a webcam.

### **Student Handbook**

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

### **Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures**

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

## Exams, Assignments and Grading

Exams: During the semester, there will be two midterm exams (150 points each) and a comprehensive final exam (200 points). The instructor can change the format of the exams if it is necessary. The three-exam scores will be for 500 points. Every student will be required to take the final exam. The exams' structure can include definitions, problems, short essays, and multiple-choice questions. You will need a calculator to solve some of the problems in the exams, so you are required to get a basic calculator. It is the only model accepted to work on the exams.

If you miss an exam without prior approval from the instructor, please do not expect a make-up exam. With prior approval you may take a make-up 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 as well as being announced in class.

Homework and Quizzes: There will be 13 homework and quizzes corresponding to each of the chapters that we will cover during the semester. The assignments will be completed on the MyLabEconomics website. There will be no make-up assignments under any circumstances. The student is responsible for having an appropriate internet connection. The student is responsible for submitting each assignment by the deadline set online on MyLabEconomics and D2L. The student will have an adequate amount of time for each assignment, and you must not fall behind. Late submissions will receive a 50% penalty. The homework and quizzes score will be for 260 points. The assignment deadlines are posted on MyLabEconomics and D2L.

Case study: Students are required to submit a case study. The case study guidelines and policies are posted on D2L.

In order to help students to keep track of their progress toward the course objectives, the instructor for this class will provide a Midterm Progress Report on WebWorld of the students that are at risk of earning a D or an F in this class. 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 see the instructor as soon as possible to discuss about strategies (e.g., tutoring) that can contribute to earning a better grade.

Grades will not be transmitted electronically (e.g., emails). Grades will be posted on D2L and on MSU Banner. I will not discuss grades or class standing over the phone or by emails.

Table 1. Course Grading

| Course work                       | N/A     | Grade Scale    | Percentages*  | N/A |
|-----------------------------------|---------|----------------|---------------|-----|
| Case study                        | 40 pts  | 720 to 800 pts | 90% and above | A   |
| 13 Problems and applications (HW) | 130 pts | 640 to 719 pts | 80% to 89%    | B   |
| 13 Quizzes (Q)                    | 130 pts | 560 to 639 pts | 70% to 79%    | C   |
| 2 Mid-term Exam Scores**          | 300 pts | 480 to 559 pts | 60% to 69%    | D   |
| Final Exam Score                  | 200 pts | below 480 pts  | below 60%     | F   |
| Total                             | 800 pts | N/A            | N/A           | N/A |

Notes: \* Percentages are only given for relative levels. Your final score is a total of all your exam,

quiz, and homework scores with any bonus points added separately. Therefore 89% is not 1 point short of an A. 89% is only 712 points which is 8 points short of an A. \*\* Each midterm exam is 150 points.

### **Moffett Library**

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

### **Desire-to-Learn (D2L)**

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

### **Online Computer Requirements**

This class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. *\*Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.* Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. *\*Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!* There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

### **Change of Schedule**

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

### **Refund and Repayment Policy**

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

## **Services for Students with Disabilities**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

## **College Policies**

### *Campus Carry Rules/Policies*

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

### *Smoking/Tobacco Policy*

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

### *Alcohol and Drug Policy*

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

### *Campus Carry*

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

### *Active Shooter*

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “*Run. Hide. Fight.*” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: [“Run. Hide. Fight.”](#)

## Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

## Course Schedule

Table 2. Outline of the Course

| Week and dates          | Chapter     | Topic  |
|-------------------------|-------------|--|
| Week 1 (Jun 1, 7)       | 3, 4, 5     | Syllabus; Labor productivity and comparative advantage; Specific factors and income distribution; Resources and trade                |
| Week 2 (Jun 8, 14)      | 6, 7, 8     | The standard trade model; External economies; Firms and the global economy   |
| Exam 1                  | 3, 4, 5, 6  | Wednesday, June 10, 2026, 9-11am CST, Mylab  |
| Week 3 (Jun 15, 21)     | 9, 13, 14   | Trade policy; National income accounting; Exchange rate and foreign exchange market  |
| Exam 2                  | 7, 8, 9, 13 | Thursday, June 18, 2026, 9-11am CST, Mylab   |
| June 17                 | NA          | Last day for "W". Deadline at 4:00pm. Drops after this deadline receive an "F"   |
| Week 4 (Jun 22, Jul 28) | 15, 16, 17  | Money, interest rates and exchange rates; Price levels and exchange rate in the long run; Output and exchange rate in the short run. |
| Week 5 (Jun 29, Jul 2)  | 18          | Output and exchange rate in the short run; Fixed exchange rates and foreign exchange intervention                                    |
| Final Exam              | NA          | Thursday, Jul 2, 2026, 9-11am CST, Mylab   |

Notes: Subject to some changes and additional readings. The instructor can change the exam dates if it is necessary. Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

## **Follett Access Communication for Students**

To: Students enrolled in ECON 4643

From: Dr. Garcia Fuentes

Re: MSU Texas Access & Affordability Program

Mustangs,

ECON 4643 is included in the above program for the SI semester. What does this mean?

- Your course material is in D2L on the first day of class, for everyone in your class. Your professor has opted to have this course in the program to save you time and money. Follow these instructions to access your content: Go to D2L Homepage, scroll down a bit and on the right side of page see “My Materials” (light blue link) Click on the maroon “launch” button and you will then have access to your title.
- The money saving charge of \$50 + tax has been added to your student account.
- You have the choice to “opt out” of this special pricing and find your material on your own. If you prefer to “opt out”, please see below. The last day to “opt out” of this content is 06/04/2026.
- How Do I Opt Out?
- Access Opt-Out Customer Portal Process – Student Experience
- Inclusive Access Program delivers all required course materials to students for any of the courses participating in the program on or before the first day of class, with the cost of those materials being added as a course charge on your student account with the university or college. You can opt out of this program and acquire the required course materials on your own if you choose to.
- **Emailed Opt-Out Portal Link Process**

You will receive an email from [noreply@follett.com](mailto:noreply@follett.com) and the link is also included here: <https://accessportal.follett.com/1348>

Please check your junk or Spam filters for this email (MSU email address).

If you “opt out”, you lose your course material. If you “opt out” by mistake, please contact the bookstore at the email address below and you will be “re-instated” with your course materials. For questions concerning the program or if you need assistance, please contact the Bookstore at [jenny.denning@msutexas.edu](mailto:jenny.denning@msutexas.edu).