

EC637/GV730 - Economics for Global Governance

Draft Syllabus for Winter 2011

1 Course Details

1.1 Instructor:

- Ken Jackson
- Office: P3104, Peters Building, WLU; Phone: 519-884-0710 ext. 2316
- E-mail: kjackson@wlu.ca
- Website: <http://www.kjackson.net/teaching/ec637gv730/>
- Office hours: By appointment, or immediately after class (location TBA).

1.2 E-mail

I check e-mail regularly, but if you leave questions to the last minute I may not answer in time. Please include EC637 in the subject line of any e-mail related to the course.

1.3 Text and Readings

There is no required text for this course but I strongly recommend that you have access to reasonably current textbooks in introductory economics and international economics. The text "International Economics", by Krugman and Obstfeld is one option for an intermediate level textbook that has comprehensive coverage, though there are many others. If you want to know if a particular text is appropriate, please ask.

There will be required reading from journal articles. Each week, one or two academic articles will form the basis for discussion, with additional required reading from 2-3 papers.

2 Evaluation

Evaluation in the course will be based on weekly assignments, a midterm exam, a research paper and in-class discussion.

1. Exam - 20%

- An exam will be held during class on March 7th. This will count for 20% of your grade.
- The exam will consist of short answer and short essay questions.
- If you miss the exam with a valid, documented reason, there will be a makeup exam.

2. Weekly Assignments - 30%

- Choose a country from each of the high, middle, and low income groups.
- Assignments posted to the discussion board on the course site
- 7 assignments before the exam - best 6 count for 18% of your grade.
- 4 policy assignments - each worth 3%.

3. Paper - 40%

- A research paper (4,000-6,000 words) on a current issue related to the course - further details will be provided.
- By January 17th (class#2), notify me of the general area for the paper (ie. aid, trade, finance or environment).
- Full proposal is due on Tuesday, January 25th, by 12 noon.
- Draft must be submitted on March 11th, by 12 noon.
- Each student will receive 2 drafts for peer-editing - due by March 18th (5%).
- Papers presented during the last 4 weeks of term (10%).
- Each paper will have a discussant (5%) make comments.
- [April 18, 12 noon](#) - submit the final paper by e-mail. This will be worth 20% of your grade.

4. Class Participation - 10%

- All students are expected to participate fully in all class discussions.

3 Other Details

3.1 Late Submissions

Any late submission is subject to a 10%/day penalty. For paper proposals, the penalty is assessed to the paper itself. Paper drafts will not be accepted late, and students will miss out on the peer-editing/discussant assignments (worth 10% of the total grade).

3.2 Regrade Requests

Regrade requests on any item of assessment will only be considered if submitted within one week of receipt of the mark for that item, and accompanied by a written statement of the substantive grounds for the request. The entire assignment/exam will be regraded and your mark could increase or decrease.

3.3 Academic Integrity:

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

3.4 Grievance:

A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4:

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm>.

3.5 Discipline:

A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about rules for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 Student Discipline.

For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline:

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm>.

3.6 Appeals:

A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals:

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm>.

3.7 Note for students with disabilities:

The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.

3.8 Plagiarism Detection Software

Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin) may be used to screen assignments in this course. All assignments must be submitted electronically and in a suitable format.

4 Course Outline and Tentative Calendar

The schedule is subject to change, and the order of the last four weeks is to be determined in late January.

1. January 10th - Introduction
 - Intro economics, measurement of key indicators
2. January 17th - Economic Growth and Poverty
 - Solow growth model, poverty traps, growth, inequality and poverty
3. January 24th - International Trade
 - Models of international trade, partial equilibrium, comparative advantage
4. January 31st - Trade Policy
 - Tariffs, quotas and non-tariff barriers, political economy of trade policy
5. February 7th - International Finance
 - Exchange rates, capital flows, foreign direct investment
6. February 14th - Finance Policy
 - Floating vs. fixed exchange rates, IMF policy, Tobin taxes
7. February 28th - Environmental Economics
 - Marginal vs. social costs, public goods, policy instruments
8. March 7th - Exam
9. March 14th - April 4th - Student presentations and policy discussions
 - Topic A - Policy Discussion - Foreign Aid
 - Topic B - Policy Discussion - Trade
 - Topic C - Policy Discussion - International Finance
 - Topic D - Policy Discussion - Climate Change