

College of Agricultural and Marine Sciences**Department of Natural Resource Economics**

Course Code:	NREC 4410
Course Title:	International Agricultural Trade
Credits:	3 Contact Hours: 3
Pre-requisite Courses:	AGEC 2003 or NREC 2003 or CAMS 2003
Co-requisite Courses:	N/A
Course Status	Department Requirement
Language of Instruction:	English
Course Type:	Lecture, Seminar (1:20-0-1:20)

1. Catalog Description

The course introduces students to the basic international trade concepts and theories and how they are applied to analyze trade policies in both the developing and developed countries. The new-classical arguments about comparative advantage, gains from trade, and factor intensities will be emphasized. The course also covers in some depth the institutional arrangements governing world trade such as the World Trade Organization and Regional Trade Agreements. The concepts and trade arguments presented refer to trade in general but they are illustrated with examples from the agricultural sector.

2. Course Learning Objectives

The objectives of this course are:

1. Understand the economic gains from trade, comparative advantage of nations and the issues surrounding the distributional effects of trade
2. Understand the trade arguments of protection versus free trade debate
3. Identify the various trade instruments used in both exporting and importing countries in order to influence trade patterns
4. Understand the principles governing the world trade organization and Regional trade agreements and their effects on world trade
5. Introduce students to how the foreign exchange markets function and the effects of currency fluctuation on trade.
6. Enable students to learn how to retrieve trade data form electronic data bases and write reports on countries trade structure and policies

3. Course Learning Outcome

Upon the successful completion of the department program, students will develop/acquire the following knowledge/skills//competencies

- Demonstrate in depth knowledge on theory and analytical methods in natural resource economics
- The ability to think critically and address problems especially in a team context
- The ability to think critically and address problems especially in a team context
- The ability to communicate orally and in writing
- The ability to engage in life-long learning
- Demonstrate knowledge of contemporary issues

This course will contribute to each of these outcomes as indicated in the table below

Learning outcomes OAAA	CAMS code of learning outcomes	NRE Program outcomes	Course contribution
Knowledge	A	Demonstrate in depth knowledge on theory and analytical methods in natural resource economics	4
Skills	D	The ability to think critically and address problems especially in a team context	3
Knowledge & skills	E	The ability to identify, formulate, analyze and solve economics and business problems	3
Competencies	G	The ability to communicate orally and in writing;	3
Qualities of BSc holders	I	The ability to engage in life-long learning	3
Knowledge	J	Demonstrate knowledge of contemporary issues	4

Course contribution scale:

- 0: the course does not contribute to this particular outcome.
- 1: the focus of the course has little to do with this outcome
- 2: the focus of the course has a small contribution towards a particular outcome
- 3: part of the focus of the course goes towards this outcome.
- 4: this particular outcome is the main focus of the course.
- 5: this particular outcome is the focus of the course

4. Course Learning Strategies

The course will be based on class room lectures. Lecture slides are provided to students in the beginning of the course so they can prepare ahead of time for a particular lecture. Occasionally external speakers will be invited so to provide the local context to what they are learning in the lecture. Students are encouraged to engage into discussion by bringing press/news stories related to trade issues to the class and assess them using the analytical tools learned in the lecture. Writing trade reports in the international trade discipline is very important and students will need to be trained to do so as they are required to submit a paper on a local trade issue. Various reading assignments will be required to familiarize students with WTO related issues.

5. Course Assessment

4 Homework will be given to students so they can apply the concepts learned in class and appreciate the relevance of these concepts to real-life issues. A series of non-announced quizzes will be given, covering materials of the last lecture and concepts worked out in the last homework. Students will be required to write a paper to analyze trade pattern and policies of a particular country from the GCC and other Arab countries- Each student/group of students will be assigned a country and asked to retrieve trade data from known data bases of international organizations involved in trade. The paper should be based on the retrieved data. Finally, two examinations, one midterm (1:30) and one comprehensive final (3:00 hrs) will be administered.

6. Marking Scheme:

For this course the marking scheme is based on a series of short quizzes, homework, project, midterm and two examinations.

1	Quizzes	15%
2	Homework	10%
3	Project	10%
4	Midterm exam	25%
5	Final Exam	40%
Total		100%

7. Required Course Material

- E-book: Policy and Theory of Trade
https://saylordotorg.github.io/text_international-economics-theory-and-policy/
- Lecture notes (power point presentations)
- Handouts of specific topics as needed
- Useful internet links
- Supplementary material mostly from general websites such as of FAO, World Bank and other international organizations will be used.

8. Student Responsibilities

University regulations on attendance for lectures, conduct of examinations and the general code of ethics will be implemented as stipulated by the University. In particular, we expect students to attend all lectures, come on time to classes and be respectful to others. Students should pay attention to the university regulations vis a vis copying or trying to copy during exams. Also plagiarism is considered one important violation of the academic code of ethics. It is defined as using the words, thoughts, ideas, results, etc., of another person in a written assignment, without acknowledging the source, as if it were the student's own work

9. Course Outline

Course Title	International Agricultural Trade	
Course Code	NREC 4410	Section: 10
Time and Place	SUN 10:00-11:20 CMT/F09	TUE 10:00-11:20 CMT/F09
Instructor	Houcine Boughanmi	
Office Hours	Open Door Policy	
Office	Room 235 Anx, NRE, CAMS	
Telephone	2414 1218	
E-mail	boughanh@squ.edu.om	

10. Weekly Schedule

Week#	Topics	References/readings
1	Syllabus Introduction to trade: The global economy	Lecture notes (slides) textbook: chapter 1-Page 1-9
2	Comparative advantage and gains from trade: The Ricardian Model	Lecture notes Textbook: Chapter 2 :Page 77-119
3	The Ricardian Model (contin.) Class exercises	Lecture notes Chapter 2 :Page 77-119
4	Resource and Trade: Heckscher-Ohlin Model	Lecture notes Textbook : Chapter 5 :186-227
5	Income distribution and trade:The Heckscher-ohlin Model (contin)	Lecture notes Textbook Chapter 5:186-227
6	Gains from trade: partial equilibrium analysis, one good	Lecture notes Textbook Chapter 7:Page 328-339

7	Welfare effects of Trade policies: importing countries (Tariffs Barriers)	Lecture slides Textbook Chapter 7 :350-377
8	Welfare effects of Trade policies: importing countries (Non-tariffs Barriers)	Lecture slides Textbook Chapter 7:391-421
9	Welfare effects of trade policies: Exporting countries (Export subsidies and countervailing duties) Midterm Exam	Lecture slides Textbook: Chapter7: 426-442
10	Welfare effects of trade policies: Exporting countries (Export taxes, domestic policies and trade)	Lecture slides Textbook: Chapter7: 456-464 Chapter 8 : 473
11	Multilateral Trade Negotiations and WTO	Lecture notes Textbook : Chapter 1 p.11-49
12	Economic integration: Free Trade Area, Trade Creation, Trade Diversion.	Lecture slides Chapter 9 : Textbook :578-590
13	Macro-economics and international trade	Lecture notes Pugel Chapter 17 p.375-388
14	Competitiveness in the global food economy	Lecture notes Reed p.186-204
15	Final exams	

Note that some dates may be changed according to the advancement of lectures and will be announced during the lecture.