

International Economics

Prof. Dr. Peter Eppinger

Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg

Summer term 2026

Content

This course offers an introduction to the field of international economics, including international trade, open economy macroeconomics, and international migration. We study key empirical facts, basic theoretical models, and current topics in international economics. The questions we investigate include: Why do countries trade? Who gains and loses from international trade? Which firms engage in international trade and foreign direct investment? What are the effects of tariffs and other trade barriers? What is the balance of payments? How do fixed or floating exchange rate regimes work? Which factors drive migration decisions? What are the consequences of migration for the sending and receiving countries?

Eligibility

This course is eligible under the module wir250 for students in the Bachelor programs (typically in the 2nd or 3rd year), e.g. in Economics and Business Administration (single or dual subject), Sustainability Economics, Business Administration: Management and Law, and for exchange students.

Organization and schedule

This course consists of a lecture with an integrated exercise class. We meet in two two-hour sessions every week:

- Wednesdays at 8 am – 10 am in room A05 1-159,
- Thursdays at 10 am – 12 noon in room A05 0-055,

starting in the first week of the term (April 8, 2026).

Prerequisites

This is a field course in economics at the Bachelor's level. There are no formal prerequisites for participation. However, background in principles of economics, microeconomics, and macroeconomics is recommended.

Registration

Please register for this course on Stud.IP, where all course materials will be made available.

Assessment

There will be a written exam (90 minutes) at the end of the term. In addition, you may earn bonus points during the term by working on the exercises and submitting your solutions by the set deadlines. Details will be communicated at the beginning of the term.

Literature

The course is primarily based on the following textbook:

Krugman, P., M. Obstfeld, M., and M. Melitz (2022), *International Economics: Theory and Policy*, Global Edition (12th edition). Boston: Pearson Education.

Selected chapters (to be announced) are required reading.

Outline

1. Introduction
2. International trade
3. Open economy macroeconomics
4. International migration

Contact details

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