

International Trade

Prof. Dr. Peter Eppinger

Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg

Summer term 2026

Content

This course covers neoclassical and modern theories and empirical analyses of international trade. We study comparative advantage and other motives for international trade, the role of increasing returns to scale and firms in international trade, the gravity equation in international trade, and trade policy questions.

Eligibility

This course is eligible under the module wir821 for students in the Master programs, e.g. Applied Economics and Data Science, Business Administration: Management and Law, and Sustainability Economics and Management; and for exchange students. The course is not eligible for Bachelor students.

Organization and schedule

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

- Tuesdays at 8 am – 10 am in room A05 1-159,
- Thursdays at 8 am – 10 am in room A05 1-159,

starting in the first week of the term (April 7, 2026).

Prerequisites

There are no formal prerequisites. Participants need to have knowledge of math and microeconomic theory at an intermediate level from undergraduate studies. Basic knowledge of trade theory, statistics and econometrics is useful.

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 not centered on a single textbook. Readings will be announced during the course. Reference for several parts of the course:

Feenstra, Robert C. (2016). *Advanced international trade. Theory and evidence*. Second edition. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Outline (tentative)

- Introduction
- Ricardian trade theory
- Heckscher-Ohlin theory
- New trade theory
- Firms in international trade
- Gravity
- Trade policy

Contact details

Prof. Dr. Peter Eppinger

Chair of International Economics

University of Oldenburg

Phone: +49-441-798-4110

E-mail: peter.eppinger@uol.de

Office hours: by appointment (please send me an e-mail, stating your questions).