SNDY BUSN 3374 International Economics
CAPA SYDNEY PROGRAM

Course Description
The International Economics module provides an understanding of the key economic issues in the global business environment. The course provides an understanding of how global businesses are impacted by real world developments in economics, politics and finance. The business environment is dynamic in nature. The course coverage is therefore updated periodically to include current real world evidence as well as recent academic and empirical findings. The five broad topics covered in the course are: Globalisation, Country Differences, Cross-Border Trade & Investment, the Global Monetary System, and Competing in a Global Market Place. An overview of these five topics is provided below.

Globalisation: Understanding the historical context of globalisation is the starting point for developing insights into the state of globalisation today. This topic discusses the drivers and importance of globalisation, the emergence of the Bretton Woods global institutions in the post-War period, the state of the globalisation debate and the impact of globalisation on developed and developing countries.

Country Differences: This topic provides an introduction to political and economic systems and the determinants of economic development. It looks at the transition from socialist to capitalist economies after the collapse of the Soviet Union and the challenges faced by countries in managing this economic transition. It examines the key issues in economic development and the rise of developing economies in Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe and Africa.

Cross-Border Trade & Investment: The third topic reviews international trade and investment flows - portfolio and foreign direct investment - in the globalised context. It examines the theoretical underpinnings of capital and trade movements, providing country case studies to illustrate the supply-demand factors affecting these flows. The topic also places these cross-border flows in the context of economic integration - for example, the European Union, NAFTA, Mercosur, World Trade Organisation, and the recent developments towards free trade pacts between Asia-Pacific, Europe and the Americas.

Global Monetary System: Starting with the Bretton Woods institutions like the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and other multilateral institutions, the topic provides an understanding of the global foreign exchange markets and the international monetary system. These institutions provide the backbone and the regulatory framework for international economics; the topic develops an understanding of their operations, management and challenges.

Competing in a Global Market Place: The final topic builds upon the understanding gained thus far by reviewing the economic and political risks and opportunities of participating in the global market place. The discussions include import-export and investment strategies, offshoring production, and management of human resources to compete effectively.
The course helps students examine the current economic landscape through topical discussions of current economic and political development and their impact on international economics.

**Localised Context:** The 21st Century has been described in global economic terms as the ‘Asian Century.’ This is reflected in the global forecasts for the country/region share of the global GDP, economic growth rates, share of global trade and FDI flows. Understanding the economic dynamics of this region and trade relationships (current and emerging/under negotiation) is therefore critical for international business managers. Australia’s economic future is largely tied to the region and to China in particular. This in part helped Australia weather the Global Financial Crisis relatively unscathed. As a comparatively small economy Australia is heavily dependent on foreign direct investment, with China being one of the largest investors in the country. Equally, Australia’s outward FDI is predominantly into the region. By studying this course in Sydney, students are exposed to the region and its influence on and importance to the global economy, and the structural challenges and opportunities facing developed economies like Australia in the face of Asia’s growing dominance. The research paper project provides the students an opportunity to explore this localised context and to demonstrate their learning outcomes from this unique opportunity provided studying International Economics at the CAPA Sydney Centre.

**Course Aims**
This course aims to give students an understanding of the international business environment including:

1. an understanding of the development of the global marketplace and its impact on business organizations and countries;
2. an understanding of major factors affecting participation in international markets;
3. an understanding of functional aspects of international business; and
4. an understanding of current and future trends in globalization and international business.

These topics are addressed with particular reference to the Asia Pacific.

**Requirements and Prerequisites**
Students must have a background in business and have taken an introductory economics course. The course emphasizes this academic area from a global perspective. Students with a high degree of motivation and desire to learn about the international and global aspects of business will benefit from this course.

**Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)**
After taking this course, students should be able to:

a. Gain a broad understanding of the key issues in international economics both from a firm perspective and national policy perspective in an era of hyper-globalization.

b. Develop an understanding of the political and economic context within which international economics operates.

c. Apply the various theoretical aspects of the principles of finance and economics in an international context.

d. Recognise the main economic development issues faced by developing countries in particular the impact of globalization and consequences for international and intra-national inequality.

e. Gain a good working knowledge of the international economic environment and recognise the linkages between political, economic and financial developments and their impact on international business.

f. Gain a good working knowledge of the operations and key issues surrounding international capital and trade flows, foreign direct investment, international capital markets and institutions.

g. Analyse and synthesise a complex set of inter-related factors influencing the economic outcomes for developing countries and emerging economies in a global economy, and to engage in public debate in a measured and critical manner.

**Developmental Outcomes**
Students should demonstrate: responsibility & accountability, independence & interdependence, goal orientation, self-confidence, resilience, appreciation of differences.
**Class methodology**

Seminars involve student presentations, lectures, class discussion and debate. Each seminar will introduce key concepts, illustrate with reference to case studies, historical context and emerging issues, and reinforce through discussion of relevant analysis in the academic and institutional literature. Students are expected to read in advance of classes and be fully prepared to discuss assigned readings and actively participate in discussions and class exercises. Class activities will provide students with a general overview of the concepts and issues contained in the textbook however they are not a substitute for reading the textbook and supplementary required readings. The teaching strategies are designed to encourage active learning by all students.

Students will be expected to devote an hour per day keeping up with the current issues in international business and economics. Expected reading sources should include The Economist, the Asian Wall Street Journal, the Australian Financial Review, and Financial Times.

**Field Component(s)**

CAPA provides the unique opportunity to learn about the city through direct, guided experience. Participation in the field activity(s) for this course is required. You will actively explore the Global City you are currently living in. Furthermore, you will have the chance to collect useful information that will be an invaluable resource for the essays/papers/projects assigned in this course.

The assigned field component(s) will be confirmed early in the semester but will include either attendance at a relevant talk by an international specialist and/or a visit to an organisation actively involved in promoting and facilitating foreign investment in the Asia Pacific region.

Students are strongly encouraged to participate in co-curricular program activities, among which the following are suggested:


**Assessment & Grading**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
<th>Weighted Value</th>
<th>SLOs assessed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Participation &amp; tutorial presentations</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>a, c, d, e, f</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Research paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>a, c, d</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Mid-term examination</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>b, c, f</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Final examination</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>b, c, f</td>
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<tr>
<td>Descriptor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>93+</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 - 92</td>
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<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 - 89</td>
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<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 - 86</td>
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<td></td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 - 82</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77 - 79</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>73 - 76</td>
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<td>Below</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>70 - 72</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average/Poor</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67 - 69</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>60 - 66</td>
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<td>Fail</td>
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1. Class Participation and tutorial presentations (20%)

Each week, your Lecturer will look for lively discussion and debate. You are expected to read the appropriate material listed in the class schedule before each class. This is a mark for participation, NOT attendance (which is compulsory). To ensure that you are adequately prepared for the class and ready to participate, you will complete an online quiz each week based on the set Chapter from the textbook.

In addition, each week one student will be asked to precis the additional readings set for the week and relate the weekly topic to an item of current affairs drawn from a recent (within the preceding 2-3 weeks) media report in the financial press. You must find a relevant article through your own research. During class we will discuss the issues raised in the articles, their relevance for international business and policy implications. Assessment will be based on the demonstrated level of understanding of key concepts, the overall professionalism of the presentation, and the relevance of the news item as explained by the presenter.

Please review the following table as a guide to what is expected for in class participation by all students on all occasions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Discussion</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A range</td>
<td>Excellent: consistent contributor; offers original analysis and comments; always has ideas on topics of the readings; takes care not to dominate discussion.</td>
<td>Obviously has completed all readings; intelligently uses resultant understanding to formulate comments and questions for the discussion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Very Good: frequent, willing, and able contributor; generally offers thoughtful comments based on the readings.</td>
<td>Has done most of the readings; provides competent analysis of the readings and applies insights from class appropriately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B / B-</td>
<td>Satisfactory: frequent contributor; basic grasp of key concepts but little original insight; comments/questions are of a general nature.</td>
<td>Displays familiarity with some readings and related concepts, but tends not to analyse them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C range</td>
<td>Poor: sporadic contributor; comments/questions betray lack of</td>
<td>Displays familiarity with few readings; rarely demonstrates analytical thought.</td>
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understanding of key concepts; often digresses in unhelpful ways.

D / F Very Poor: rarely speaks; merely quotes text or repeats own comments or those of others. Little to no apparent familiarity with assigned material or application to relevant discussion.

2. Research Paper (40%)
This assignment will be assessed in three parts:

- **Part A - Research Proposal**, 5%: a 500 word proposal outlining the research question/topic, methodology/approach for data collection and analysis, hypothesis(es) to be tested. In addition, it should include a Bibliography of 4 items of literature, all cited in the proposal.
- **Part B – Research Paper Outline**, 10%: You will submit your 1000 word outline before the final paper. The Research Paper Outline will use headings clearly showing thesis and argument of the report. This will include; overview, research questions/hypothesis, contrasting arguments, summary and recommendations. Outline should cite at least 7 quality references throughout the paper with a reference list. Part C – Final Paper of 2500 words, 25%. See below for details.

*Option A*: 2500 word individual research paper. Select any one of the topics that we will be covering in this course. Bear in mind that these topics/chapters are rather broad and you will need to narrow down your research topic significantly. You should identify a small aspect of the theoretical discussion that interests you and focus sharply on it. In other words, you should not be providing a general overview of the chapter(s).

The following are a suggested list of topics which will build on the course content and make it relevant to issues in international economics today:
1. Future of the Bretton Woods Institutions and rise of regional challengers including BRICS Bank and AIIB.
2. Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)
3. Climate change and the international economy – putting a price on carbon.
4. Economic and political union – EU vs ASEAN
5. Monetary policy post-GFC and in a low growth world
6. Inequality – inter and intra-national
7. Balancing austerity with growth in highly indebted economies and regional and global economic implications
8. Effects on international trade of the BREXIT vote.

The next step is to identify a case study or identify sufficient data that fits your selected topic. You may choose current or recent economic/financial events or alternatively examine an event(s) from a historical perspective. The course outline provides you ample guidance on sources of such data. (Please do not start with a case study and then try to find the theoretical basis for it. This will not be efficient.)

The final step will be to provide a thorough analysis. How does the case study or evidence fit into the theoretical discussion? Are the facts consistent with the theory? Explain why (or why not). What lessons did you learn from this?

*Option B*: This option requires you to apply all topics covered in the course to a hypothetical business proposal and decision. Research the topic below and then prepare a 2500 word written report in the form of a Board paper.

Assume that you are responsible for a large Australian firm that is keen to internationalize through foreign direct investment (FDI). You have been asked by the Board to investigate and recommend whether or not to proceed with investment in the Asia Pacific region. You must first choose a country in the region as the target for the investment, develop a strategy for entering the market and investing, and then evaluate it as a suitable candidate for the proposed investment. Consider the issues that would help you make such a
business decision drawing on all topics covered in the course. While writing your report, you should incorporate relevant theories and concepts to justify your arguments.

For example:

- What are the economic, political, legal and cultural factors in the country relevant to the decision to invest? How does the legal system affect business? What political, cultural, legal and economic risks apply?
- What ethical issues might arise?
- How receptive is the Government of the candidate country to foreign direct investment? What incentives are available?
- What capabilities (e.g., human capital, other inputs) are required for the investment to be successful and are these available in sufficient quantity?

The paper should be a balanced consideration of the overall prospects for successful investment in the candidate country. Your final recommendation to the Board must be supported and justified.

**Common Guidelines:** Remember to acknowledge your sources throughout the paper using the Harvard, APA, or MLA referencing system (in-text referencing). Examples of how to lay out your Bibliography are included in your Student Handbook.

The report is to be typed and 1.5 spaced (a standard 12 point font should be used). It should be checked for spelling, consistency and clarity of expression. The report will be submitted and graded online.

Your report should incorporate at least 10 different references, all of which must be cited in the body of your report. Remember that each member of the group is expected to contribute to the literature research. These references can be sourced from the following:

- Peer-reviewed academic journal articles: at least four references should be of this type.
- Relevant books
- Institutional analyses (multi-lateral/global, domestic): at least two references should be of this type and can be drawn from the OECD, IMF, World Bank, UNDP.
- Periodicals
- Think tank analysis and reports

### 3. Mid-term Exam (20%) – Online

The mid-term test will be in short essay format covering the material from the first five seminar topics and will take place online in week 6. This test is intended to help you keep up with the core content of the course as covered in the textbook to avoid falling behind and to provide a guide for yourself and your teacher as to whether the level of your understanding of the material is adequate for the course objectives and learning outcome achievement.

### 4. Final Exam (20%) – Online

The final exam will cover material in the second half of the course and will take place in the final week of the semester. This will also be in short essay format and conducted online. The questions are designed to test the depth of your understanding of the course content and ability to discuss and articulate an argument in both academic and professional contexts.

**Course Materials**

**Required Readings**


In addition to the textbook, other weekly reading assignments will be posted on CANVAS. Some readings are listed in the seminar outline below however articles on current events may be substituted as appropriate. Refer to CANVAS for the required readings each week.

**Recommended Reading**


**Other References - Academic Journals**

There is a range of journals in the fields of international business and management. The titles below are indicative only of such publications. Most are available on the TAFE Library databases:

- Academy of Management Review
- Asia Pacific Journal of Management
- Cross Cultural Management
- International Business Review
- Journal of Asia Business
- Journal of International Business Studies
- Journal of International Management
- Journal of World Business
- Management International Review
- Thunderbird International Business Review

**Other References - Periodicals and Newspapers**

There is a range of periodicals in the fields of international business and management. The titles below are indicative only of such publications:

- Business Week (Asian edition)
- Harvard Business Review
- The Asian Wall Street Journal
- The Economist
- Forbes
- Bloomberg News
- Australian Financial Review

**Alternative views:**

- New Internationalist - [http://www.newint.org](http://www.newint.org)

**Other References - Useful Websites:**

Library and research facilities
The TAFE library facilities are available for your use. Please use the library to access electronic resources (ebooks, journal articles) and the internet. The library catalogue and electronic resources can also be accessed online off-campus. You can also borrow books for your own use. More information on CAPA Sydney library and research facilities can be obtained by looking through your Orientation Pack or by speaking to a CAPA Sydney staff member. The link is: http://sydneytafe.edu.au/current-students/ultimo-college/library/library-ultimo-college

Weekly Schedule
There is no class in week 1 due to Internship Inductions.
The framework below indicates class-based sessions at CAPA. The schedule may be revised as the term progresses to incorporate field trips and guest speakers.
Each Seminar there are set readings from the textbook and other sources. Weekly class materials including lecture slides, explanatory notes and relevant additional readings will be posted online in CANVAS. The students are expected to review these materials prior to the weekly session.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Seminar topics</th>
<th>Class activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Seminar 1 - Introduction and Globalization</strong></td>
<td><strong>Class Course overview</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Seminar 2 - International trade and investment theory</strong></td>
<td><strong>Class Review textbook understanding.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>The conceptual basis and theoretical benefits of trade and investment and the significance of global value chains (GVC). <strong>Required Reading</strong> Hill, Chapter 6 - International Trade Theory</td>
<td>Seminar presentation and current event discussion Lecture Research paper topic discussion</td>
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**Additional Reading**


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### Week 4

**Seminar 3** - Political, economic, legal aspects of international business

Political, economic and legal systems, related risk and impact on the international firm.

**Required Reading**

Hill, Chapter 2 – National Differences in Political, Economic and Legal Systems


AND

Hill, Chapter 3 – National Differences in Economic Development


**Additional Reading**

N/A

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### Week 5

**Seminar 4** – Ethics in a business environment and inter-cultural considerations

The role of ethics in the corporate world. Cultural differences and considerations in international business.

**Required Reading**

Hill, Chapter 4 – Differences in Culture

Hill, Chapter 5 – Ethics, Corporate Social Responsibility, and Sustainability

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**Online / Homework**

Textbook quiz for Seminar 3 – Chapter 2

Develop research proposal

**Class Review textbook understanding.**

Seminar presentation and current event discussion

Lecture

Discussion of Research Paper proposals/abstracts

Research paper literature research workshop

**Online / Homework**

Research Proposal due

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**Class Review textbook understanding.**

Seminar presentation and current event discussion

Lecture

Textbook quiz for Seminar 5 – Chapter 7
| Week 6 | Seminar 5 - The Political Economy of International Trade  
Development of the world trading system, institutional framework and governance mechanisms including GATT and WTO. The role of national Government, policy instruments used, and purpose of Government intervention in international trade flows.  
**Required Reading**  
Hill, Chapter 7 - Government Policy and International Trade  
**Additional Reading**  
Seminar presentation and current event discussion  
Lecture  
Feedback on Research Proposals  
**Online / Homework**  
Textbook quiz for Seminar 6 – Chapter 9  
Mid-term Exam |
|---|---|
| Week 7 | Seminar 6 - Multilateralism, Regionalism, and Bilateralism in International Trade  
Regional and bi-lateral arrangements between countries (EU, North America, Asia / Asia-Pacific), and the implications for business and managers. TPP vs. RCEP.  
**Required Reading**  
Hill, Chapter 9 – Regional Economic Integration  
**Additional Reading**  
Seminar presentation and current event discussion  
Lecture  
Research paper literature search  
**Online / Homework**  
Textbook quiz for Seminar 8 – Chapter 8  
Develop Research Paper Outline |
| MID TERM BREAK | NO CLASS ACTIVITIES |
| Week 8 | Seminar 7 - Foreign Direct Investment  
Theories of FDI, Government policies and their rationale, benefits and costs of FDI, and firm strategic investment choices in entering foreign markets.  
**Required Reading**  
Hill, Chapter 8 – Foreign Direct Investment  
Case study: ADM takeover of Graincorp, various articles in Australian Financial Review 30 November 2013 – provided in class  
Case study: Leasing of Darwin Port  
**Additional Reading**  
N/A |  
**Class**  
Review textbook understanding.  
Seminar presentation and current event discussion.  
Lecture  
Research paper review: structure of body and argument.  
**Online / Homework**  
Textbook quiz for Seminar 9 – Chapter 10. |
| Week 9 | Seminar 8 - The Foreign Exchange Market  
Foreign exchange market, exchange rate systems (fixed, floating, hybrid), 'currency wars', currency exchange rates and how they are determined, and implications for business in managing foreign exchange risk.  
**Required Reading**  
Hill, Chapter 10 – The Foreign Exchange Market  
Dhar, R. (2014). The Trade of the Century: When George Soros Broke the British Pound,  
**Additional Reading**  
**Class Review textbook understanding.**  
Seminar presentation and case study discussion.  
Lecture  
Research paper Bibliography feedback and discussion.  
Research paper full draft including final Bibliography.  
Textbook quiz for Seminar 10 – Chapter 11 |
| Week 10 | Seminar 9 - The Balance of Payments and the International Monetary System  
History, institutions and functions of the international monetary system. Role of international, multi-lateral institutions (World Bank and IMF) in relation to balance of payments, reserve currency and debates, their operation and |  
**Class Review textbook understanding.**  
Seminar presentation and case study discussion.  
Lecture  
Research paper full draft feedback and discussion. |
Attendance, Participation & Student Responsibilities

**Attendance**
CAPA has a mandatory attendance policy. Students are also expected to participate actively and critically in class discussions, and the participation portion of the class will be graded accordingly. Students must read assignments BEFORE the class, and come in on time. Attendance is mandatory and is taken at the beginning of every class. Unauthorized absence from class will result in a reduction of the final grade and ultimately in an F for the course.

**Missing classes for medical reasons**
If you need to miss a class for medical reasons or for a family emergency, you must send an e-mail to let the Director of Academic Affairs (DAA) or Resident Director know at least one hour in advance of your class or meeting by emailing jmiller@capa.org. Note that calling the CAPA Centre (02) 9217 5977 is acceptable only if you do not temporarily have access to the internet. An e-mail is still required as quickly as you can get access to the internet again. You will need to provide evidence of the reason for your absence. Unexcused

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<tr>
<th>Attendance, Participation &amp; Student Responsibilities</th>
<th>Online / Homework Final Research Paper due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required Reading</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hill, Chapter 11 – The International Monetary System</td>
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<tr>
<td>This week search the web on “future of monetary policy” or variants. Come to class with an article you have found and be prepared to discuss its implications.</td>
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<td><strong>Additional Reading</strong></td>
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<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 11</th>
<th>Seminar 10 – International Labour Markets</th>
<th>Class Review reading understanding</th>
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<td>With the rise of labor outsourcing, mobility of capital and labour as well as the impact of technology on labour markets, the importance of an understanding of international labor markets is vital for economists. This topic will track the economic study of labor markets, assessing labor flows, international and intranational inequality, through to future trends of outsourcing, automation and collaboration. Pew Research (2016) Public Predictions for the Future of Workforce Automation, March 10, 2016, <a href="http://www.pewinternet.org/2016/03/10/future-of-workforce-automation-methodology/">http://www.pewinternet.org/2016/03/10/future-of-workforce-automation-methodology/</a></td>
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<td>Field Trip to Visit Work of the Future Site</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 12</th>
<th>No Class</th>
<th>Online / Homework Final Exam</th>
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absences will result in a grade reduction. In the event of a missed class or field trip, it is your responsibility to contact your instructor and make up any missed assignments.

**Class Participation**

Participation is a vital part of your grade: students are expected to participate orally in seminars and in online forums and discussions in a critical and evaluative manner; to interact with the faculty and fellow students with respect and tolerance; and to actively engage in discussion. Derogatory or inflammatory comments about the cultures, perspectives or attitudes of others in the class will not be tolerated.

**Academic Integrity**

The faculty expects from you, the student, a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic course depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student, it is imperative that a student demonstrates a high standard of individual honour in his or her scholastic work and class behaviour. Plagiarism and cheating will result in dismissal from the program. See the Handbook of CAPA Academic Policies for more information and resources on plagiarism.

**Use of electronic equipment in class**

All devices such as laptops, I-pods, I-pads, netbooks, notebooks and tablets, smartphones, cell phones, etc. are NOT allowed unless you have express permission from the faculty or you have been instructed to do so. If you require an accommodation to use any type of electronic equipment, inform the Director of Academic Affairs or the Resident Director at the beginning of Term.

**Use of Electronic Translators**

In Language courses students are NOT allowed to use electronic translators for writing texts in the target language: those submitting compositions and texts of whatever kind translated in such a fashion will receive a final F grade for the course.

**Late Submission**

Late submission of papers due, projects, journal entries, pieces of homework and portfolios is only permitted with prior approval. A request must be made to the relevant Faculty member no later than two days prior to the due date. Late submission without prior approval will result in a full alpha grade penalty. In either case, work cannot be submitted after feedback has been provided to the rest of the class on the relevant assessment or one week after the due date whichever comes first, after which point a grade of F will be given for the assessment.

**Behaviour during Examinations**

During examinations, you must do your own work. Unless specifically instructed by the lecturer or instructor, talking during an exam is not permitted, nor may you compare papers, copy from others, or collaborate in any way. Any failure to abide by examination rules will result in failure of the exam, and may lead to failure of the course and disciplinary action.