



**San Jose State University**  
**Economics Dept.**  
**ECON 136, International Economics, Spring 2016**



Instructor:	Warren C. Gibson, Ph.D.
Office Location:	TBD
Telephone:	none
Email:	warren@gibson2.com
Office Hours:	TBD
Class Meets:	Mon/Wed 9:00-10:15, DMH 160
Prerequisites:	Principles of Micro & Macroeconomics

### **Course Web Page**

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, reading and homework assignments, handouts, etc. are at [www.gibson2.com/econ136](http://www.gibson2.com/econ136). I do not use Canvas or MyEconLib.

### **Course Description and Learning Objectives**

International economic issues are very significant in today's interdependent world. We will start with international trade theory and policies, including gains from trade, trade barriers, and international trade agreements. We will then take up international financial and monetary issues including balance of payments, foreign exchange markets, international financial markets and monetary systems. There is a constant stream of current events that involve international economics, and we will discuss some of these in class.

### **Economics Program Learning Objectives (PLOs)**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to display, by means of class room discussion and exam questions, good grasps of

- Ricardian gains from trade
- Effects of tariffs and quotas
- Determinants of foreign exchange rates
- Balance of payments

### **Required Text and Supplementary Readings**

- Gerber, "International Economics," 6th. ed., Pearson 2014, ISBN 978-0132950145.
- Other required readings will be posted on the class web site.

### **Classroom Protocol**

Although I do not track your attendance, it is essential for getting full value from the course and a good grade. Please turn off all electronic devices except as needed for note-taking.

## Study Time

This is a four-unit course, the first three of which correspond to time in class and the fourth to extra reading and study time as assigned. We assume that you will devote two hours of study for each hour class plus another three hours for the fourth unit. Your total weekly time commitment is thus 2.5 hours in class plus nine hours outside of class. *If you cannot consistently attend class sessions or you cannot devote 12 hours per week to this class you should not be in it.*

## Dropping the Course

The deadline for dropping the course without any adverse effect on your academic record is Tuesday Feb. 9. Late drops are only allowed for serious and compelling reasons that are beyond your control. See <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>

## Homework

Assignments will be posted on the class web site and are to be submitted in class with your name hand-written. Half credit is allowed for late homework submitted at the beginning of the next class; no credit after that. I will drop your two lowest homework scores (including zeros for homework not submitted).

## Quizzes

I will give ten short quizzes in class and drop your two lowest scores. Missed quizzes cannot be made up.

## Grades

Your grade will be made up from the following:

- Homework, 25%
- Midterm exams, 30%.
- Quizzes, 12%
- Final exam, 33%

Minor adjustments in these percentages are at my discretion. Extra credit opportunities will be announced. Letter grades are determined as follows:

A+ 97%	A 93%	A- 90%	B+ 87%	B 83%	B- 80%
C+ 77%	C 73%	C- 70%	D+ 67%	D 65%	D- 63%

## University Policies

### Academic integrity

Your learning commitment is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University's Academic Integrity policy, located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Infractions are reported to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development, [www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/).

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will get you a failing grade and sanctions by the University. All assignments are to be completed by you unless otherwise specified.

### Disability

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please see me as soon as possible. Presidential Directive 97-03 at [http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\\_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students requesting disability accommodations register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/>.

ECON 136 Spring 2016 Course Schedule  
*subject to change*

Week	Date	Topics	Text chapters to study <i>before class</i> *
1	Feb. 1	Introduction	
Begin Unit 1			
1	Feb. 3	Ricardian trade model	Ch. 3
2	Feb. 8, 10	Ricardian trade model	Ch. 3
3	Feb. 15	Jamaican sugar imports	
3	Feb. 17	Heckscher-Ohlin, Stolper-Samuelson models	Ch. 4
4	Feb. 22, 24	Factor endowments and int'l movements	Ch. 4
5	Feb. 29, Mar. 2	New Trade Theory: economies of scale and intra-industry trade.	Ch. 5
Begin Unit 2			
6	Mar. 7, 9	Tariffs	Ch. 6
7	Mar. 14	Quotas	Ch. 6
7	Mar. 16	Other government trade restrictions	Ch. 7, 8
8	Mar. 21	Other government trade restrictions	Ch. 7, 8
8	Mar. 23	Midterm exam #1	
9	Mar. 28, 30	Spring break; no classes	
Begin Unit 3			
10	Apr. 4, 6	National income accounting; balance of payments	Ch. 9
11	Apr 11, 13	Foreign exchange markets	Ch. 10
12	Apr 18	Purchasing Power Parity	Ch. 10
12	Apr 20	International investing	
Begin Unit 4			
13	Apr. 27	International trade organizations	Ch. 2
13	Apr. 29	Midterm exam #2	
14	May 2	Regional trade agreements	Ch. 2
14	May 4	NAFTA, TPP and other RTAs	Ch. 14
15	May 9	International implications of U.S. monetary and fiscal policies.	Ch. 11
Begin Unit 5			
15	May 11	Current issues in international economics	Ch. 17
16	May 16	Current issues in international economics	Ch. 17
	May 24	Final exam, 9:45 AM - noon)	

\* Supplementary readings will be assigned on the class web page