UAB
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Economic Integration and Globalization

2026/2027

Code: 104650
Credits: 6

Degree programme	Type	Course
Economics	OB	2

Contact lecturer

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Teaching staff

Antonia Lopez Villavicencio

Teaching staff (external to UAB)

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Group languages

You can consult this information at the end of the document.

Prerequisites

The knowledge resulting from having completed the course "Introduction to Economics" and "International Economy", ie, an understanding of basic concepts of economics and knowledge of broadly the evolution of the global economy and international relations.

Objectives

Provide students with the basic tools and knowledge necessary for understanding and interpreting the processes of economic integration and globalization. The course aims to situate the importance of the phenomenon of economic integration through the analysis of regional trade agreements, financial integration, monetary zones and integration institutions. Also give an account of the technological, social and economic changes that accompany the process of globalization.

Learning outcomes

- CM36 (Prepare opinions on the functioning and current situation of the Spanish economy.) Prepare opinions on the functioning and current situation of the Spanish economy.
- CM37 (Propose effective policies for international institutions in the economy.) Propose effective policies for international institutions in the economy.
- CM38 (Solve the problems of integration in general, and of European integration in particular, through economic analysis.) Solve the problems of integration in general, and of European integration in

particular, through economic analysis.
- KM33 (List the main characteristics of the labour market in Spain.) List the main characteristics of the labour market in Spain.
- KM34 (Identify the influence and role of Spanish public institutions in the economy.) Identify the influence and role of Spanish public institutions in the economy.
- KM35 (Identify the economic agents that make up an economy, analysing how they have been interrelated to date, and how they are currently interrelated, to predict future behaviour based on new circumstances and their influence on a specific company.) Identify the economic agents that make up an economy, analysing how they have been interrelated to date, and how they are currently interrelated, to predict future behaviour based on new circumstances and their influence on a specific company.
- SM38 (Assess the possible short term or long term impact of actions and projects in the generation of difficulties, prejudices and discrimination, in relation to certain people and groups (such as immigrants, young people, people over 55 years of age or women, among others).) Assess the possible short term or long term impact of actions and projects in the generation of difficulties, prejudices and discrimination, in relation to certain people and groups (such as immigrants, young people, people over 55 years of age or women, among others).
- SM39 (Accurately report on the role of the public sector in the Spanish economy.) Accurately report on the role of the public sector in the Spanish economy.
- SM40 (Accurately report on the processes of economic globalisation and their consequences for the Spanish economy.) Accurately report on the processes of economic globalisation and their consequences for the Spanish economy.

Contents

Block 1. New Trade Theory: economies of scale and imperfect competition

- [Recap] Comparative advantages and Heckscher-Ohlin theory
- [Recap] Horizontal and vertical intra-industry trade; Grubel-Lloyd index
- Economies of scale
- Firms in the global economy: monopolistic competition, love of variety, and firm heterogeneity: Krugman (1980) and Melitz (2003) models

Block 2: Economic and Financial Integration

- [Recap] The Viner framework: static trade creation and diversion, welfare ambiguity of a customs union
- Dynamic effects of integration
- The common market: factor mobility, regulatory harmonisation, and the EU Single Market
- Optimum currency area (OCA) theory
- The Eurozone: design, convergence criteria, and the Stability and Growth Pact
- The Eurozone sovereign debt crisis
- Current account imbalances within the Eurozone
- Currency and financial crises in emerging economies: the impossible trinity, sudden stops, and contagion

Block 3: Globalisation

- [Recap] The concept of global value chains (GVCs), vertical vs. horizontal IIT. The smile curve
- Measuring GVC participation
- Foreign direct investment
- Offshoring and labour markets: wage and employment effects
- Multinational firms and technology transfer: spillovers, linkages, and policy implications

Block 4: Globalisation, Inequality, the Environment and Policy

- Distributional and political consequences of trade
- Political economy of trade policy: the median voter model, lobbying, and the collective action problem
- Strategic trade policy
- The WTO: multilateralism, dispute settlement, and the current crisis of governance
- Infant industry arguments; contemporary industrial policy: green transition, strategic autonomy, and

active industrial policy
- Trade and the environment

Learning activities and methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Readings, revision of exercices, discussion of questions and doubts, face-to-face tutoring	20	0.8	
Data collection and data analysis	20	0.8	
Tutorials	17.5	0.7	
Readings and study of the material	37	1.48	
Lectures	32.5	1.3	

Lectures: in these sessions the teacher will introduce the students to the basic knowledge of each of the topics of the subject.

Tutorial: this is a set of activities carried out jointly by the students and the teacher to deepen ideas and concepts introduced in class. Some sessions can be held in computer classes.

Autonomous activities: the students will assimilate (individually) the topics discussed in class with the support of the tutoring of the teacher.

Annotation: within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continuous assessment activities

Title	Weight	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Midterm exam	35%	1.5	0.06	CM37, CM38, SM38, SM40
Final Exam	35%	1.5	0.06	CM37, CM38, SM38, SM40
Writing essays, presentations and class exercises	30%	20	0.8	CM36, CM37, CM38, KM33, KM34, KM35, SM38, SM39, SM40

Continuous assessment

Continuous assessment consists of a comprehensive final exam (35% of the final grade), a partial exam to verify the status of learning skills and abilities (35% of the final grade) and writing tests, conducting presentations and class exercises (30% of the final grade).

The lecturer will inform about the content of the exams and other activities subject to evaluation.

In order to pass the course a student needs to fulfill the two following conditions:

1) The student's final grade has to be at least 5;

2) The grade of the final exam has to be at least 3.5.

If the student fails to fulfill one of the two previous conditions but the student participated to -at least- 2/3 of the evaluation activities, the student is eligible for the retake exam; otherwise the student will not pass the course.

If the student's grade is 5 or higher, the student passes the course and it cannot be subject to further evaluation. If the student grade is less than 3.5 (irrispective of the grade of the final exam), the student will have to repeat the course the following year. Students who have obtained a grade that is equal to or greater than 3.5 and less than 5 (and the grade of the final exam is at least 3.5) can take a retake exam. The lecturers will decide the type of the retake exam. When the grade of the retake exam is greater than 5, the final grade will be a PASS with a maximum numerical grade of 5. When the retake grade is less than 5, the final grade will be a FAIL with a numerical grade equal to the grade achieved in the course grade (not the second chance exam grade).

A student who does not perform any evaluative task is considered "not evaluable", therefore, a student who performs a continuous assessment component can no longer be qualified with a \"not evaluable\"

This subject offer the option for comprehensive evaluation (single assessment). (Art. 265 of the UAB Academic Regulations)

By requesting a single assessment the student waives the option of continuous evaluation.

The single assessment must be requested in the Academic Management of the Campus where the bachelor's degree/master's degree is taken within the deadline and with the procedure established in the administrative calendar of the Faculty of Economics and Business. The single assessment consists of two exams on the content of the whole course whose total duration willbe three hours (80% finalgrade). In addition, on the single assessment day, the student will have to deliver the essays and other evaluable activities carried out throughout the course (20% final grade)

The comprehensive evaluation must be requested at the Academic Management (Gestió acadèmica) of the Campus where the degree/master's degree is taught. The request must be filed according to the procedure and the deadline established by the administrative calendar of the Faculty of Economics and Business.

Attendance :

- *Student attendance is mandatory on the day of the comprehensive assessment. The date will be the same as that of the final exam of the semester as per the evaluation calendar published by the Faculty of Economics and Business and approved by the Faculty's Teaching and Academic Affairs Committee. The duration of the comprehensive assessment must be specified in the characteristics of such activity.*
- *100% of the evaluation evidences must be handed in by the student on the day of the comprhensive assessment.*
- *The evaluation evidences carried out in person by the student on the same day of the comprehensive assessment must have a minimum weight of 70%.*

Evidence type	*Weight in the final assessment (%)*	*Duration of the activity*	*Is the activity that corresponds to this evaluation evidence to be carried out in person on the date scheduled for the comprehensive evaluation? (YES/NO)*
Exàmen parcial	*35%*	*1:30 hours*	*YES*
Exàmen final	*35%*	*1:30 hours*	*YES*
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exercisis 30%	*NO*

For the retake, no distinction is made between students who have followed the continuous evaluation and those who have opted for the comprehensive evaluation. All will be re-assessed using the same test or evaluation evidence.

The review of the final qualification will follow the same procedure as for the continuous evaluation.

Calendar of evaluation activities

The dates of the evaluation activities (midterm exams, exercises in the classroom, assignments, ...) will be announced well in advance during the semester.

The date of the final exam is scheduled in the assessment calendar of the Faculty.

\"The dates of evaluation activities cannot be modified, unless thereis an exceptional and duly justified reason why an evaluation activity cannot be carried out. In this case, the degree coordinator will contact both the teaching staff and the affected student, and a new date will be scheduled within the same academic period to make up for the missed evaluation activity.\" Section 1 of Article 264. Calendar of evaluation activities (Academic Regulations UAB).

Students of the Faculty of Economics and Business, who in accordance with the previous paragraph need to change an evaluation activity date must process the request by filling out an Application for exams' reschedule: e-Formulari per a la reprogramació de proves.

Grade revision process

After all grading activities have ended, students will be informed of the date and way in which the course grades will be published. Students will be also be informed of the procedure, place, date and time of grade revision following University regulations.

Retake Process

\"To be eligible to participate in the retake process, it is required for students to have been previously been evaluated for at least two thirds of the total evaluation activities of the subject.\" Section 2 of Article 261. The recovery (UAB Academic Regulations). Additionally, it is required that the student to have achieved an average grade of the subject greater than or equal to 3.5 and less than 5.

The date of the retake exam will be posted in the calendar of evaluation activities of the Faculty. Students who take this exam and pass, will get a grade of 5 for the subject. If the student does not pass the retake, the grade will remain unchanged, and hence,student will fail the course.

Irregularities in evaluation activities

In spite of other disciplinary measures deemed appropriate, and in accordance with current academic regulations, \"in the case that the student makes any irregularity that could lead to a significant variation in the grade of an evaluation activity, it will be graded with a 0, regardless of the disciplinary process that can be instructed. In case of various irregularities occur in the evaluation of the same subject, the final grade of this subject will be 0\". Section 11 of Article 266. Results of the evaluation. (UAB Academic Regulations).

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

In this course, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies is permitted exclusively for support tasks, such as search for references or other information, text correction, or translations. The student must clearly identify which parts have been generated using this technology, specify the tools used, and include a critical reflection on how these have influenced the process and the final outcome of the activity. If the student fails to disclose the use of AI in any of the activity subject to evaluation will be considered a lack of academic integrity with a partial or total penalization for the grade of the activity.

The completion of assessment activities is subject to the provisions set out in this course guide and in the "Policy of the School of Economics and Business on the Detection of Irregularities during Assessment Activities", which regulates the conditions under which assessment tasks are conducted and the procedures applicable in cases where indications of irregularities are detected. Students are encouraged to consult the policy.

Bibliography

Required:

Krugman, P., Obsfeld, M. i Melitz M. (2022): \" International Economics: theory and policy\", 12th Edition,Pearson Global Edition (disponible online a les Biblioteques UAB)

Krugman, P., Obsfeld, M. i Melitz M. (2016): \" Economía Internacional: teoría y política\", 10ª edición, Pearson (disponible online a les Biblioteques UAB)

Pugel, Th. (2023): \"International Economics\", McGraw-Hill, 18th Edition (disponible online a les Biblioteques UAB)

Pugel, Th. (2004): \"Economía Internacional\", McGraw-Hill (disponible a les Biblioteques UAB))

Recommended:

Baldwin, R i C. Wyplosz (2023): \"The Economics of European Integration (7th edition), Mc Graw Hill, (disponible online a les Biblioteques UAB)

Camarero, M. i Tamarit Escalona C. (2023): \"Economía de la Unión Europea\" (9ª Edición), CIVITAS (disponible a les Biblioteques UAB)

Feenstra, R. i Taylor. A. (2014): \"International Trade\", McGraw-Hill (disponible a les Biblioteques UAB))

Feenstra, R. i Taylor. A. (2015): \"Comercio Internacional\", Editorial Reverté (disponible online a les Biblioteques UAB)

Feenstra, R. i Taylor. A. (2017): \"International Macroeconomics\", McGraw-Hill (disponible a les Biblioteques UAB))

Feenstra, R. i Taylor. A. (2012): \"Macroeconomía internacional\", Editorial Reverté (disponible online a les Biblioteques UAB)

Beugelsdijk, S., Brackman, S., Garretsen, H., Van Marrewijk, Ch. i Murtunu, S. (2024): \"International Economics and Business. Nations and Firms in the Global Economy\", Cambridge University Press (disponible a les Biblioteques UAB)

Lechner, Frank & Boli, J. (eds.), The globalization reader (6th edition), Wiley-Blackwell, 2020.

Ravenhill, J., Global Political Economy (5th edition), Oxford University Press, 2018.

Software

MS Office, R.

Course groups and languages

The information provided is provisional until November 30. After this date, you will be able to consult the language of each group through this link. To access the information, you will need to enter the course CODE

Type of teaching	Group	Language	Semester	Shift
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	1	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	1	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	8	English	first semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	8	English	first semester	morning-mixed
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	8	English	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	51	Catalan	first semester	afternoon
(PAUL) Classroom practices	51	Catalan	first semester	afternoon
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	51	Catalan	first semester	afternoon