160A: International Microeconomics  
UC Davis, Professor Swenson  
Winter 2003: MWF 8:00-8:50

Objectives: International trade and investment have grown markedly in recent years, while international institutions such as the WTO have expanded to include new members. Economics 160A develops a number of analytical tools and methods for analyzing international trade, and its related policy issues. After studying the explanations for trade, highlighting the gains from trade and the distribution of those gains, the class will move to trade policy. Here, the course will cover not only the tools nations commonly use for protection, but will also cover the political economy of trade, regional agreements, immigration and international trade institutions.

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Prerequisites: Economics 1A, 1B, and 100.


Evaluation: The course grade is based on two midterms and a comprehensive final. The exams cover material from the assigned reading, homework and class lectures. For each student I determine the most favorable exam score according to the following 3 formulae. Grades are then assigned on a curve.

Formula 1: 30% for each of the midterms, 40% for the final.
Formula 2: 30% for midterm 1, and 70% for the final.
Formula 3: 30% for midterm 2, and 70% for the final.

You will have a number of homework assignments during the term. The homework is designed to help you prepare for the exams. These will be collected in section and recorded, but not graded. However, for every two homework assignments missing or late, the final grade will be dropped one step (from B+ to B, or B to B-, for example). The answers to the homework questions will be discussed in section.

Exam Dates
The exams are scheduled for the following dates. No makeup exams will be offered. If you can not take the tests on the scheduled dates, you should not sign up for this course.

Midterm 1: Wednesday January 29
Midterm 2: Friday February 21
Final: Friday March 21 [4-6 pm]