



Codice	Denominazione insegnamento	CFU	A.A.
K070EB	Economics and politics of the agrifood sector: international agrifood markets and policies	7	1

Docente

ALESSANDRO OLPER

Obiettivi formativi

Compare and contrast different theoretical models of international trade and assess the suitability of these models in explaining observed international trade patterns and other related phenomena, such as migration.

Demonstrate the ability to conduct diagrammatically (and with simple algebra) partial and general equilibrium analyses of prevalent trade policy instruments.

Integrate the insights from trade theory, trade policy analysis and political economy of trade policy, for the purposes of explaining the landscape of protectionism across different countries and industries and its implication for the environment and climate change issues.

Competenze acquisite

Develop coherent, structured and balanced opinions on ongoing debates in international trade, international cooperation, and globalization and be able to communicate these opinions both orally and in writing forms.

Apply the theoretical knowledge and analytical skills acquired from the course to analyze relevant policy issues in the areas of agriculture trade, the multilateral and bilateral trade agreements, and issues concerning economic development and environmental problems.

Sintesi del programma

International agri-food markets & policies

Course outline:

Neoclassic Trade Models (F-T ch. 2-4)

1. Technology and International Trade: the Ricardian Model
2. Gains and Losses from International Trade: the Specific-Factors Model
3. Trade and Resource Endowment: the Heckscher-Ohlin Model
4. Movement of labor and migration

New (New) Trade Models (F-T ch 6; K-O-M ch. 7; readings)

5. Economies of Scale and Imperfect Competition
6. Monopolistic Competition with Firms Heterogeneity
7. Gravity Models and Gravity Equations

International Trade Policy (F-T ch. 8, 10 and 11)

8. Tariff and Quota Under Perfect Competition
 9. Export and Production Subsidies and Tax
 10. International Agreements on Trade and the environment
- Advanced Topics (mainly through research papers)



11. The political economy of trade policy (K-O-M ch 10; F ch 9; Slides & readings)
12. Trade and welfare effects of environmental and food standards (Slides & readings)
13. Trade and the environment (F&T ch 11, Slides & readings)
14. Climate change, migrations and agriculture (F-T ch. 5, Slides & readings)

Textbooks

1. Feenstra R. C. e Taylor A. M. (2014). International Trade, Worth MacMillan, New York (F-T). This represent the reference book.
2. Krugman P., Obstfeld M. and Melitz M.J. (2012). International Economics. Theory and Policy, Pearson (K-O-M, just ch 8 (pp. 202-08) and Ch. 10. These chapters will be available on Ariel.
3. Readings suggested by the teacher (available on Ariel).



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Programma

International agri-food markets & policies

Goals and learning outcomes

The course will introduce students to basic and advanced topics in international trade with emphasis to the agri-food sector and environmental issues. Knowledge of international trade models, of the effects of trade policy, and topics such as the political economy of trade policy, environmental and food standards, climate change and migration, will be the main learning outcomes. The presentation of the different theoretical models will give emphasis to applied works and issues pertinent to current real problems.

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Assessment:

The exam consists of:

1. a written mid-term test (40% of the grade);
2. a group work (30%);
3. a final oral examination (20%).

Students who do not achieve a minimum grade in the mid-term test, cannot repeat it, but are required to bring the relative material to the final oral examination.

The group work will be based on a short written paper of about 12 pages that will be presented and discussed with the class. Details of the group composition, paper organization and ppt presentation structure will be given later.



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FACOLTÀ DI SCIENZE AGRARIE E ALIMENTARI

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Articolazione dei CFU

Lez. frontali	Esercitaz. in aula	Esercitaz. in lab.	Laboratorio	Seminari	Altro
6	1				

Prerequisiti

Students should have a basic background in mathematics (simple algebra and derivatives), in statistics (inferential, linear model with > 1 variables) and micro-economics.

Propedeuticità

Mathematics and micro-economics.

Materiale didattico

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Modalità d'esame e altre informazioni

Lectures slides (on Ariel)