University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	International Economic Relations, PG_00198956						
Field of study	Economics						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject		2027/2028		
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	2		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	3		ECTS credits		4.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
Conducting unit							
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Renata Orłowska				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	30.0	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	45
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	45		4.0		51.0	100
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to introduce students to the fundamental concepts of the world economy and international economic relations, as well as to present the process of their evolution in the contemporary global economy. The course seeks to explain the mechanisms governing the world economy and the cause-and-effect relationships that shape international economic interactions. During the course, students become familiar with the basic theories of international trade, international factor movements, foreign trade policy, and foreign exchange markets. The acquired knowledge is applied to the analysis of selected issues in the contemporary world economy and to the interpretation of phenomena occurring in international economic relations. An important objective of the course is also to develop students' ability to analyse data and information related to the world economy, assess the effects of international integration processes, international flows, and changes in global trade. Students are also introduced to the institutional structure of the world economy, with particular emphasis on the role of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the World Trade Organization, as well as the principles of compiling and interpreting the balance of payments.						

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[EKONL3_W04] knows the types of economic and social ties and the regularities governing them	The student knows the basic structure of the global economy and the types of economic and social connections.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[EKONL3_W08] has an advanced knowledge of the processes of changing elements, enterprises and whole structures of economic organisations, as well as the processes of changing social institutions, knows what their causes, course, scale, consequences are and what the influence of external stakeholders is on them	The student knows the change processes in global economic entities (enterprises, international organizations, integration groups, state institutions) and understands their causes and effects on the global economy.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[EKONL3_U02] is able to use the knowledge of theory and data to analyse concrete economic and social processes and phenomena and to analyse these phenomena using methods developed in economics, finance and management sciences	The student can use their theoretical knowledge of international economic relations and gather data to analyze specific processes and phenomena occurring in the global economy using selected economic methods.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[EKONL3_K01] recognises the importance of economic knowledge in identifying and solving economic problems and of consulting experts when difficulties in solving them independently	The student recognizes the importance of knowledge in international economic relations in the process of identifying and solving economic problems and seeks expert opinions when encountering difficulties in solving them independently.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[EKONL3_K02] is aware of the level of knowledge in the field of economics and understands the need to deepen and update this knowledge throughout life	The student is aware of the level of their knowledge in the field of international economic relations, and understands the need to deepen and update this knowledge throughout their life.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[EKONL3_W09] has an advanced knowledge of the evolution of theories describing economic entities and organisations as well as public institutions, and has an advanced knowledge of functional links within them	The student has advanced knowledge of theories of international economic relations, including theories of international trade and global economic entities. They understand the relationships and connections between the entities of the global economy.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[EKONL3_W02] has an advanced knowledge of the different types of existing business entities and organisations and public institutions	The student has advanced knowledge of various types of existing economic entities and organizations, as well as public institutions operating in the global economy.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[EKONL3_W01] has advanced knowledge of the nature of social sciences, their place in the system of sciences, knows the role of economic sciences in this system and uses universal economic terminology	The student has advanced knowledge of international economic relations, and their place in the system of sciences, understands the role of international economic relations studies in this system, and uses universal terminology in international economic relations.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[EKONL3_U08] has the ability to observe, understand and analyse economic and social phenomena and processes using appropriate scientific methods	The student can observe, understand, and analyze phenomena and processes in the field of international economic relations using scientific methods.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[EKONL3_U03] is able to analyse the causes and course of specific economic and social processes and phenomena, and accurately analyse these phenomena using adequate methods and tools economic and social	The student can analyze the causes and course of specific processes and phenomena occurring in the global economy using economic methods and tools.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[EKONL3_U01] can correctly interpret economic and social phenomena and apply knowledge of economics, finance and management sciences to explain economic phenomena	The student can correctly interpret international economic phenomena and apply knowledge of international economic relations to explain economic phenomena.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents	1. **INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS (IER) – INTRODUCTION (1 lecture hour, 1 practical class hour)** a) Scope of the course b) International Economic Relations as an academic discipline c) Relationships with other scientific disciplines d) Definitions of International Economic Relations e) Origins and development of International Economic Relations f) Course assessment requirements g) Required literature **2. THE CONCEPT AND STRUCTURE OF THE WORLD ECONOMY (2 lecture hours)** a) The concept of the world economy b) The structure of the world economy (real sphere and regulatory sphere) c) Participants in the world economy and their general characteristics **3. INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOUR (3 lecture hours)** a) The essence and determinants of the international division of labour b) Traditional international division of labour: development, structure, economic effects, and disintegration c) Industrial international division of labour: essence and characteristics d) Informational international division of labour **4. INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS AND PRE-CLASSICAL AND CLASSICAL THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE (4 lecture hours, 2 practical class hours)** a) Introductory considerations on the nature of international trade theory b) Pre-classical and classical theories of international trade c) Scale, structure, and dynamics of contemporary international trade in goods **5. INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES (2 lecture hours, 1 practical class hour)** a) The concept and characteristics of services b) Factors contributing to the growing importance of services c) Classification and types of services in international trade

d) Scale, dynamics, and structure of contemporary international trade in services

6. INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL FLOWS (2 lecture hours, 1 practical class hour)

a) The concept of international capital flows

b) Forms of international capital flows

c) Determinants of international capital movements

d) Significance and effects of international capital flows

7. INTERNATIONAL FLOWS OF LABOUR AND TECHNOLOGY (2 lecture hours, 1 practical class hour)

a) Concept, nature, and types of international labour flows

b) Determinants of international labour mobility

c) Economic effects of labour migration

d) Scale, structure, and dynamics of contemporary international labour flows

e) International technology flows: types, scale, and directions

8. FOREIGN TRADE POLICY, ITS INSTRUMENTS AND APPLICATION (2 lecture hours, 1 practical class hour)

a) Definition of foreign trade policy

b) Tariff measures

c) Para-tariff measures

d) Non-tariff measures and other trade policy instruments

9. THE INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD ECONOMY (4 lecture hours, 2 practical class hours)

Origins, main principles, membership, functioning, and role in the world economy of:

a) International Monetary Fund (IMF)

b) World Bank Group

c) GATT/WTO

10. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION PROCESSES IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD ECONOMY (2 lecture hours, 1 practical class hour)

a) Concept, objectives, and determinants of international economic integration

b) Conditions and prerequisites for economic integration

c) Types and stages of international integration; major forms of regional integration groupings

d) Mechanisms of regional economic integration and the effects of a customs union

11. SELECTED MONETARY AND PAYMENTS ISSUES IN THE WORLD ECONOMY (4 lecture hours, 1 practical class hour)

a) Concept and main types of exchange rate regimes

b) Factors determining exchange rate movements

c) The contemporary international monetary system: evolution and key characteristics

12. A COUNTRY'S BALANCE OF PAYMENTS (2 lecture hours, 1 practical class hour)

a) Concept and significance of the balance of payments

b) Structure of the balance of payments

13. Group Presentations (2 practical class hours)

14. Class assessment test (1 practical class hour)

During the semester, 4 hours of individual and group consultations are provided to support the preparation of group presentations, the analysis of selected issues related to the world economy, and the deepening of knowledge in the field of international economic relations.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Scope of knowledge, skills, and competencies appropriate for the subjects of microeconomics and macroeconomics.

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Practical classes are assessed on the basis of a written test, class participation, and a presentation resulting from the team-based study of a given problem.	51.0%	35.0%
Written exam	51.0%	65.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature

Międzynarodowe stosunki gospodarcze, (red.) T. Michałowski, E. Oziewicz, PWE, Warszawa 2013

Globalizacja i regionalizacja w gospodarce światowej, red. R. Orłowska, K. Żołądkiewicz, PWE, Warszawa 2012 (rchapters: 2, 3, 4, 7, 8.3., 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 10.5, 12).

R. Orłowska, Uwarunkowania i skutki rozwoju migracji ekonomicznych w Unii Europejskiej w świetle wybranych teorii migracji międzynarodowych, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego, Gdańsk 2013

R. Orłowska, K. Żołądkiewicz, A. Dorożyńska, *M*ultiregionalizm: porażka czy sukces Światowej Organizacji Handlu?, Studia Prawno-Ekonomiczne, 2021, t.121, s. 245262.

	Supplementary literature	K. Żołądkiewicz, R. Orłowska, Strefa Wolnego Handlu Australia - Unia Europejska (A - UEFTA), [w:] Polska w Unii Europejskiej - od stowarzyszenia do piętnastolecia członkostwa: monografia jubileuszowa dedykowana Profesor Elżbiecie Kaweckiej-Wyrzykowskiej, red. A.A. Ambroziak i A.D. Szypulewska-Porczyńska, 2020, s. 549570. R. Orłowska, K. Żołądkiewicz, The new face of the World Trade Organization, Gdańsk University Press, Gdańsk 2021. P. Zientara, Międzynarodowe migracje o charakterze ekonomicznym: przyczyny, mechanizmy, konsekwencje, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego, Gdańsk 2012. E. Gostomski, T. Michałowski, Handel światowy przed globalnym kryzysem finansowym i gospodarczym i po nim, "Studia Oeconomica Posnaniensia" 2017, Vol. 5, no. 8, s. 86-99 (dostępne w Internecie: http://soep.ue.poznan.pl/New_SOEP_site/jdownloads/Wszystkie%20numery/Rok%202017/06_gostomski_michalowski.pdf). S. Pangsy-Kania, Polityka innowacyjna państwa a narodowa strategia konkurencyjnego rozwoju, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego, Gdańsk 2007.
	eResources addresses	Basic https://www.worldbank.org/ext/en/home - World Bank Group website https://www.imf.org/ - International Monetary Fund website https://www.wto.org/ - World Trade Organization website

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Examples of exam questions: If you live in New York and are a US citizen and you see a USD/GBP quotation of 0.89, it means that for you: you can get 0.89 US dollars for one pound sterling (£), you can get 1.89 pounds sterling (£) for one US dollar, it is an indirect quotation of USD, it is a direct quotation of USD. Adam Smith's theory of absolute advantage would not hold if the following assumptions were made: differences in the availability of labor factor, lack of internal mobility of the labor factor, lack of foreign cooperation, lack of additional trade costs. Seigniorage income, as one of the benefits for the issuer of an international currency, does not mean: income from agreeing to quote foreign trade transactions in a given currency, e.g., oil in USD, income from issuing banknotes, income from issuing coins, income to the central bank from international settlements. Which of the following statements are true regarding the organization IDA: the main goal is to maintain the balance of payments of member countries, the highest body is the Ministerial Council, it does not have an autonomous highest authority, it is subject to the IBRD authorities, it is an organization affiliated with the IMF. Which item on a country's balance of payments is directly considered when calculating its gross domestic product? the sale of travel insurance services to Poland for a French citizen by a Polish insurance company, foreign direct investments. The benefits of integration should be perceived through: goods purchased by embassies, military bases, lunch of a Polish tourist bought in a restaurant in Paris, France, effects of economies of scale, adaptation of economic entities that have implemented rules of origin of goods within their grouping, effects of the development strategy adopted by the grouping, trade creation and diversion effects. David Ricardo's theory of comparative costs: says that the absolute level of production costs of a given good is not important because the value of the good in exchange will be determined by the value of inputs that a country can save by refraining from producing that good, says that international trade can occur when there are differences in absolute production costs between countries, is not applicable today, does not show the possibility of production specialization between nations when one country produces both products cheaper. The funds for the lending activities of the International Development Association: are obligatorily paid by all IDA members, come from contributions by wealthier WTO members, come from the sale of bonds issued by IBRD on the international capital market, all answers are false. In the dollar-gold system after 1945, the following were mainly used: monetary policy, foreign policy, beggar-thy-neighbor policy, as reserve currencies the US dollar, gold, and the pound sterling. If country X's economy introduces increased tariff rates on the import of good Z in its customs tariff and additionally sets quantitative restrictions on the import of good Z, it means that: in country X's economy, reasons arise related to the differentiated availability of good Z compared to other world economies, resulting from diverse production possibilities, in country X's economy, reasons arise related to the differentiated availability of good Z compared to other world economies, resulting from restrictive elements of the international cooperation mechanism. Comparing TMPP and WMPP, we can state that: in terms of nature, both MPPs do not differ, in terms of participating entities, both MPPs do not differ, in TMPP, trade is based on international prices, in WMPP, trade is based on international prices. In the Heckscher-Ohlin model, assuming 2 factors (labor and capital), the influx of workers from abroad: shifts the production point along the production possibilities curve, shifts the production possibilities curve outward and increases the production of both goods, shifts the production possibilities curve outward and decreases the production of the labor-intensive product, shifts the production possibilities curve outward and decreases the production of the capital-intensive product.
Work placement	Not applicable

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