University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	International Business, PG_00200428		
Field of study	Logistics and Mobility		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026	Academic year of realisation of subject	2026/2027
Education level	Master'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	1	Language of instruction	English
Semester of study	1	ECTS credits	4.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	exam
Conducting unit	Department of Sustainable Market Processes -> Faculty of Economics -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr Renata Orłowska	
	Teachers	mgr Christian Orobello dr Renata Orłowska	

Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	15.0	15.0	0.0	30.0	0.0	60
	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	60	0.0	40.0	100

Subject objectives

During the lectures, students are introduced to the fundamentals of international economic relations, with particular emphasis on international trade, trade policy, and contemporary theories of international trade. Special attention is devoted to the role of international trade in shaping global supply chains, transport systems, and mobility processes. Students also explore current challenges facing the global economy and their impact on international flows of goods, services, and production factors.

The aim of the classes is to provide students with practical knowledge and skills related to international trade, trade policy, and the contemporary functioning of global supply chains. Students develop the ability to analyse international trade, logistics, and mobility data, as well as assess the impact of trade policies and economic developments on international transport and logistics systems.

The aim of the project is to prepare an analytical report concerning a selected country, market, transport corridor, transport system, industry, or supply chain relevant to international logistics and mobility. The report is intended to provide information supporting decision-making in the fields of logistics, transport, and mobility management in an international environment.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[LMMU2_U13] can manage teamwork as well as interact and work in a team (including in an international environment) assuming a leading role in it	The student can manage teamwork as well as interact and work in a team (including in an international environment) assuming a leading role in it.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[LMMU2_W07] has a knowledge of economic and financial principles governing the functioning and management of economic entities and organisations, which require logistics support or provide logistics services, as well as of systems of legal, organisational, professional, moral and ethical norms and rules organising public structures and institutions, both in the national and international spheres	The student has in-depth knowledge of the principles of international business that require logistical support or providing logistical services, as well as of the systems of standards and legal, organizational, moral, and ethical rules organizing the entities of the global economy.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[LMMU2_K02] is aware of the level of his/her knowledge in the field of logistics and mobility; understands the need to extend and update this knowledge throughout his/her life	The student is aware of the level of his/her knowledge in the field of international aspects of logistics and mobility; and understands the need to extend and update this knowledge throughout his/her life.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[LMMU2_U12] can independently plan and implement lifelong learning, and inspire and organise the learning process of others	The student can independently plan and implement lifelong learning, learn about dynamic changes in the world economy, and inspire and organize others' learning processes.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[LMMU2_U10] has an advanced ability to prepare specialist oral presentations on logistics and mobility issues, using specialist theoretical approaches, the principles of collecting various sources of data, their description and interpretation, and drawing conclusions based on scientific literature; can prepare and conduct a debate	The student has an advanced ability to prepare specialist oral presentations on international aspects of logistics and mobility issues, using theoretical approaches, the principles of collecting various sources of data (World Bank, WTO, IMF), their description and interpretation, and drawing conclusions based on scientific literature; can prepare and conduct a debate on current topics regarding the world economy.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion
[LMMU2_W04] knows different types of economic and social ties and regularities governing them; has knowledge of ties between enterprises which require logistics support or provide logistics services	The student knows different types of economic and social relations; and has an in-depth knowledge of ties between enterprises dealing with the international market, and their needs for logistics support.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[LMMU2_K05] correctly identifies, diagnoses and solves dilemmas and alternative solutions related to the profession	The student correctly identifies, diagnoses and solves international business dilemmas and alternative solutions related to his/her profession.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SK4] test/exam - oral or written
[LMMU2_U01] can creatively interpret and explain economic and social phenomena and relations between them, using acquired knowledge of economics, finance, management sciences, logistics and mobility	The student can creatively interpret and explain international economic relations, using acquired knowledge of economics, finance, management sciences, logistics and mobility.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[LMMU2_W03] has a knowledge of relations between economic entities and organisations functioning in the national, international and intercultural spheres; understands importance logistics and mobility for their operation	The student has an in-depth knowledge of international economic relations between economic and business entities and understands the importance of logistics and mobility. The student is able to formulate questions and concerns related to task completion and to deepen their understanding of the content during consultations with the teacher.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[LMMU2_K01] recognises the importance of knowledge in the field of logistics and mobility in the process of identifying and solving work-related problems and of consulting experts when having difficulties in solving them independently	The student recognises the importance of knowledge in the field of international aspects of logistics and mobility in the process of identifying and solving work-related problems and consulting the teacher during consultation hours when having difficulties in solving them independently.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report

Subject contents	LECTURES – 15 HOURS 1. Introduction: The Nature of International Business Introduction to the course, assessment requirements and course organisation. International and domestic economy, gains from trade, classical trade theories, changing structure of international trade, gravity model (GM), and trade barriers. 2. Contemporary International Trade Theory and the International Division of Labour – Main Features and Criticism Product life cycle theory, Linder's representative demand theory, intra-industry trade (IIT), endogenous growth theory (EGT), new growth theory (NGT), new trade theory (NTT), and the Dixit-Stiglitz model. 3. International Trade Policy Liberalism versus protectionism, arguments for free trade, causes of protectionism, trade policy instruments, and controversies in trade policy. 4. Balance of Payments Concept and structure of the balance of payments, balance of payments equilibrium, and the balance of payments as a tool for analysing a country's economic situation. 5. Challenges Facing the Global Economy Challenges of emerging economies, challenges of industrialised economies, and international economic coordination. CLASSES – 15 HOURS 1. Introduction to the Course (1h) a) presentation of the course syllabus, assessment requirements and course organisation, b) analysis of the concept of international business, c) identification of the main actors in international business and global logistics. 2. International Trade and Global Supply Chains (3h) a) analysis of the gains from international trade, b) interpretation of global trade and logistics data, c) analysis of changes in global supply chains, d) analysis of the gravity model. 3. International Trade Policy and Trade Barriers (4h) a) analysis of arguments for free trade and protectionism, b) identification of the beneficiaries and costs of protectionism, c) analysis of tariff and non-tariff trade barriers, d) assessment of the impact of trade policy on logistics and mobility. 4. Balance of Payments as a Tool for Economic Analysis (3h) a) analysis of the structure of the balance of payments, b) interpretation of balance of payments data, c) identification of sources of external imbalances, d) analysis of selected country cases. 5. Challenges for Global Supply Chains and Mobility (2h) a) analysis of disruptions in global supply chains, b) analysis of challenges facing transport and logistics systems, c) assessment of the role of international coordination, d) discussion of contemporary challenges in global mobility. 6. Course Assessment (2h) a) review of key course topics, b) written test. PROJECT WORK – 30 HOURS Global Business Observation Project Global Supply Chain Intelligence Report The project aims to develop an analytical report concerning a selected country, market, logistics corridor, transport system, industry, or supply chain relevant to international business and logistics. The report should provide information supporting decision-making in international logistics and mobility management. 1. Topic Selection and Project Planning (3h) a) selection of a country, market, logistics corridor, transport system, industry, or supply chain, b) definition of the report objective, c) identification of information needs, d) development of an analytical plan. 2. Information Collection and Source Evaluation (3h) a) identification of data sources, b) evaluation of source credibility, c) preparation of a database of sources and data. 3. Profile of the Analysed Object (4h) a) characteristics of the selected country, market, corridor, or supply chain, b) analysis of key economic and logistics indicators, c) identification of development trends. 4. Analysis of the International Environment (4h) a) analysis of the position within global trade networks, b) analysis of logistics and transport connections, c) identification of key partners and competitors.

	5. Analysis of Opportunities and Risks (4h) a) identification of growth drivers, b) identification of logistics and supply chain risks, c) assessment of external factors affecting mobility. 6. Data Analysis and Interpretation (4h) a) preparation of empirical material, b) interpretation of statistical and logistics data, c) formulation of conclusions. 7. Development of Recommendations (3h) a) identification of possible development paths, b) preparation of recommendations for logistics and mobility stakeholders. 8. Preparation of the Final Report (5h) a) integration of analytical findings, b) preparation of the Executive Summary, c) drafting and editing the final report. Project outcome: Global Supply Chain Intelligence Report together with an Executive Summary. Consultations will be used to clarify more complex issues related to the course topics.
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Knowledge of basic theories and terminology regarded to the world economy.

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
class activity	51.0%	20.0%
written exam	51.0%	40.0%
group project	51.0%	40.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature	Krugman P., Obstfeld M., International Economics. Theory and Policy, 12th ed. (2022) or earlier, Published by Pearson Czinkota M., et al, International Business, London: John Wiley & Sons 2009 (European Edition) R.Orłowska, K.Żołądkiewicz, The new face of the World Trade Organization, Gdansk University Press, Gdansk 2021, (pp. 37-54; 143-176). P.Zientara, International economic relations. Selected theoretical issues and policy implications, Univertsity Press, Gdansk 2019.
Supplementary literature	Rugman A.M., Collinson S., International business, 6th ed. (2012), Published by Pearson J. Stiglitz, Globalization and its discontents, New York, W.W. Norton 2002.
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	1. Which of the following statement/statements is/are true: a. Local content requirements is a regulation that requires that some specific fraction of a final good is produced in foreign country. b. Standardization of health and safety norms are not a useful tool to minimize the trade consequences. c. Antidumping duties are response to unfair trade practices and the injury to domestic producers and are proportionate to the size of the price differential. d. Import quotas raise the price of imports by restricting their quantity. 2. An American tourist in France paid $200 for a lunch in one of French restaurants charging this amount on his Visa credit card. In BOP this transaction will be recorded as following: a. CA: 200$ credit and FA: 200$ debit b. CA: 200$ debit and CA: 200$ credit c. CA: 200$ debit and FA: 200$ credit d. FA: 200$ debit and CA: 200$ credit 3. Which of these statement(s) is/are true? a. If Toyota Inc. of Japan builds an automobile assembly plant in the United States, the Japanese capital account would register an outflow. b. Unilateral transfers refer to two-sided transactions, reflecting the movement of goods and services in one direction with corresponding payments in the other direction c. On the balance-of-payments statement, a capital inflow can be likened to the import of goods and services. d. In the balance-of-payments statement, statistical discrepancy is treated as part of the merchandise trade account because merchandise transactions are generally the most frequent source of error.
Work placement	Not applicable

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