Professor: Brian Allen Hunt  
Location: Aderhold Learning Center, Room 106  
Class days: MW 10:55am – 1:25pm  
Email: bhunt@gsu.edu [email option on Ulearn is the preferred way to contact me]  
Office Hours: Mon and Wed; 5:00pm – 7:00pm and by Appointment  
Office: Andrew Young School (14 Marietta Street, NW), PTI Office (VAULT), V56  

**Required Text:**  

Some extra material will be given out in class/posted on Ulearn as we cover some special topics. This material includes but is not limited to articles, assigned readings, data sets, and reports. Please attend class regularly and check your email on Ulearn often for the announcements of these materials.

**Course Description:**

There are two objectives in this course: one is to give you some theoretical insights that have formed the core of the subjects in International Finance. Issues such as how international financial markets work, the understanding of exchange rates, the exchange markets, the fluctuations in the currency values, developments in international portfolios and the measurement and management of risk in international financial positions are the basic concepts that will be covered in the theoretical part. The second objective which complements the first one is the policy part where the application of the theory to some major past and current policy questions are analyzed.

Some possible topics are as follows: What is the proper response by a monetary authority to a financial crisis? Why countries participate in fixed exchange rate regimes? What can central banks do under different exchange rate regimes? Why does the US continue to have a prolonged current account deficit? In this course special attention will be given to the present Euro crisis; as well as sovereign credit risk.

I expect and hope that, when you walk out from the classroom by the end of the semester, you will have a good understanding of the main analytical tools and policy issues in International Finance.
Course Prerequisite: Econ 2105 and a comfortable working of knowledge of algebra.

Course Requirements:

Evaluation

First Exam (chapters 13-16*) Wed, June 27th 30%
Second Exam (chapters 17-20*) Wed, July 11th 30%
In-class Quizzes (4 total) 10%
Comprehensive Final Exam* Thurs., July 25th at 10:45am-1:15pm** 30%

- **Chapters covered from primary text in course.** As well as all other course materials - articles, readings, etc. The exam dates are firm and are not expected to change.

The above is a general outline of the chapters covered in the course that each examination will cover. This is subject to change and dependent upon the progression of the material covered in the course.

Prior to exam #1, I will explain the format of the inclass examinations. Inclass examinations maybe a combination of multiple-choice, short-essay, and short-problems. I will let the class know of what will be the most suitable exam format. The study guide for the exam will also remphasize the exam format and provide working criteria to help you prepare. If essay questions are given, possible exam essay questions will be given in advance in a posted study guide. A study guide for exams 1 and 2 will be posted on Ulearn within one week prior to the examination date.

- **Quizzes and postde practice question sets.** To help you prepare for upcoming quizzes in the course (as well as examinations), practice multiple choice questions and practice problems will be posted on ulearn. Most practice problems will be covered in class as part of lectures and discussion. Short quizzes to be given will be either multiple-choice, short-problems (graphical/quantitative), or both. Inclass quizzes will normally be given during the last 20-30 minutes of class on the date of the announced quiz. **No make-up quizzes will be given in this course. There will be no exceptions to this.**

- **Final Exam (optional).** The final exam on July 25th at 10:45am is optional and will be comprehensive of material covered in the course (chapters 13-22). If you are happy with your posted pre-final exam course grade going into the final exam, you can choose to not take the final exam and your course grade going into the final exam will be your posted pre-final exam course grade. Your pre-final
exam course grade will be posted in your gradebook on Ulearn by the end of the last official week of class or last class meeting.

If you choose to take the final exam, understand that the final exam can only help you; not hurt you. This is the only exam in the course that will not be applied to your overall course grade if it makes you worse off.

If you take the final exam and the final exam makes you worse off, then your grade for the course will be your posted pre-final exam course grade going into the final exam. For example…Your pre-final exam course grade going into the final is an 85 [ based on 70% of the course assessments: exams 1-2 (at 30% each) and quizzes (weighted equally for a total 10%). You bomb the final exam which would lower your final course grade. You would get the 85.

I will only use your final exam grade, and weight it at 30% if it makes your overall course grade better off. Posted in your gradebook will be the final exam grade you would need to earn to achieve your next highest +/- letter grade (i.e. to bring your B- to a B; C+ to a B-, A- to an A, etc, etc). The weight of the final exam (30%) will NOT be redistributed over any quizzes or exams 1-2. The final exam will only be weighted at 30% if it makes you better off. Also, a final exam grade will not be used to substitute for a low exam 1 or 2 grade.

If you choose to opt out of the final exam, your non-attendance for the final exam states your understanding of the above and your acceptance of the above information, and your acceptance of your posted pre-final exam course grade as your overall/final course grade for the course. Attendance during the final exam will be taken. No make-up final exams will be offered/given under any circumstances.

- You must take the final exam at the university scheduled time.
Grade Scale
Exams are graded in a scale from 0 to 100%. The conversion to letter grades is the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Grade</th>
<th>Required (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>95-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>87-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>84-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>81-83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>77-80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>75-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>67-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>≤ 59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above grading scale will be enforced during this course. After your post-final exam course grade has been rounded, there will be no grade bumps given. This means if your overall course grade when rounded at the end of the course is an 89 your grade will be an 89. You get what you earn.

Course Notes:
1. **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS** will be given without a provided documented medical excuse [or any other official documentation that substantiates the need for you to miss an examination—for example: jury duty, military leave, business travel, family death, hospitalization, official travel for the University ]. Contact me immediately by phone and email if an event arises that will cause you to miss an exam #1 or #2.

If a make up is allowed, the type of the exam will be at the discretion of the instructor and will only be made-up during posted office hours only. All exam dates (including the final exam) are posted in this syllabus. Any make-up exam given must be made-up within one week of the official examination date. Non-adherence to this requirement will result in a grade of 0 for the assessment.

**NO MAKE-UP FINAL EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN IN THIS COURSE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.** Should you need to take your final exam early, due to jury duty, military leave, business travel, etc, please see me following EXAM 1 in the course.
NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES will be given in this course. All quizzes will be announced in advance. Be in class to get this information. Again, no make-up quizzes will be given. If you miss a quiz, your missed quiz will still count towards your overall grade.

2. There may be revisions to the syllabus during the course. Make sure that you get informed about any changes that may take place. Check often your email inbox on Ulearn for the course for important course announcements.

3. Classes will be informal lectures and most of the theory and models will be explained using graphical analysis and math.

Attendance:
It is in your best interest to attend every class as materials will be covered fairly quickly. You will be responsible for all information given that is not included in the book and for the assigned readings. If you miss a class, contact one of your classmates to get information on what you missed.

Course Outline
From the required text (Krugman, Obstfeld, and Melitz) we will cover Chapters 13-22. Some extra material will be given out as we cover some special topics. This material includes but is not limited to practice problem sets and articles. Class format will make use of informal lectures and class discussions. During class meetings, we will use time to conduct graphical and quantitative analysis. I will use a mixture of powerpoint presenttaions and work on the board (to cover graphical and quantitative analysis). This means there will be deviations from my lecture slides from time-to-time.

Do not rely soley on my powerpoints for notes as there will be deviations from time-to-time. Also, when announced in class, read posted news articles. News articles from “The Economist” magazine will be used from time-to-time to reinforce course content and theroetical insights.

Other Important Course Notes
1. This course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary.
2. Georgia State University complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students with disabilities who seek academic accommodations must first take appropriate documentation to the Office of Disability Services located in Suite 230 of the new Student Center.
3. If you require special accommodations for exams (e.g., "time and a half"), you must provide documentation from GSU Disability Services\(^1\) and make arrangements with me at least two days before the first exam.
4. Incompletes will only be given to students who are passing the course, and even then, only in very special circumstances. In the case where an incomplete is awarded, it must be removed by the end of the next term that the student is enrolled (and within two terms regardless of whether or not the student is enrolled) or it will automatically turn into an F.
5. Students who withdraw after the midpoint of each term will not be eligible for a "W" except in cases of hardship. A student who withdraws after the midpoint of the term is assigned a grade of "WF," except in those cases in which (1) hardship status is determined by the Office of the Dean of Students\(^2\) because of emergency employment, or health reasons, and (2) the student is doing passing work, as determined by the student's instructor(s).
6. Effective Fall 2001, all instructors must, on a date after the mid-point of the course (to be set by the Provost) give a WF to all those students who are on their rolls, but no longer taking the class and report the last day the student attended or turned in an assignment. If you plan to drop the class, let me know.
7. June 29\(^{th}\) is the last day to withdraw and possibly receive a “W”.
8. Statement: “Your constructive assessment of this course plays an indispensable role in shaping education at Georgia State. Upon completing the course, please take time to fill out the online course evaluation”.
9. Statement: “Students who wish to request accommodation for a disability may do so by registering with the Office of Disability Services. Students may only be accommodated upon issuance by the Office of Disability Services of a signed Accommodation Plan and are responsible for providing a copy of that plan to instructors of all classes in which an accommodation is sought”.

This course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary.

Important Dates:

06/04/12 - Summer Starts
06/08/12 - Last Day to add/drop classes
06/29/12 - Last day to Withdraw (http://www.gsu.edu/registrar/withdrawals.html for details)
07/04/12 – Independence Day (University Official Holiday – no classes)
07/23/12 – Last day of 7 week courses
07/24 – 07/28/12 – Finals for 7 week courses
07/31/12- Grades are Due by 5 pm.

\(^1\) See http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwods/
\(^2\) See http://www.gsu.edu/~wwwdos/