GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY
Economics of Global Finance
Economics 8860-005 (CRN#81075)
Fall 2012

Professor: Brian Allen Hunt
Location: Classroom South, Room 101
Class days: Thurs 7:15pm – 9:45pm
Email: bhunt@gsu.edu [email option on Ulearn is the preferred way to contact me]
Office Hours: Tues/Thurs 4:00pm to 6:30pm and By Appointment (No Fridays)
Office: Andrew Young School (14 Marietta Street, NW), PTI Office (VAULT), V56
Cell: 678-637-7197

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, reports, problem sets, case studies/news article reviews. Please attend class regularly and check your email on Ulearn often for the announcements of these materials. Class format will be a mixture of lecture, applied problem solving, and case/news analysis. This course is designed to be current with ongoing issues in the international finance/international economics arena. Course is designed to meet multiple constituent needs at the MA Economics, MBA, and Public Policy level.

Course Description:

This course deals with the functioning of the international monetary system and its financial markets which set or influence foreign exchange rates. It develops an open economy macro model showing balance of payments equilibrium, and assesses policies to deal with imbalances. It examines the impact of international capital flows. In this course, special attention will be given to the present Euro Crisis; as well as Sovereign Credit Risk.

Requirements:

Prerequisites are Econ 2105 and Econ 2106. Some background in International Finance is helpful but not required.
Evaluation:

- **First Exam (chapters 2-4*) Thursday, September 13th** 25%
- **Second Exam (chapters 5 - 7*) Thursday, October 11th** 25%
- **Third Exam (chapters 8-10*) Thursday, November 15th** 25%
- **Comprehensive Final Exam Thurs., 12/06/12 at 7:00pm-9:30pm** 25%

- **Chapters covered from primary text in course.** As well as all other course materials - articles, readings, etc. Examinations will have 3 parts: problem section; multiple choice; and essay. Essay portion(s) will be given in advance as a take home portion with the problem section(s) and multiple choice section(s) given as the in-class portions. All examinations will be given as Blue Book exams

- **Final Exam (optional).** The final exam on December 6th at 7:00pm is optional and will be comprehensive of material covered in the course (chapters 2-10). If you are happy with your 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 75% of the course assessments: exams 1-3 (at 25% each)]. 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 25% 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 (25%) will NOT be redistributed over exams 1-3. The final exam will only be weighted at 25% if it makes you better off. **Also, a final exam grade will not**
be used to substitute for a low exam 1, 2 or 3 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>98-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>95-97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>74-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</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 post-final, 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.*

**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, #2, or #3.

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 under any circumstance.** Should you need to take your final exam early, due to jury duty, military leave, business travel, etc, please see me following EXAM 2 in the course.

2. **NO EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE GIVEN IN THE COURSE**

3. There may be revisions to the syllabus during the course or changes to examination dates in order to meet the flow and structure of 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 these important announcements.

4. Classes will be informal lectures, applied problem solving, and case studies/news article analysis. 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 (Feenstra and Taylor) we will cover Chapters 1-10. 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.

**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. **October 9th 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:**

08/20/12 – Fall Classes Starts
08/24/12 - Last Day to add/drop classes
09/03/12—Labor Day (no classes held)
10/09/12 - Last day to Withdraw [http://www.gsu.edu/registrar/withdrawals.html](http://www.gsu.edu/registrar/withdrawals.html) for details)
11/19/12- 11/24/12—Thanksgiving Break (no classes)
12/03/12 –Fall Classes End
12/04/12 – 12/11/12—Final Exams
12/13/12- Grades are Due by 5 pm.

---

1 See [http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwods/](http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwods/)
2 See [http://www.gsu.edu/~wwwdos/](http://www.gsu.edu/~wwwdos/)