UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Course Unit Program
International Economics

Academic Year 2025/2026

1. Organic Unit

Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences

2. Course

ECONOMICS

3. Cycle

1st

4. Course Unit

International Economics (03318)

5. Scientific Area

6. Curricular Year

2nd

7. Type of Curricular Unit / Semester

1st Semester

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8. Class type and workload (work time)

Theoretical classes:	
Practical classes:	
Theoretical-Practical Classes	30,00
Tutorial Guidance:	20,00

9. ECTS Credits

6,00

10. Scientific Area Coordinator

11. Regent

Prof. Doutor ALVARO ANTONIO CALADO AFONSO MATIAS

12. Assistants

13. Teaching Language

Portuguese

14. General Objectives

The main objective of this curricular unit is to provide students with solid basic training in the fields of international trade theory, models and instruments of trade policy, the economic theory of international integration and international monetary and financial economics.

15. Specific Objectives

It is intended to make students familiar with the main theories and methodologies for studying international trade, as well as with the effects of trade policy instruments on social well-being, while providing basic knowledge about international monetary and financial economics, namely with regard to the different exchange rate regimes and the evolution of the International Monetary and Financial System up to the present day.

16. Skills to be acquired

Knowledge of different models and explanatory theories of international trade.
Mastery of the various trade policy instruments and ability to understand and explain international trade flows.
Ability to assess the effect of economic policies on output and exchange rate.

17. Teaching Methodology

Expository and active-interrogative methods are used in systematic articulation, by making use of practical illustrative cases in order to give concrete support to the framework, concepts and models inherent to each of the subjects to be taught.

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18. Course Unit Program

1. Introduction to International Economics
1.1. The object of international economics
1.2. Genesis and evolution of international trade
1.3. Trade, development and the international economic order
1.4. Globalization and fundamental problems of the International Economy

2. International trade theory
2.1. Classical and neoclassical theories
2.1.1. Pre-theorizations: mercantilism and the physiocratic reaction
2.1.2. The Smithian model and the absolute advantages
2.1.3. The Ricardian model and relative advantages
2.1.4. The Hecksher-Ohlin model and the H-O theorems, factor price equalization, Rybczinski, and Stolper-Samuelson theorems
2.2. Contemporary theories of international trade
2.1.1. Michael Porter's Competitive Advantage Model
2.1.2. Imperfect competition and the New Theories of International Trade (the Krugman era and intra- and inter-industry models)

3. International trade, economic integration and trade policies
3.1. Specialization and trade indicators
3.2. Trade models and trade policy instruments
3.3. Open economy, globalization and protectionism
3.4. Economic integration, regional trade blocs and international trade-related institutions
3.5. The European Union
3.5.1 Genesis and Actuality
3.5.2 Completing EMU - the challenge of the present and the preparation of the future.

4. International monetary and financial economy
4.1. National accounting and balance of payments
4.2. Exchange rate regimes and international financial markets
4.3. Determination of the equilibrium exchange rate
4.4. Flexible exchange rates vs. fixed exchange rates: - Characterization and effects of monetary and budgetary policies

5. The International Monetary and Financial System
5.1. The gold standard system
5.2. The Bretton Woods system
5.3. The theory of Optimal Currency Zones and the European Economic and Monetary Union
5.4. The great financial crisis 2007-2012: reasons and consequences for the international economy and, in particular, for the International Monetary and Financial System
5.5. Globalization and the International Financial System: issues for discussion.
5.6. News: post-pandemic and war in Europe - implications for the international economy

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19. Assessment Methods

1. Two written tests;
2. Eventually, Minitests/Homework, to be solved using Moodle or a similar platform;
3. Attendance, initiative and participation.

20. Didactic Resources

Powerpoint slides will be widely used.
Official internet sources will also be used, namely bibliographic, informative and statistical sources.
In addition to the bibliography indicated in this form, additional sources will also be indicated during the classes.

21. Sustainability Objectives

This subject will be taught accordingly with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations and in line with the global education strategy for sustainable development goals (SDG). Its aims are fully in compliance with one of the targets of the SDG on education (SDG 4.7), which is considered a driver for the achievements of all 17 SDGs. The subject aims to empower students to make informed decisions in favour of environmental integrity, economic viability and social prosperity.

22. Keywords

Economics
Business
Integration
Globalization
Currency Exchange
Monetary system
Financial syste

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23. Main Bibliography

Author(s): KRUGMAN, Paul; OBSTFELD, Maurice; MELITZ, Marc
Title: International Economics: Theory and Policy
Edition: 12nd Year: 2022
Local:
Publisher: Pearson Education Limited
ISBN Code:

Author(s): APPLEYARD, Dennis R.; FIELD Jr., Alfred J.; COBB, Steven L.
Title: International Economics
Edition: 10th Year: 2020
Local: New York
Publisher: McGraw-Hill Education
ISBN Code:

Author(s):
Title:
Edition: Year:
Local:
Publisher:
ISBN Code:

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24. Complementary Bibliography

Author(s): FEENSTRA Robert C.: TAYLOR, Alan M.
Title: International Economics
Edition: 5TH Year: 2021
Local:
Publisher: McMillan Press
ISBN Code:

Author(s): BRAKMAN, Steven et al.
Title: Nations and Firms in the Global Economy: An Introduction to International Economics and Business
Edition: 1ª Year: 2006
Local:
Publisher: Cambridge
ISBN Code:

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Ficha técnica MIP / MIP Datasheet	
Título / Title	Course Unit Program 'ECONOMIA INTERNACIONAL': Academic Year 2025/2026
Autor / Author	Prof. Doutor ALVARO ANTONIO CALADO AFONSO MATIAS
Classificação / Classification	-
Descritores / Descriptors	-
Colaborador(es) / Colaborator(s)	-
Data Hora / Date Time	
Formato de dados / Data Format	Texto / Text, PDF
Estatuto de utilização / Usage	Acesso público / Public Access
Relação / Relation	Version 2,0

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