



# McGill

School of  
Continuing Studies

École  
d'éducation permanente

Department of Career and Professional Development

[www.mcgill.ca/conted-cms/](http://www.mcgill.ca/conted-cms/)

## Course Syllabus

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**Course Name:** North America and Global Economy

**CPL2-561-781**

**CRN:2053**

**Instructor:** Prof. **Kenneth N. Matziorinis**, B.A, M.A, Ph.D., C.M.C.

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**Location:** Arts Building, Room 260

**Course Objectives:** The objectives of this course are three:

1. Introduce the student to the basic theory of international trade and finance and the global monetary and financial architecture.
2. Provide the student with the basic analytical tools, skills and insight to understand the forces and events that are shaping the global economy and affect our lives.
3. Show the interrelationships between economics and politics and provide a historical perspective that helps elucidate and explain the trade policy of nations and the and evolution of the world economy.

**Course Description:** This course is a guided research effort on international trade and finance, the international monetary system, trade policy, global economic relations, economic history and international political economy. Topics covered include Canada's global economic relations from a bilateral, regional and multilateral perspective; the institutions of the international trading and monetary system such as BIS, IMF, WTO, World Bank, G10 and G20; the history and development of the global monetary and trading system from the end of World War II to the current round of multilateral negotiations (DDA); regional trading agreements and regional economic integration such as the EU and NAFTA; the rise of regional trading blocks; the role of multinational corporations and issues arising from globalization.

**Required Textbook:** **Matziorinis, K. (2011) International Economic Relations: Theory & Global Environment**, Canbek Publications

Additional readings, will be supplied by the instructor and in response to student suggestions.

**Resource Material:** It is recommended that you read on a regular basis the financial pages of media sources such as the *Globe & Mail*, *The National Post*, *Business Week*, *Financial Times*, *The Economist* and *Bloomberg.com*. All of these sources are accessible through the Internet. You can also make use of the instructor's web site at: [www.canbekeconomics.com](http://www.canbekeconomics.com) On the *Economic & Finance Links* page of this site you will find a multitude of useful economics and business links relevant to this course including the link *Information & Data on International Trade & Investment* as well as your other links useful in the program, and your work.

On the *McGill Courses* page WebCT you will find the course syllabus, guidelines for trade report, topics for research paper and other material pertinent to the course.

**Course Requirements and Evaluation:**

Your evaluation is based on the following requirements:

1. Trade Report and PPT class presentation	25%	Due February 16, 2012
2. Individual Research Paper	25%	Due April 5, 2012
3. Final Exam	40%	April 17 – 30 <sup>th</sup>
4. Class Participation	10%	
	Total	<hr/> 100%

For the Regional or Country Research Reports students are to form teams of two to prepare the reports from primary sources that will be supplied by the instructor. Students are to make a class presentation on power point of their findings, which will be followed by class discussion. Specific guidelines for the preparation of the report are posted on the course website. Teams will present their reports to the class after the study break. The breakdown of the mark is 10 points on the quality of the report submitted and graded by the professor, 15 points graded by students on a peer basis, 10 points for the quality of the class presentation and 5 points for team-member evaluation (each member evaluates the contribution of the other to the team effort). Trade reports are due by February 18<sup>th</sup>.

The research paper is to be written on an international economic issue to be selected by the student and represents an individual effort. Although a list of suggested topics will be provided, students are encouraged to come up with a topic themselves and propose it to the instructor for approval. All topics should be agreed upon in advance and discussed with the instructor. The Trade Reports will be discussed and coordinated in class as to topics, sources, structure and content. Papers are due by April 5<sup>th</sup>.

Class participation will consist of 4 points for attendance, 4 points for participation in class discussions and 2 points for original insights and thought provoking discussion.

**Course Material:** Only non-programmable, no-tape, noiseless calculators are allowed. Calculators capable of storing text are not permitted in examinations. Handheld devices capable of storing text and having calculator functionality (e.g. Palm, etc.) are not permitted. Language dictionaries are permitted.

**Language Policy:** *Right to Submit in English or French written work that is to be graded*

In accordance with McGill University's Charter of Students' Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.

**Academic Integrity:** *Code of Student Conduct*

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see [www.mcgill.ca/integrity](http://www.mcgill.ca/integrity) for more information).

**Final Exam Policy:** *Regulations*

Students should not make other commitments during the final exam period. Vacation plans do not constitute valid grounds for the deferral or the rescheduling of examinations. See the Centre Calendar for the regulations governing Examinations:

<http://www.mcgill.ca/conted-students/exams/regulations/>

Students are required to present their I.D. Card (with photo) for entrance to their examination.

*Conflicts*

If you are unable to write your final examination due to scheduling conflicts, you must submit a Final Exam Conflict Form with supporting documentation at least **one month** before the start of the final examination period. Late submissions will not be accepted. For details, see

<http://www.mcgill.ca/conted-students/exams/conflicts/>

*Exam Timetable*

Examination schedules are posted at the Centre and on the following page approximately 6-8 weeks before the examination period commences

<http://www.mcgill.ca/conted-cms/exams/>

The Centre cannot provide examination dates over the telephone.

**Classroom Rules:** All electronic devices (cell phones and beepers) must be turned off during class time.

**Email Policy:** E-mail is one of the official means of communication between McGill University and its students. As with all official University communications, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that time-critical e-mail is accessed, read, and acted upon in a timely fashion. If a student chooses to forward University e-mail to another e-mail mailbox, it is that student's responsibility to ensure that the alternate account is viable.

Please note that to protect the privacy of the students, the University will only reply to the students on their McGill e-mail account.

**Computing Resources:** The McGill Association of Continuing Education Students, MACES ([www.maces.mcgill.ca](http://www.maces.mcgill.ca)), at 3437 Peel, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, tel. (514) 398-4974 has a computer lab available for all students of Centre for Continuing Education.

**General Grading System:** The grading will be as follows;

**Graduate Level** (please note that the highlighted area is average grade range).

A	(85-100%)	Pass
A-	(80-84%)	
B+	(75-79%)	
B	(70-74%)	
B-	(65-69%)	
F	(0-64%)	Failure
P		Pass

**Undergraduate Level** (please note that the highlighted area is average grade range).

A	(85-100%)	Satisfactory Pass
A-	(80-84%)	
B+	(75-79%)	
B	(70-74%)	
B-	(65-69%)	
C+	(60-64%)	
C	(55-59%)	
D*	(50-54%)	Conditional Pass
F	(0-49%)	Failure
P		Pass

\* Although D is a passing grade, it will not permit entry into a subsequent course for which it is a prerequisite, nor will it be recognized if the course is a compulsory course in your program.

*Grade Point Average*

Letter grades are assigned grade points according to the following table:

A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
D	1.0
F	0

Standing in a department will be determined on the basis of the Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) computed by adding the product for each course of the course credits times the grade points, and dividing by the total course credits attempted:

$$\text{CGPA} = \frac{\text{sum (course credits x grade points)}}{\text{sum (course credits attempted)}}$$

Grades of D or F continue to be used in the calculation of the CGPA even after the course is repeated or a supplemental examination is taken.

Grades of J and KF count as 0 grade points in the CGPA. Courses with a grade of W, WF, WL or KK are not included in the calculation.

For details, see <http://www.mcgill.ca/conted-students/grades/>

**Students Rights and Responsibilities:**

Regulations and policies governing students at McGill University can be downloaded from the website:

<http://www.mcgill.ca/deanofstudents/rights/>

**Students Services and Resources:**

Various services and resources, such as email access, walksafes, library access, etc., are available to Continuing Education students:

<http://www.mcgill.ca/conted-students/services/>

**Minerva for Students:** <http://www.mcgill.ca/minerva-students/>

**Schedule of Lectures, Topics and Readings**

**SEE BELOW**

## Schedule of Lectures, Topics and Readings

CLASS	DATE	CHAPTERS	TOPICS
1	Jan 12	1	Course Introduction
2	Jan 19	3	Consumer & producer surplus and welfare effects of barriers to trade
3	Jan 26	4	Theories of international trade, arguments for free trade, arguments for protectionism and fair trade
4	Feb 2	6	Balance of payments, net international investment position, external private and public debt
5	Feb 9	6	Exchange rate determination, exchange rate regimes and exchange rate policy
6	Feb 16	7	History of the international monetary system, the Bretton Woods system and the post 1971 dollar standard
	Feb 20-25		Mid-term <b>STUDY BREAK</b>
7	March 1	5, 8,10	Political economy of trade policy, the evolution of the post-war trading system, GATT, WTO & Doha
8	March 8		Team Class Presentations
9	March 15		Team Class Presentations
10	March 22		Team Class Presentations
11	March 29	11	History and evolution of Canada's trade policy, The FTA and NAFTA
12	April 5	9	Global trading imbalances, the global financial crisis and Challenges facing the global financial and trading system
13	April 12	12, 13	Regional economic integration and regional trading blocks The Euro debt crisis
14	Apr 17-30 TBA		Three-Hour <b>FINAL EXAM</b> (Closed Book)