



INSTEP-WFU CAMBRIDGE

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES

This course aims to provide students with the opportunity to explore a number of topical issues and current debates in the international economy. Since the onset of the global financial crisis many of these issues have moved centre stage in discussions of national and global macro-economic policy. The course is not a text-book course but rather aims to show students how basic economic analysis can be used to address and analyse important issues in macroeconomic policy. For each topic the course material is structured to acquaint students with the relevant economic theory, empirical evidence and implications for government policy. Knowledge of basic macro and micro-economics is advantageous for those taking this course. Detailed reading will be given prior to the sessions.

Course Topics

1. Why Do Macroeconomists Never Agree? A Methodological Inquiry
2. International Aspects of the Subprime Crisis.
3. Is Economic Growth Passe? On the Economics of Happiness and its International Aspects.
4. Should We Worry About Income Inequality?
5. Rational Expectations Versus Behavioural Economics and the Policy Implications.
6. The Economics of BREXIT.

Course Structure

This course will follow the Cambridge supervision format where students will be expected to be prepared for each supervision by completing the proposed readings, producing the required writings, and being prepared to discuss and defend their findings. In addition to discussions on the relevant topics, students should expect to prepare short presentations and engage in class.

Course Assessment

The final grade in the course will consist of the grades achieved on the five (5) essays of 1500 words assigned throughout the course. Note: Grade penalties will be imposed for late submissions of essays.