

Economics 555: International Trade

Term 2, 2009-2010

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Time and Location: Wednesday and Friday 12am-1:30pm, Neville Scarfe 204

Office Hours: Wednesday 10-11am

Course Webpage: <http://faculty.arts.ubc.ca/hkasahara/econ555.html>

Textbooks:

Freenstra, R.C. (2004) "Advanced International Trade: Theory and Evidence," Princeton University Press. We also refer to various journal articles on the reading list.

Course Description and Requirement:

This course will cover core theoretical and empirical topics in international trade. There is an emphasis on quantitative analysis as well as a firm-level approach to study international trade. There are three requirements. First, you must write two referee reports on papers that are on the reading lists. The referee report should be approximately 3-4 pages doublespaced. The first paragraph(s) should summarize the paper, describe the main feature of the paper, and discuss its contributions to the existing literature. The report should discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the paper. Be constructively critical: what was convincing about the paper? What could be improved? What areas does it leave unexplored? Second, you must present one paper that are on the reading list by yourself or together with one of your classmates. Ph.D students are encourage to present by her/himself. The length of presentation is 45min. Please let me know which paper you will present (and whether you will present by yourself or not) by March 19. You must email me your presentation slides at least three days before your presentation. If you have a paper you feel strongly about but is not on the reading list, you may write a report on that paper or present it with my prior approval. Third, there is a final exam.

Grading is based on referee reports (30%), presentations (40%), and final exam (30%).