

# COMPARATIVE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS ECONOMICS 2162B-001

Department of Economics  
Western University

Office Hours: Friday 9:30 -11:30 (ET) by appointment

Delivery Mode: Online asynchronous

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## **Registration**

You are responsible for ensuring you are registered in the correct courses. If you are not registered in this course, the Department will not release any of your marks until your registration is corrected. You may check your timetable by using the Login on the Student Services website at <https://student.uwo.ca>. If you notice a problem, please contact your home Faculty Academic Counsellor immediately.

**Prerequisites: Economics 2150A/B and Economics 2152A/B.**

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment in your fees. This decision can not be appealed.

If you do not have the course prerequisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help to protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require this course for graduation.

## **Course Description**

The operation of business today requires that firms take an international perspective in order to remain competitive and profitable. Hence the international business firm necessarily must deal with international finance.

This course will focus on the use of international financial markets as a method of raising capital and mitigating risk.

Foreign exchange markets, money markets, bond and equity markets will be covered in an international context.

In addition foreign direct investment, political risk, capital budgeting, taxation and corporate governance will be discussed.

## Learning objectives

This course aims to engage students in the workings of the international financial markets. At the end of this course student will be able to:

- Identify the various financial tools used by the international firm to operate in international markets.
  
- Participate in discussions on risk management of the firm from an international perspective.
  
- Discuss the effect of exchange rates on transactions.

## Virtual Attendance

The course will be taught entirely online. All lectures will appear on a weekly basis just as if we were in a classroom. You are expected to **“attend”** every lecture **in its entirety** by watching the recorded lectures. Questions on quizzes or tests may be based on topics covered in the lectures. Not all topics are covered in the textbook.

## Assessment

### Dates

Quiz 1 .....Jan 26  
Test 1..... Feb 2  
Quiz 2..... Mar 2  
Test 2..... Mar 16  
Test 3 .....set by registrar

### Weights:

Test I ..... 25%  
Test II..... 30%  
Quizzes/participation reports (2) 6%  
Final exam ..... 39%

**No makeup tests will be given.** If student misses a test/quiz, and has : 1) –reported their absence OR 2) has received accommodation from academic counselling then the weight of the missed test/quiz will be reallocated to the final test. This is **the only method** of accommodation for missed tests/quizzes that will be offered in this course.

NB. Students MUST keep abreast of course developments on an ongoing basis. This means checking the announcements section of the OWL site every day (24 hour period). All communication regarding changes of dates, course structure, course topics or anything else will be posted on announcements.

**PLEASE check your UWO email !! DO NOT link your UWO email to other email servers (e.g. gmail). If I need to contact you I will use your UWO mail .**

**Failure to keep up with course changes or date deadlines will not be considered for grade accommodations.**

**No makeup tests will be given.** If student misses a test, the weight of the missed test will be reallocated to the final exam. This is **the only method** of accommodation for missed tests that will be used in this course.

NB. Students MUST keep abreast of course developments on an ongoing basis. This means checking the announcements section of the OWL site. All communication regarding changes of dates, course structure, course topics or anything else will be posted on announcements.

## **Course Materials**

The textbook for the course is: Eiteman David, Arthur Stonehill and Michael Moffat. *Fundamentals of International Business Finance*.

There is also an OWL course site where I will post **some of the additional material used in the course. Required readings** may also appear on the OWL site. These readings **are subject to examination**. This site will require your personnel UWO email password.

## **Problems**

There are no problems sets that are you must hand in for marks. However, I do problems **in (virtual) class** and assign problems from time to time. You are advised to do the problems and, more importantly, understand the meaning of the results and relevance of the problem solving process. Often, but not necessarily, exam questions are loosely based on these examples.

## **Course Outline**

**All topics and order of topic is tentative and subject to change.**

Introduction to the international monetary system .....Chapter 2

.Balance of Payments..... Chapter 3

The Foreign Exchange Market.....	Chapter 5
. International parity conditions.....	Chapter 6
Foreign Exchange derivatives.....	Chapter 7
Interest rate risk .....	Chapter 8
Transaction Exposure.....	Chapter 10
Global Cost of Capital.....	Chapter 13
Raising Debt and Equity Globally.....	Chapter 14
Multinational Tax.....	Chapter 15
Trade Financing.....	Chapter 16
Foreign Direct Investment.....	chapter 17

**PEASE NOTE**

**Due to the evolving nature of this subject other topics can be added at any time!!!!**  
**Everything done in (virtual class), assigned as reading or assigned videos may be used as the basis for questions on test quizzes or any other evaluation.**

**Please Note**  
**Department & University Policies for 2020-2021**

The University expects all students to take responsibility for their own Academic Programs. Students should check their registration to ensure they are enrolled in the correct courses.

**Academic Rights and Responsibilities:** Students should be familiar with their “Academic Rights and Responsibilities” as outlined [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar. Claiming that “you didn’t know what to do” is not an acceptable excuse for not following the stated procedures.

**Guidelines and Policies for Students** are posted online in the current Western Academic Calendar at <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca>. Undergraduate information for the Faculty of Social Science can be found at: <https://www.ssc.uwo.ca/undergraduate/index.html> and for the Department of Economics at: <https://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/index.html>.

**Rules of Conduct for Examinations:** Students are expected to know the university’s Rules of Conduct for Examinations, available [here](#).

**Cheating and Academic Offences:** Students are responsible for understanding what it means to “cheat.” The Department of Economics treats cheating and other academic offences very seriously and will investigate any suspect behavior. Students found guilty will incur penalties that could include a failing grade or being barred from future registration in Economics courses or programs. The University may impose further penalties such as suspension or expulsion.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is an academic offence. Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Ideas/passages taken from another author must be referenced with footnotes or citations and acknowledged with quotation marks where appropriate. Western University uses software to check for plagiarism and students may be required to electronically submit their work. Those found guilty will be penalized as noted in point 3. See Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar.

**Academic Appeals:** Students should refer to the Student Academic Appeals section [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar. Please note the relevant deadlines.

**Department Appeals Procedures:** The Department will not consider an appeal unless an attempt has been made to settle the matter with the instructor first. Students who remain dissatisfied with the outcome may submit a written appeal to the Undergraduate Director in Economics, stating the reasons for their appeal. Information on the Department of Economics’ appeals procedure and the appeals form are available [here](#).

**Systematic Adjustments:** Systematic adjustments of class grade distributions (either up or down) can occur in Economics courses. The systematic adjustment of a class grade distribution is **not** grounds for an appeal.

**Add/drop deadlines:**

Deadline to add a second term half course:

**Tuesday January 19, 2021**

Deadline to drop a second term half course:

**Sunday March 14, 2021**

**Oversleeping or Misreading the Exam Schedule:** Faculty of Social Science policy states that oversleeping or misreading the exam schedule is NOT grounds for a makeup. This rule applies to all exams in the Department of Economics.

**End of Term Travel:** Students must book travel arrangements AFTER final exam dates have been posted; travel is not an acceptable excuse for absence from a final exam.

**Rewriting Exams and Retroactive Reweighting are NOT Permitted:** Students who proceed to write a test or examination must be prepared to accept the mark. Rewriting tests or examinations, or retroactive reweighting of marks, is **not** permitted.

**Accommodation Policies:** Students with disabilities should work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD), which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

**Academic Consideration for Missed Assessments/Exams due to Student Absence:** Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to receive academic consideration if they self-report a missed assessment using the online portal, provided the following conditions are met: the assessment is missed due to an absence of no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted otherwise on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) if the absence is medical or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office for more information about the relevant documentation. It is strongly recommended that students notify the instructor as soon as possible, ideally before the assessment, when they become aware of an absence. University policy is that students must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the SMC or immediately upon their return from their documented absence. Failure to follow University policy and procedures may result in denial of academic accommodation and a grade of zero.

Individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds or for other reasons. **All required documentation for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see:  
[Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs.](#)

For the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:  
[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

**Religious Accommodation:** Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

**Policy Regarding Class Attendance and Engagement:** If the instructor deems a student's attendance or engagement in the class to be unsatisfactory, that student may be prohibited from writing the final examination. Examples of unsatisfactory class engagement include frequent absences from an in-person or synchronous online class, lack of assignment submissions, and inadequate use of online course materials. Instructors who intend to make use of this policy will notify the student in advance.

**Statement on Mental Health and Support Services:** Students under emotional/mental distress should visit [http://uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/](http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/) for more information and a complete list of resources on how to obtain help.