



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2023

7,364: Trade Policy in a Disruptive Environment

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

decentral - Written work, Digital, Individual work individual grade (50%)

Examination time: Term time

decentral - Active participation, Analog, Individual work individual grade (20%)

Examination time: Term time

decentral - Presentation, Analog, Group work group grade (30%)

Examination time: Term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[7,364.1.00 Trade Policy in a Disruptive Environment](#) -- English -- [Klasen Andreas](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

There are no formal pre-requisites for this course.

Learning objectives

The course provides students with a systematic understanding and the necessary skills to assess interdependencies between law and policy of international trade and finance in times of multipolarity, fragmentation, institution inertia and harder problems. Students learn to deal with cross-disciplinary problems typical of global trade in a disruptive environment.

The following learning objectives should be attained after successful completion the course:

- Students demonstrate knowledge of key aspects in the fields of international trade law and policy, broadly defined, and are able to engage critically with the subject and its significance at an advanced level,
- Students have an integrated and thorough knowledge of advanced topics regarding history of the world trading system, as well as the political and economic principles underpinning its development,
- Students apply in-depth multidisciplinary knowledge (concepts, theories and empirics) in an integral manner regarding the framework governing international economic relations, with an emphasis on the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD),
- Students are able to address academic and real-world problems of the global trade environment related to legal, policy and finance practices and processes focusing, in particular, on the emergence of a new geo-economic multipolar trade order.

Course content

This course enables students to gain knowledge and skills required to understand the key challenges of multipolarity, fragmentation, institutional inertia and harder problems related to law and policy of global trade and finance. Participants will develop original and critical approaches to substantive principles and agreements underpinning world trade, the interaction between non-economic issues and trade policy, as well as the implications of a new geo-economic multipolar trade order.

The multidisciplinary course is centred around three areas: *Context and framework* (i.e., legal and institutional aspects of the international economic order; and trade policy and the evolution of the world trade system); *Substantive issues* (e.g., trade rules and regulations; agreements, systematic derogations of the trade system; and the role and relevance of trade finance); *New issues in the*



global trade system (i.e., multipolarity, fragmentation and the role of China; institutional inertia, weaponization of trade; sustainable trade and climate action). In addition to legal analysis, reference will often be made to economic and political arguments. The course seeks to promote accurate and critical analysis, holistic learning regarding legal, historical, economic and political underpinnings of the world trade system, as well as an advanced and integrated thinking.

Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

This course will be delivered as a blocked seminar, with a kick-off meeting online and class meetings over three days. On each of the meeting days, class will start with a lecture and discussion, followed by group work, writing time, and consultations with the professor. Students are expected to develop familiarity and early expertise with an interdisciplinary approach to trade policy. Students will be assessed based on class attendance and participation, a group presentation, and an analytical literature review. Further details on the literature review will be provided in class, including structure, questions to address, and number of sources to be collected and reviewed.

Course literature

- Ahmad, Z. (2021), *WTO Law and Trade Policy Reform for Low-Carbon Technology Diffusion*. Brill
- Auboin, M. (2020), "Financing Trade: The Role of the WTO and Recent Initiatives", in: Klasen, A. (ed.) *The Handbook of Global Trade Policy*, Wiley, pp. 441-467.
- Bown, C.P. (2017), "Mega-Regional Trade Agreements and the Future of the WTO", *Global Policy*, Vol. 8, No.1, pp. 107-112.
- Capling, A. and Higgott, R. (2009), "Introduction: The Future of the Multilateral Trade System - What Role for the World Trade Organization?", *Global Governance*, Vol. 15, pp. 313-325.
- Dawar, K. (2020), "Official export credit support: competition and compliance issues", *Journal of World Trade*, Vol. 54, No. 3, pp. 373-395.
- Erkkilä, T. and Piironen, O. (2014), "(De)politicizing good governance: the World Bank Institute, the OECD and the politics of governance indicators?", *Innovation*, Vol. 27, No. 4, pp. 344-360.
- Hale, T., Held, D., and Young, K. (2013), *Gridlock: Why Global Cooperation is Failing When we Need it Most*, Polity Press.
- Hoekman, B.M. and Mavroidis, P.C. (2016), *The World Trade Organization*, Routledge.
- Hoekman, B.M. and Mavroidis, P.C. (2021), "WTO Reform: Back to the Past to Build for the Future", *Global Policy*, Vol. 12, S. 3, pp. 5-12.
- Hopewell, K. (2021), "Power transitions and global trade governance: The impact of a rising China on the export credit regime", *Regulation & Governance*, Vol. 15, No. 3, pp. 634-652.
- Howse, R. (2021), "Green industrial policy and world trade law", in Delimatsis, P. and Reins, L. (eds.) *Elgar Encyclopedia of Environmental Law, Volume XI, Trade and Environmental Law*, Edward Elgar Publishing, pp. 339-346.
- Howse, R. (2021), "Appointment with Destiny: Selecting WTO Judges in the Future", *Global Policy*, Vol. 12, S. 3, pp. 71-82.
- Jennekens, B. and Klasen, A. (2023) "How "safe" is the WTO "safe haven"? A need to modernise disciplines for officially supported export credits", *Journal of International Trade Law and Policy*. Vol. 22, No. 1, pp. 1-14.
- Kim, S.M. (2020), "Export Credit Guarantee and Prohibited Subsidies Under the SCM Agreement", *Journal of World Trade*, Vol. 54, No. 3, pp. 439-453.
- Klasen, A. (2017), "Trade: Gridlock and Resilience", in Hale, T. and Held, D. (eds.) *Beyond Gridlock*, Polity, pp. 65-82.
- Klasen, A. and Janus, H. (2023), "Improving Export Credit Agency Impact Through Full Faith and Credit", *Journal of World Trade* 57(5): *accepted, forthcoming*.
- Klasen, A., Wanjiru, R., Henderson, J. and Phillips, J. (2022), "Export finance and the green transition", *Global Policy*, Vol. 13, No. 5, pp. 710-720.
- Liao, J.C. (2021), "The Club-based Climate Regime and OECD Negotiations on Restricting Coal-fired Power Export Finance", *Global Policy*, Vol. 12, No. 1, pp. 40-50.
- Matsushita, M., Schoenbaum, T.J., Mavroidis, P.C. and Hahn, H. (2015), *The World Trade Organization*, Oxford University Press.
- van Asselt, H. (2021), "Trade and Climate Disputes before the WTO: Blocking or Driving Climate Action?", in Alogna, I., Bakker, C. and Gauci, J.-P. (eds.), *Climate Change Litigation: Global Perspectives*, Brill, pp. 433-461.

Additional course information

The course is expected to be delivered in person, attendance required.

About the lecturer: Dr Andreas Klasen is Professor of International Business and Director of the Institute for Trade and Innovation (IfTI) at Offenburg in Germany, focusing on international business, climate, export and development finance, as well as management of large public sector programmes. In addition, he is Visiting Professor at the University of St.Gallen (HSG) in Switzerland. Klasen also served as Visiting Scholar in the Blavatnik School of Government at the University of Oxford, as



Visiting Professor at Newcastle Business School, Northumbria University, as External Examiner at Bayes Business School, City, University of London and as Senior Honorary Fellow in the Global Policy Institute at Durham University.

His current research is focused on export finance and climate cooperation, as well as international business and global economic governance. Publications include the Elgar Encyclopedia of Public Management (contributing author, Edward Elgar, 2022), The Handbook of Global Trade Policy (editor, Wiley, 2020), Innovationen für eine digitale Wirtschaft (contributing author, Springer, 2020) and Beyond Gridlock (contributing author, Polity, 2017). He regularly speaks at international academic and practitioner conferences as well as international fora such as G20, the OECD and the WTO, was invited to give expert evidence to the UK Parliament and has long lasting experience as an economic adviser in WTO disputes.

Klasen is also advising governments, development banks, export-import banks, export credit agencies and innovation funds on trade and climate policy, innovation and export strategies, as well as financial instruments such as guarantees and mezzanine financing. For example, he supported the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), the European Investment Bank (EIB), and the World Bank Group, as well as governments and government agencies such as the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the Dutch Ministry of Finance, the Finnish Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) in Germany, the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), Atradius Dutch State Business in the Netherlands, CESCE in Spain, Credit Oman, EKF in Denmark, and NEXI in Japan.

Prior to joining academia, Klasen was a Partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Germany and PwC's Economics & Policy leader, serving also as Co-Head and Managing Director of the official German export credit and investment guarantee agency (operated by EH/PwC). Before joining PwC, he was Head of Guarantees and Export Finance with Airbus Group (ex EADS). He also served as the Vice President of the Berne Union.

Andreas Klasen was educated at Leibniz University Hannover, Northumbria University and the University of St Andrews, studying law, business and theology and receiving his doctoral degree in finance.

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/3)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Written work
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Written work
Examination mode	Digital
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Asynchronous
Examination location	Off Campus
Grading type	Individual work individual grade
Weighting	50%
Duration	--

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Remark

Analytical literature review

Examination-aid rule

Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.



Supplementary aids

No restrictions

2. Examination sub part (2/3)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Active participation
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Oral examination
Examination mode	Analog
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Synchronous
Examination location	On Campus
Grading type	Individual work individual grade
Weighting	20%
Duration	--

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Remark

Discussion of the readings

Examination-aid rule

Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

Supplementary aids

No restrictions

3. Examination sub part (3/3)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Presentation
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Oral examination
Examination mode	Analog
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Asynchronous
Examination location	Off Campus
Grading type	Group work group grade
Weighting	30%
Duration	--

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Remark

Leading a discussion (in groups)

Examination-aid rule



Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

Supplementary aids

No restrictions

Examination content

Active participation (20%)

Students are required to come prepared to discuss the required readings. Active informed participation is highly encouraged. Students may use laptops to take notes. Cell phone use is not allowed in class.

Presentation (30%)

For the meeting on day 3, students will prepare a presentation on one of the “presentation topics” that will be made available in the syllabus on StudyNet/Canvas at the beginning of the course.

Examination paper (50%)

Students will write a final research paper (up to 5'000 words) on one of the “essay questions” that will be made available in the syllabus on StudyNet/Canvas at the beginning of the course. The final paper is due on 20 January 2024. Late papers will be penalised.

Examination relevant literature

A full list of compulsory readings will be made available in the syllabus on StudyNet/Canvas on 1 October 2023.



Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW51) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 42 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 34 (Thursday, 24 August 2023);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 16 October 2023);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 45 (Monday, 06 November 2023);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the de-registration period in CW 45 (Monday, 06 November 2023).