

Course Descriptions None 2025-2026

Course Title Trade, FDI and Global Value Chains
Course Code EBC4253
ECTS Credits 5,0
Assessment Whole/Half Grades

Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
5	13-4-2026	5-6-2026	X		X		

Level Advanced
Coordinator Karsten Mau For more information:k.mau@maastrichtuniversity.nl

Language of instruction English

Goals
* Students will learn how emerging economies have adapted to the rise of Global Value Chains and the changing nature of trade in goods and capital.
* Students will link these evolutions with the proper theoretical and policy framework.
* Students will study the role of multi-nationals in this process, both from developed countries and from emerging economies.

Description
New patterns of international trade, production, and employment shape prospects for development and competitiveness. International trade is no longer limited to trade in final goods, but also includes trade in tasks and intermediate goods, due to the international fragmentation of production into Global Value Chains (GVCs, Gereffi, 2015). Besides, developed countries have seen their weight in global exchanges reduced, as more trade has occurred between developing economies. Emerging economies are playing significant and diverse roles in this new context, both attracting foreign investment (FDI) as well as investing themselves (e.g. China in African countries). Yet, concerns arise over the ability of emerging countries to move out of low value-added activities towards more sophisticated stages of the value chain (i.e. upgrading), as well as over issues related to the quality of work and labour standards for example.
This course will study the specific roles of these countries in the global economy, and show how they vary according to their openness to trade and foreign investment; their endowments of natural, human, and technological resources; their geopolitical relationships to the world's most powerful countries; and the characteristics of their immediate neighbours.
In addition, the course will discuss how the relative bargaining strength of different countries matters for the development of policy (e.g. the role of emerging countries in stalling the Doha Round of trade negotiations) and the impacts of these differing power relations in the development of the current and future trade policy landscape.
Finally, the course will encourage students to think about how current events will impact upon trade and capital flows in emerging markets, examples including recent efforts by some advanced countries to encourage reshoring, or the rise of the robotization.

Literature Collection of academic articles and book chapters.

Prerequisites

Keywords

Transitional Regulations

Teaching methods Presentation / Lecture / Assignment / Papers / Groupwork

Assessment methods Final Paper / Participation / Written Exam

Evaluation in previous academic year For the complete evaluation of this course please click <http://iwio-sbe.maastrichtuniversity.nl/rapporten.asp?referrer=codeUM>

This course belongs to the following programme / specialisation

Master Economics and Strategy in Emerging Markets Elective Courses
SBE Exchange Master Master Exchange Courses