World Trading System and Trade Integrations in Asia-Pacific

Course Code

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<th>Class Times</th>
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<td>Mon/Wed/Thu 13:00-16:00</td>
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Equivalent Year Level 2-3
Course Credit 3

Instructor

Dukgeun AHN
Professor, Graduate School of International Studies, Seoul National University

Sessions 1-6
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Instructor’s Profile

Dukgeun AHN is Professor of International Trade Law and Policy/Associate Dean in Graduate School of International Studies (GSIS), Seoul National University. Professor Ahn has taught at various universities including Singapore National University, University of Hong Kong, University of Barcelona in Spain, World Trade Institute in Switzerland and the KDI School of Public Policy and Management in Korea as well as regularly at the Regional Trade Policy Course arranged by the World Trade Organization (WTO) for government officials. In addition, he has advised several developing country governments, international organizations as well as various Korean ministries on trade law and policy issues such as WTO disputes, trade negotiation and trade policy making.

Professor Ahn is currently working, among others, as a Commissioner of the Korea Trade Commission, and served as a Member of National Economic Advisory Council, the constitutional body chaired by the President of Korea, a Chair for Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Strategic Forum. He is listed as a panelist candidate for the WTO dispute settlement as well as the Korea-U.S. FTA and Korea-EU FTA. His academic publication covers a wide range of WTO and Free Trade Agreement topics, which renders him Simdang Academic Excellence Award in 2012. He also received awards by the Deputy Prime Minister (Minister of Strategy and Finance, 2018), Minister of the Interior (2015), Prime Minister (2005), and Minister of Commerce, Industry and Energy (2004). In 2017, his academic contribution was recognized by the Seoul National University Education Award.

Professor Ahn holds both Ph. D. in Economics and J.D. (Member of New York Bar) from the University of Michigan, after having B.A. from Seoul National University.
Course Information

Course Description
This course is intended to discuss two practical topics in international trade: multilateral trading system and trade integrations in Asia-Pacific. Before beginning to discuss the main topics, the course will spend the first week to review the basics of international trade theory and policies. As to the first topic, we will discuss the history of the multilateral trading system, major rounds of trade negotiations including the most current Doha Round, and finally future prospects of the world trade organization (WTO). We will then move to the second topic and discuss economics of regional trade agreements (RTAs), proliferation of RTAs and recent developments of trade integrations in Asia-Pacific such as China-Japan-Korea FTA, Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). In this part of discussion, Korea’s FTA policy will be also introduced as a special case.

Course Evaluation
Class participation 30%
Midterm exam 35%
Final exam 35%
Class attendance will be reflected in grade. Students are required to make a presentation in the class. Details will be discussed in the first class.

Course Materials
No required text.
International trade part of International Economics (9th edition) by Krugman, Obsfled and Melitz will be helpful for the course. Reading materials will be provided.

Other Notes
Please be advised that exams will be based on lectures given in class.

Course Schedule

Multilateral Trading System

Session 1 (June 27, Wed) - Institutional Evolution of the World Trading System
List of Readings
- WTO, The History and the Future of the WTO, Ch.2 (2013).

Session 2 (June 28, Thu) - WTO Dispute Settlement System
List of Readings
- WTO, Trading into the Future, Ch.3 (2001).
- WTO, The History and the Future of the WTO, Ch.7 (2013).

Session 3 (July 2, Mon) – Global Trade Negotiation: TRIPS Negotiation
List of Readings
- Devereaux et. al., “Case Studies in US Trade Negotiation: Vol. 1, Ch.3 (IIE, 2006)

**Session 4 (July 4, Wed) – Group Presentation on TRIPS Negotiation**
List of Readings
- Devereaux et. al., “Case Studies in US Trade Negotiation: Vol. 1, Ch.3 (IIE, 2006)

**Session 5 (July 5, Thu) – Fundamental Trade Rules: Non-discrimination**
List of Readings

- WTO, *Korea-Taxes on Alcoholic Beverages* (WT/DS75/R)

**Session 6 (July 9, Mon) – Anti-dumping System: Reason for Powerful Trade Weapon**
List of Readings

**Session 6 (July 11, Wed) – General Exception: Trade and Environment**
List of Readings


**Session 8 (July 12, Thu) - Mid-term Exam**

**Preferential Trade Agreements**

**Session 9 (July 16, Mon) – Trade Rules for Preferential Trade Agreements**
List of Readings

- C. Freund and E. Ornelas, “Regional trade agreements: blessing or burden?”, *CentrePiece* (2010).

**Session 10 (July 18, Wed) – Case Study of FTA: Korea- US Free Trade Agreement**
List of Readings


**Session 11 (July 19, Thu) – WTO versus FTA: Which Prevails?**
List of Readings
- WTO, *Brazil - Measures Affecting Imports of Retreaded Tyres* (WT/DS332/R)
Trade Integrations in Asia-Pacific

Session 12 (July 23, Mon) –Group Presentation: Recent Developments in East Asia
List of Readings

Session 13 (July 25, Wed) –Group Presentation: TPP and RCEP Negotiations
List of Readings

Session 14 (July 26, Thu) –Future Regionalism in the World Trade System
List of Readings

Session 15 (July 27, Fri) – Final Exam