EC/IR 340 - SPAIN AND THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION

IES Abroad Madrid

DESCRIPTION:
The course analyzes the institutional framework of international economic relations from a triple perspective: monetary cooperation, trade cooperation, and development cooperation. Their functions and competencies will be studied, as well as the major global economic and social challenges they face. Different approaches and perspectives on the influence these organizations have on the economic policies of international society will be analyzed.

CREDITS: 3

CONTACT HOURS: 45 Hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: Spanish

PREREQUISITES: Although there are no previous prerequisites, it would be desirable for students to have basic knowledge of economics and history.

ADDITIONAL COST: None.

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:
The contents of the course will have some correspondence with the material offered in Moodle. The Moodle bibliography and material will offer different points of view on the contents of each chapter. The classes will include a presentation by the teacher and will be open to debate, seeking to encourage the participation and opinion of students on current European events. Students will have to make a presentation and written assignments on the date indicated by the teacher.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT
- Class participation - 10%
- Presentation and debates - 20%
- Midterm Exam - 35%
- Final Exam - 35%

Course Element
Class Participation: Active participation in class discussions and activities is expected. Students should come prepared, having completed assigned readings, and contribute thoughtfully to debates and presentations.

Presentations & Debates: Student-led presentations followed by guided class debates that integrate key course concepts.

Midterm Exam: Written exam covering material from the first half of the course.

Final Exam: Written exam covering material from the second half of the course.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
By the end of the course students will be able to:
- Understand the main problems arising from the functioning of the global economy.
- Know the basic factors explaining international economic and financial relations, as well as the recent evolution of the global economy.
- Understand the theoretical foundations and historical evolution of international economic institutions.
- Understand the nature and main characteristics of international economic institutions and their role in the globalization process.
- Identify economic policy patterns that address the economic and financial problems of the global economy.
- Integrate Spain's economic situation into its European and international context.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

As a member of our class community, you are expected to be present and on time every day. Attending class has an impact on your learning and academic success. For this reason, attendance is mandatory for all IES Madrid classes, including course-related excursions. Absences will only be excused in cases of documented medical or family emergencies. Any assessed work, including exams, tests, and presentations, will be rescheduled if the absence is justified; otherwise, it will be graded as 0. You are allowed a maximum of 1 unexcused absence for once-a-week courses and 2 unexcused absences for twice-a-week courses. Each additional absence will deduct 5 points from your final grade. Accumulating 7 or more absences in twice-a-week courses, or 4 or more in once-a-week courses, may lead to a failing grade. Students arriving more than 11 minutes after the scheduled start time will be marked as 'late.' Three 'late' arrivals will be counted as 1 absence. Any student arriving 30 minutes or more after the scheduled start time will be marked as 'absent.' For more information, please refer to the full Attendance and Punctuality Policy document.

CONTENT

Sessions	Topics	Content
Session 1 & 2	**International Economy and International Organizations**	• Historical background, characteristics, agents, stages, and internationalization processes.
Session 3 & 4	**Spain and International Economic Relations.**	• Spain's integration into international institutions.
Session 5 & 6	**The United Nations System**	• Objectives and principles of the United Nations, structure, and organization.
Session 7 & 8	**The International Monetary Fund**	• Origin and objectives, functions, resources, and organization. The IMF and financial crises.
Session 9 & 10	**The World Bank Group.**	• Origin and objectives, institutions, organizational structure, and activities.
Session 11 & 12	**From GATT to the World Trade Organization**	• GATT origin, objectives, and principles; GATT rounds; WTO functions, principles, and structure.
Session 13 & 14	**The OECD, G7, and G20**	• OECD functioning, cooperation mechanisms, welfare, and development aid policies. G7 and G20 forums for international cooperation.
Session 15 & 16	**Other Examples of International Economic Organizations: OPEP**	• OPEC origin, member countries, and structure.
Session 17 & 18	**Economic Integration.**	• Definition and motivations, forms, and effects of economic integration.
Session 19 & 20	**Other Forms of Integration.**	• NAFTA, EFTA, MERCOSUR, CARICOM, etc. NAFTA, EFTA, MERCOSUR, CARICOM,…

Note: The course will offer additional material in Moodle: Power Point presentations, statistics, and complementary readings offered by the teacher to deal with current issues and importance for the subject and the group of students.

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Calvo, M. (2001), *Organización Económica Internacional.* Madrid: Fundación Ramón Areces.
- Cuenca, E. (2023), *Organización Económica Internacional*. Madrid: Pearson Prentice Hall.
- González, S. (2002), *Organización Económica Internacional.* Madrid: Pirámide. FMI: Qué es el Fondo Monetario Internacional. FMI: Washington, www.imf.org. Mascaró, A. (2004), "¿Qué es el patrón oro?" (disponible en Moodle).
- OCDE: "Organización para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Económico". OECD, www.oecd.org

OMC, Organización Mundial del Comercio: “Entender la OMC”, https://www.wto.org/indexsp.htm

- Varela, F. y Varela, M. (2003), “La presencia española en las instituciones económicas internacionales”, Revista de *Información Comercial Española*, 811, pp. 81-91.