

Syllabus for International Finance

2 SWS Lecture & 1 SWS Tutorial - 5 ECTS

Lecture: Thursday, 9.45-11.15h, starting date: 17 October 2024 (LG H2)
Exercise: 3x computer sessions, 2x theory sessions (dates and lecture rooms will be announced via Studon).
Language: English

Concept:

The course "International Finance" is designed for students of the Master in International Business Studies (MIBS). This course covers a wide range of topics (e.g., national accounts and capital flows, exchange rates and exchange rate regimes, international financial system, international banking and central banking). It will be light on formal models and techniques and put particular emphasis on how international institutions work, on policy implications and on the relevance for business.

The lecture will take place in the first part of the semester. Students can improve their grade up to 0.7 units by a group presentation. Topics will be proposed during the lectures (related to covered material). Students are asked to perform a data analysis, to present a case study or to discuss a scientific paper. In the second half of the semester, the presentations take place. The covered contents will be tested in an exam (5 ECTS) at the end of the semester.

MSE, FACT, WiPäd and Erasmus students are also welcome to attend the course. Please note that MSE students must give a presentation and are expected to use techniques in the presentation that are connected to the lecture "Macroeconomics: Business Cycles" in the MSE (e.g. analysis or simulation of an open economy macroeconomics framework).

Structure of the Lecture Part:

1. Trade Flows, Capital Flows, and the Balance of Payments
2. The Market for Foreign Exchange
3. Exchange Rate Systems
4. The Forward Currency Market and International Financial Arbitrage
5. Interest Yields, Interest Rate Risk, and Derivative Securities
6. International Banking and Central Banking
7. International Business Cycles and Major Puzzles

Textbook:

Daniels, Joseph P. and David D. Van Hoose (2013). International Monetary and Financial Economics, Pearson. Note: The textbook will serve as a basis for the first part of the lecture (except for the last chapter). The last chapter is based on scientific papers.