



**ECO 4934**

## **Special Topics**

Section: U01

In Person

Fall Term 2025

### **Course Meeting Information**

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Class meeting times	
Day:	MW
Time:	11:00 AM - 12:15 PM
Location:	DM 164

### **Professor Information**

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HAKAN YILMAZKUDAY

**Roles:** Primary Instructor

**Email:** [hyilmazk@fiu.edu](mailto:hyilmazk@fiu.edu)

**Phone:** 305-348-2316

**Office Hours:** MW 1:00PM - 3:00PM

**Office Location:** DM 315A

**Website:** <https://faculty.fiu.edu/~hyilmazk/>

**Department or Academic Unit:** Economics

## **Course Prerequisites**

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Course prerequisites, if any, are listed below.

Prerequisite: ECO 3101, ECO 3203

## **Course Description and Purpose**

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This course will focus on the complexities of the global economy by exploring the forces that shape international financial markets, international trade, and international policymaking. Students will gain a deep understanding of key theories and models used to analyze international concepts such as exchange rates, trade flows, and economic growth. Through hands-on experience with real-world data, students will learn to apply data analytics tools and techniques to assess economic trends, forecast potential risks, and evaluate policy interventions. This course is designed for those seeking a comprehensive understanding of the global economy with a practical data-driven approach.

## **Textbook and Course Materials**

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**No Textbook Required for purchase**

**Required/Recommended:** N/A

**Authors:** N/A

**Publisher:** N/A

**Publication Date:** N/A

**Copyright Date:** N/A

**ISBN 10:** N/A

**ISBN 13:** N/A

**Panther Book Pack**

The Panther Book Pack rental program provides your required print and digital course materials at a flat rate of \$20 per undergraduate credit hour. When you registered for your classes this session, you were notified via email of the required course materials that are included in the Panther Book Pack.

Make sure to review the pricing for all materials across your classes this semester and compare the cost to the Panther Book Pack flat rate. If the Panther Book Pack is not your best option, you may opt out up to three days after the add/drop deadline. The deadline to opt back into the Panther Book Pack is also three days after the add/drop deadline.

If you do not opt out of the Panther Book Pack rental program, you will be charged \$20 per undergraduate credit hour for which you are registered and the course materials will be reserved in your name. For more details and to learn how to access your course materials, visit [onestop.fiu.edu/bookpack](https://onestop.fiu.edu/bookpack).

## Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

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Student learning outcomes allow faculty to assess the level of proficiency in content knowledge and skills that their students acquire in a course.

If the objective meets a special designation, you will see the code after the objective:

University Core Curriculum: UCC

Gordon Rule Writing: GRW

Global Learning: GL

Civic Literacy: CL

- Understand core concepts: Grasp theories of international trade, finance, and growth.
- Analyze global trends: Collect data to assess exchange rates, trade flows, and growth.
- Develop practical skills: Apply analytical tools and communicate findings effectively.

- Write weekly policy-oriented reports: Formulate arguments about the global economy.
- Evaluate policy: Examine the effects of government policies.

## **Expectations of the Course**

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Students are required to attend all classes as the weekly policy-oriented reports will be written during the class time. The student progress will be evaluated by their weekly attendance (FIU Check In 2.0), weekly data collection and technical analysis, and weekly policy-oriented reports.

## **Policies & Resources**

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Before starting this course, please review the Policies & Resources Page in Canvas which includes comprehensive information on various University and Course Level Policies such as:

- University Policies
- Accessibility and Accommodations
- Online Etiquette
- Technical Requirements and Skills
- Computer & Digital Literacy Skills
- Course Technology Accessibility Statements and Privacy Policies
- Academic Integrity
- Copyright Statement
- Core Principles of This Course
- Nondiscrimination Statement
- Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

- Fair Use Policy

## Grading

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The grading policy is as follows:

- Weekly data collection and technical analysis (30%)
- Weekly writing of the empirical results (50%)
- Weekly attendance (FIU Check In 2.0) and getting involved in classroom discussions (20%)
- Missing weekly attendance, weekly data collection and technical analysis, and weekly policy-oriented reports will result in a weekly score of zero, without any exceptions.
- The lowest two weekly scores will be ignored while calculating the final grade by taking the average of weekly scores.

Letter grades for the entire course will be assigned as follows:

95% and higher = A	80% - 84.49% = B	65% - 69.99% = C
90.0 – 94.49% = A-	75% - 79.99% = B-	60% - 64.99% = D
85% - 89.99% = B+	70% - 74.99% = C+	59.99% and lower = F

## Schedule

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This is a tentative outline of the course. It is subject to change with written notice.

**Week #1: Introduction and going over the syllabus.**

## **Week #2: Local projections method.**

Reading: <https://www.nber.org/papers/w32822>

## **Week #3: Policy rates and inflation.**

Reading: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.qref.2022.03.005>

Assignment #1: Data collection and technical analysis (30%)

Assignment #2: Writing of the empirical results (50%)

Assignment #3: Attendance and getting involved in classroom discussions (20%)

## **Week #4: Exchange rates and inflation.**

Reading: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jimonfin.2020.102187>

Assignment #1: Data collection and technical analysis (30%)

Assignment #2: Writing of the empirical results (50%)

Assignment #3: Attendance and getting involved in classroom discussions (20%)

## **Week #5: Oil prices and gasoline prices.**

Reading: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jimonfin.2021.102494>

Assignment #1: Data collection and technical analysis (30%)

Assignment #2: Writing of the empirical results (50%)

Assignment #3: Attendance and getting involved in classroom discussions (20%)

### **Week #6: Oil prices and inflation.**

Reading: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eneco.2023.107096>

Assignment #1: Data collection and technical analysis (30%)

Assignment #2: Writing of the empirical results (50%)

Assignment #3: Attendance and getting involved in classroom discussions (20%)

### **Week #7: Geopolitical risks and inflation.**

Reading: <https://doi.org/10.1111/twec.13585>

Assignment #1: Data collection and technical analysis (30%)

Assignment #2: Writing of the empirical results (50%)

Assignment #3: Attendance and getting involved in classroom discussions (20%)

### **Week #8: Global supply chains and inflation.**

Reading: <https://doi.org/10.1111/twec.13585>

Assignment #1: Data collection and technical analysis (30%)

Assignment #2: Writing of the empirical results (50%)

Assignment #3: Attendance and getting involved in classroom discussions (20%)

### **Week #9: Tariff rates and trade.**

Reading: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.econlet.2019.108579>

Assignment #1: Data collection and technical analysis (30%)

Assignment #2: Writing of the empirical results (50%)

Assignment #3: Attendance and getting involved in classroom discussions (20%)

**Week #10: Import prices and inflation.**

Reading: <https://doi.org/10.1111/roie.12726>

Assignment #1: Data collection and technical analysis (30%)

Assignment #2: Writing of the empirical results (50%)

Assignment #3: Attendance and getting involved in classroom discussions (20%)

**Week #11: Tariff rates and economic growth.**

Reading: [https://doi.org/10.1162/REST\\_a\\_00358](https://doi.org/10.1162/REST_a_00358)

Assignment #1: Data collection and technical analysis (30%)

Assignment #2: Writing of the empirical results (50%)

Assignment #3: Attendance and getting involved in classroom discussions (20%)

**Week #12: Policy rates and unemployment.**

Reading: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.qref.2022.03.005>

Assignment #1: Data collection and technical analysis (30%)

Assignment #2: Writing of the empirical results (50%)

Assignment #3: Attendance and getting involved in classroom discussions (20%)

**Week #13: Geopolitical risks and exchange rates.**

Reading: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.frl.2025.106769>



Assignment #1: Data collection and technical analysis (30%)

Assignment #2: Writing of the empirical results (50%)

Assignment #3: Attendance and getting involved in classroom discussions (20%)

#### **Week #14: Geopolitical risks and stock prices.**

Reading: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejpoleco.2024.102553>

Assignment #1: Data collection and technical analysis (30%)

Assignment #2: Writing of the empirical results (50%)

Assignment #3: Attendance and getting involved in classroom discussions (20%)

#### **Week #15: Conclusion and going over the learning outcomes.**

## **Nondiscrimination Statement**

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The **Office of Civil Rights Compliance and Accessibility (CRCA)** is responsible for ensuring that FIU maintains a workplace and learning environment free from discrimination, where current and prospective faculty, staff, and students are treated equitably. If any student, employee, or applicant has a sincere and reasonable belief that they have been discriminated against or harassed based on age, color, disability, gender, marital status, ethnic or national origin, race, religion, retaliation, sex, or any other protected category, they can report their concerns to the CRCA team through [report.fiu.edu](https://report.fiu.edu).