

**ANKARA YILDIRIM BEYAZIT UNIVERSITY – DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND BUSINESS  
COURSE SYLLABUS**

Course Code	Course Title	Course Type	ECTS Credits	Prerequisite Information	Date of Preparation
ITB 325	CONTEMPORARY DEBATES IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE	Elective	5	-	03.09.2025
<b>Instructor of the Course &amp; E-Mail Address</b>	Assist. Prof. Dr. Melek MUTİOĞLU ÖZKESEN & m.mutioglu.ozkesen@aybu.edu.tr				
<b>Office Hours &amp; Office Room</b>	Thursdays, between 15.00-16.00, at B248				
<b>Course Content and Objectives</b>	This course intends to introduce contemporary debates in international trade. The course will introduce different emerging actors in the globalized world, and contemporary themes developed through changing conditions in the world.				
<b>Textbook(s)</b>	O'Brien, R. & Williams, M. (2016) Global Political Economy: Evolution and Dynamics, Palgrave Macmillan, UK Updated articles, videos and books will be provided by the lecturer in time, if necessary.				
<b>Teaching Methods and Techniques</b>	The course employs lecturing and student-led presentations as its primary teaching methods. Lectures provide conceptual and historical foundations, whereas student presentations and discussions promote analytical engagement with contemporary global trade issues and critical reflection on assigned readings.				
<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>	1	Explain major contemporary debates and theoretical perspectives in international trade and global political economy.			
	2	Analyze how emerging actors—such as developing economies, multinational corporations, and regional alliances—reshape international trade relations.			
	3	Evaluate the socio-economic and political dimensions of trade-related issues, including gender, environment, land politics, and energy security.			
	4	Critically assess the impacts of globalization on different sectors, particularly agrifood production and biofuel industries.			
	5	Develop analytical and presentation skills through engagement with academic readings, debates, and group discussions.			
	6	Integrate interdisciplinary approaches to interpret current global trade transformations within historical and institutional contexts.			
<b>Program Outcomes Contributed by the Course</b>	<b>Program Outcomes (PO)</b>				
	PO1.	Strengthens understanding of international trade theories, policies, and global economic structures.			
	PO2.	Enhances students' ability to critically analyze global trade issues through economic, political, and social lenses.			
	PO3.	Develops research, discussion, and presentation skills essential for academic and professional success in international contexts.			
	PO4.	Encourages ethical and sustainable perspectives on trade and development challenges.			
	PO5.	Fosters interdisciplinary thinking by linking trade dynamics with environmental, gender, and land governance dimensions.			
PO6.	Supports students in applying theoretical knowledge to real-world case studies and emerging global trends.				

<b>Contribution of the Course to Field Instruction</b>	<p>This course plays a crucial role in strengthening students' capacity to understand and interpret contemporary transformations in international trade. By focusing on current debates such as global inequality, land politics, and sustainable development, it connects classical trade theories with critical perspectives and real-world developments.</p> <p>Students gain insights into how international trade policies interact with environmental, social, and geopolitical factors, preparing them to evaluate and formulate trade strategies in a rapidly changing world. The course bridges analytical theory with applied understanding, equipping future trade professionals and policymakers with the ability to navigate complex global systems responsibly and innovatively.</p>		
<b>Topics Covered in the Course</b>	<p>1. Week</p> <p>2. Week</p> <p>3. Week</p> <p>4. Week</p> <p>5. Week</p> <p>6. Week</p> <p>7. Week</p> <p>8. Week</p> <p>9. Week</p> <p>10. Week</p> <p>11. Week</p> <p>12. Week</p> <p>13. Week</p> <p>14. Week</p> <p>15. Week</p>	<p>Introduction to Political Economy of Trade</p> <p>Theoretical Background and what developing / emerging means</p> <p>Historical Background: An emerging world economy</p> <p>Agrifood Production in International Trade</p> <p>Energy Security and Biofuels in International Trade</p> <p>Gender Issues in International Trade</p> <p>Environmental Problems in International Trade</p> <p>Midterm Week</p> <p>Land Deals in International Trade</p> <p>Deindustrialization: New Agenda in International Trade?</p> <p>Student Presentations – 1: Case Studies in Agrifood Production</p> <p>Student Presentations – 1: Case studies in Energy Security</p> <p>Student Presentations- 2: Case studies in Gender Issues</p> <p>Student Presentations – 3 : Case studies in Environmental Issues &amp; Land Deals</p> <p>Final Review and Discussion</p>	
<b>Course Evaluation Criteria</b>	<p><b>In-Term Studies</b></p> <p>Mid-terms</p> <p>Quizzes</p> <p>Assignments</p> <p>Attendance</p> <p>Practice</p> <p>Project</p> <p>Final examination</p> <p><b>Total</b></p>	<p><b>Quantity</b></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p>	<p><b>Percentage %</b></p> <p>%</p> <p>%</p> <p>%</p> <p>%</p> <p>%</p> <p>% 40</p> <p>% 60</p> <p><b>100%</b></p>
<b>Disability Policy</b>	<p>If you have a documented disability (e.g., visual, hearing, or physical impairment, etc.) that may influence your performance in this course, it is recommended to meet with the Engelsiz AYBU (<a href="https://aybu.edu.tr/engelsiz/content_list-327-yildirim-beyazit-universitesi-engelsiz-universite-birimi-yonergesi.html">https://aybu.edu.tr/engelsiz/content_list-327-yildirim-beyazit-universitesi-engelsiz-universite-birimi-yonergesi.html</a>) to arrange for reasonable conditions (such as accommodation, etc.) to ensure an equitable opportunity to meet all the requirements of this course. You may also contact the local authority of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. You should communicate your needs to the course instructor as soon as possible to ensure that any course needs concerning exams, lecture materials, etc. are met.</p>		