Syllabus
International Business
with case studies in German automotive industry

Instructor:  Dr. Milenka Plavec
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Office Hour:  after lessons
Lectures:  Mo-Th  13:30 h - 15:00 h
ECTS credit:  4.0

Course Objectives and Description

An understanding of international business is essential for students in today's interdependent global world. This course will provide students with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to understand the global economic, political, cultural and social environment within which firms operate. It will examine the strategies and structures of international business and assess the special roles of an international business's various functions. It will also prepare students to formulate and execute strategies, plans, and tactics to succeed in international business ventures.

In-class exercises, mini-projects as well as homework and case studies will demonstrate real-world applications of international business and management concepts.

At the end of the course students should be able to:

1. Understand the most widely used international business terms and concepts.
2. Identify the role and impact of political, economical, social and cultural variables in international business.
3. Analyze international business from a multi-centric perspective, avoiding ethnocentrism.

An integrated teaching model will be adopted by combining lecturing with group discussions, individual assignments, home exercises, case analysis and presentations. Special attention will be given to automotive industry in Germany and European Union.

FIELD TRIPS: Daimler, Porsche Museum, Audi, BOSCH, Mercedes-Benz Museum

Extras: Guest lectures, Company Presentations, Case Studies, Video clips, Movies

Literature


Additional references and supplemental readings as well as homework assignments and case studies are provided during lectures.

Grading / Assessment

Course Grading will be based on continuing assessment, in-class case studies, homework and team presentation.

- In-class case studies & participation, attendance 25 % max 25 points
- Homework 25 % max 25 points
- Team Presentation 50 % max 50 points

Class attendance is required as an essential part of learning process. Bonus points will be awarded to those who actively participate in class discussions.
# Table of Contents

**Introduction**
- Germany and Stuttgart Region: A birthplace of automobile
- FIELD TRIPS: Daimler, Porsche Museum, Audi, BOSCH, Mercedes-Benz Museum

**Part One: Globalization**

**Part Two: Country Differences**
- National Differences in Political Economy
- Differences in Culture
- Ethics in International Business

**Part Three: The Global Trade and Investment Environment**
- International Trade Theory
- The Political Economy of International Trade
- Foreign Direct Investment
- Regional Economic Integration: European Union
  - The Institutions of European Union
  - European Parliament
  - European Treaty
  - Germany and European Union

**Part Four: The Global Monetary System**
- The Foreign Exchange Market
- The International Monetary System
- The Global Capital Market

**Part Five: The Strategy and Structure of International Business**
- The Strategy of International Business
- The Organization of International Business
- Entry Strategy and Strategic Alliances

**Part Six: International Business Operations**
- Exporting, Importing, and Countertrade
- Global Production, Outsourcing, and Logistics
- Global Marketing and R & D
- Global Human Resource Management
- Accounting in the International Business
- Financial Management in the International Business

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