



Topics in Advanced International Economics: International Trade in Services

(Summer Semester 2013)

Course information

Course description

Due to the gradual dismantling of administrative barriers, decreasing transportation costs, and advances in communication technologies international trade in services has become an important aspect of globalization. This development increasingly shapes consumption and production patterns, and it is likely to have considerable effects on countries' sectoral structure, productivity and income distribution. Yet, both the measurement of international services trade and our understanding of the long-run implications is far from complete.

The goal of this course is to introduce students to theoretical, institutional and empirical aspects of international services trade. It will cover the following topics:

- Services trade: definition and measurement
- Trade costs: theory and evidence
- "Trading tasks": the economics of offshoring
- The role of multinational enterprises in international services trade
- Trade policy: The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)

A follow-up of this course will be the seminar "Measuring International Trade in Services", which will take place in the winter semester 2013/14, and which will be jointly organized with the **World Trade Organization** and the **Deutsche Bundesbank**. In the context of this seminar, we will work on approaches to accurately measure the extent of international services trade in Germany. Students who attend the summer semester course will acquire the knowledge that is necessary to successfully participate in that seminar.

Times and places (preliminary):

Monday, 4.15 p.m. – 5.45 p.m., Room RW 5 (weekly)

Thursday, 2.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m., Room RW 6
25.04., 02.05., 23.05., 04.07., 11.07., 18.07.

Start of course: April 22, 2013. A detailed schedule will be issued at the start of the semester.

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Audience:

Students enrolled in the Masters program „**International Economics and Public Policy**“ (MIEPP).

Prerequisites:

Having attended an advanced course in International Trade (like my winter semester class “International Trade”) is helpful, but not mandatory.

Literature (preliminary):

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Francois, J. and B. Hoekman (2010): “Services Trade and Policy”, *Journal of Economic Literature* 48, 642-692.

Jensen, J.B.(2011): “Global Trade in Services: Fear, Facts, and Offshoring”, Washington DC (Peterson Institute for International Economics)

World Trade Organization (2012): “Trade in Services in the WTO”. Free download available at <http://etraining.wto.org/default.asp>

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A longer list of references will be distributed at the start of the course.

Reading List and Teaching Materials

... will be available through **ReaderPlus** (<https://www.zdv.uni-mainz.de/readerplus/>). The password will be announced in the first lectures.