Aims
EC1111 is an introductory course that examines global policy issues from both a theoretical and empirical perspective. The course will introduce the economic study of a number of international problems of current relevance and the policy alternatives that deal with them. It will combine basic economic theory with applied analysis of policy which will be supported with illustrative case studies. The theoretical elements of the course will be at a level suitable for students taking EC1101, Principles of Economics. In addition, the course aims to develop in students the ability to evaluate international economic issues, and to develop skills in resolving these issues while improving written communication and presentation skills.

Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:
• understand how economic theory and empirical analysis are used to study problems involving several countries.
• demonstrate the effects of alternative economic policies devised to deal with economic problems that have an international dimension, the role of economic incentives and the difficulties involved in co-ordinating and enforcing these policies.
• evaluate arguments espoused by different sides in resolving major international economic issues.
• critically evaluate alternative solutions to economic problems that have a global impact and the effects of alternative economic policies.

Course Delivery
The course will be delivered through a two-hour lecture and a one-hour seminar each week. Specific learning outcomes and prescribed reading are provided for each week of the course. A Project/Problem-Based Learning approach combined with elements of FLIPPED Classroom will be adopted in Lectures. Lecture notes, additional reading, media resources and problem sets will be posted on the course website before the lectures. The core elements and theory of the topics will be discussed at the beginning of the Lecture and the rest of the session will be devoted to discussing and evaluating relevant economic problems/issues. Seminars will be based upon homework distributed in the previous week’s lecture. I will be available for consultation (either by you individually, or in small groups) during advertised office hours or by appointment. Students can also contact me via e-mail.

Assessment
Assessment for EC1111 International Economic Policy is based on a take-home essay, contributing to 10% of the final marks, an in-class test contributing to 15% of the final marks and a two-hour unseen examination, which contributes to 75% of the final marks. The dates for the continuous assessment are laid out in the current Student Handbook and in Moodle.
Reading
This is not a text-based course. The readings for each week are outlined below; the majority of which are journal and newspaper articles, all of them introductory pieces that will not pose particular difficulties to you if read well in advance. It is common for first year students to have trouble with new terms and concepts; please ask for clarifications during seminars. You are advised to dedicate around six hours of study per week to this course.

All journal articles could be accessed either in the Bedford Library collection or through the Internet. Visit http://www.lb.rhul.ac.uk/ejournals/ from any campus-based computer and look for the journal you need. Most of the journal articles below are available in JSTOR, the Copenhagen Consensus and the IMF’s Finance and Development websites:
http://uk.jstor.org/
http://www.copenhagenconsensus.com

Part of the course will also use selected chapters from the following textbooks:

Multiple copies of these books are available on short loan at the library desk, (additional copies are available for three-day loan). You do not need to purchase these texts, as only a small number of chapters from each will be studied.

Required readings are marked with an asterisk(*)

Weekly Timetable

Lecture 1. The World Economy and Trade liberalisation
Charles Van Marrewijk, ITWE, Oxford University Press, Chapter 1 (*)

Lecture 2. The WTO and trade
Charles van Marrewijk – ITWE, Chapter 12.
Bernard M. Hoekman and Michel M. Kostecki – PEWTS, Chapters 1-2
The Cancun Challenge – The Economist, September 4, 2003 – Downloadable from Moodle
The Death of the WTO Doha Talks, Evan Davis, BBC website at: http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/5215318.stm

Lecture 3. Migration issues
Lecture 4. Foreign Direct Investment
P. Loungani and A. Razin (2001), How Beneficial is Foreign Direct Investment for Developing Countries?, Finance and Development
Assaf Razin (2003), FDI Flows and Domestic Investment: An Overview, CESifo Economic Studies (*)
http://cesifo.oxfordjournals.org/content/49/3/415.full.pdf+html

Mid Term Test

READING WEEK

Lecture 5. Governance and Corruption
S. Rose- Ackerman (2004), The challenge paper on Governance and Corruption (*)
downloadable at http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/polisci/faculty/treisman/

Lecture 6. The Economics of Transition
Gerard Roland, TEPMF, The MIT press, Chapter 1 (*)
P. Mitra and M. Selowsky (2002), Lessons from a Decade of Transition in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, Finance and Development

Lecture 7. Poverty
Poverty In Latin America: New Thinking about an Old Problem, The Economist, September 22, 2005 (*)
T. Besley and R. Burgess (2003), Halving Global Poverty, Journal of Economic Perspectives (*)

Lecture 8. Inequality
Inequality in Latin America: A Stubborn Case, The Economist, November 6, 2003 (*)

Coursework – Essay to be submitted online via Turnitin this week
Lecture 9. Financial Crisis
S. Claessens (2012), Shedding Debt, Finance and Development,
L. Kodres and A. Narain (2012), Fixing the System, Finance and Development,