

Report course evaluation: ECON 4415 International Trade, Fall 2023

Course responsible: Fernando Stipanicic

Lecturer: Fernando Stipanicic

Seminar leader: Mihai Pasnicu and Fernando Stipanicic

During the fall of 2023 the master course International Trade at the University of Oslo got a new course responsible and lecturer, Fernando Stipanicic, who is a new hire of the Department of Economics and just started the position on August 1 2023, three weeks before the course started. Under the new professorship, the course has received highly positive feedback from students. The course consisted of 12 lectures in which students learnt both theory and empirics of international trade, 9 seminars taught by Mihai Pasnicu in which students learnt about mathematical derivations, and 4 seminars taught by Fernando Stipanicic which promoted student interactions and focused on data sources, empirical test of trade theories, and case studies where students play different roles.

The course evaluation shows a high level of student satisfaction. The evaluation also shows that students learnt how theory can be applied. Students have expressed a deep appreciation for the course structure, content, and teaching style of the new professor. In the course evaluation and on one to one meetings students highlighted that they like both seminars with Mihai and with Fernando. They also expressed a wish for less math-heavy exercises in the seminar. On the other hand, students appreciated very much the interactive seminars taught by Fernando, which fostered an environment of active learning and lively discussion. Students mentioned that they would recommend the course to other students. The format of the examination has been well-received, indicating that it aligns well with the course's teaching methodology and students' preparation.