

This seminar will focus on the World Trade Organization (WTO). We will first explore the economic theory of trade agreements. In particular, we will interpret and evaluate the key features of the WTO. We will then look at some of the recent cases that have come before the WTO and interpret and evaluate the decisions reached in those cases. Students are expected to do assigned readings, make an in-class presentation and write a paper on an agreed upon topic. A student's grade is based on the student's paper (50%), presentation (30%) and participation (20%).

Books on reserve:

Bagwell, K. and R. W. Staiger, **The Economics of the World Trading System**, The MIT Press, 2002.

Jackson, J. H., **The World Trading System: Law and Policy of International Economic Relations**, The MIT Press, 1997.

The WTO Case Law of 2002, Horn, H. and P. C. Mavroidis (eds.), Cambridge University Press, 2005.

The WTO Case Law of 2003, Horn, H. and P. C. Mavroidis (eds.), Cambridge University Press, 2006.

World Trade Organization. The Legal Texts. The Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, World Trade Organization, 2002.

Web:

WTO website: www.wto.org

World Trade Organization: The World Trade Report 2007, at

http://www.wto.org/english/res_e/booksp_e/anrep_e/world_trade_report07_e.pdf

Course Structure:

I. Overview and Basic Concepts

*Crowley, M., "An Introduction to the WTO and GATT," *2003 Economic Perspectives*, 4th Quarter 2003, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, at: www.chicagofed.org/publications/economicperspectives/2003/4qepart4.pdf

II. The Theory of Trade Agreements

*Bagwell, K. and R. W. Staiger, "Economic Theory and the Economic Interpretation of the GATT/WTO," in M. Szenberg and L. Ramrattan (eds.), **New Frontiers in Economics**, Cambridge University Press, 2004. Working paper at: <http://www.columbia.edu/%7Ekwb8/papers.html>

*World Trade Report 2007, Chapter II, Part B

Bagwell, K. and R. W. Staiger, Chapter 2

III. The History and Design of GATT/WTO

*Bagwell, K. and R. W. Staiger, "Economic Theory and the Economic Interpretation of the GATT/WTO," in M. Szenberg and L. Ramrattan (eds.), **New Frontiers in Economics**, Cambridge University Press, 2004. Working paper at: <http://www.columbia.edu/%7Ekwb8/papers.html>

*World Trade Report 2007, Chapter II, Part D, Sections 1-2

www.wto.org (THE WTO...What is the WTO?...The WTO in brief)
Bagwell, K. and R. W. Staiger (2002), Chapter 3.

IV. Key Features of the GATT/WTO: Reciprocity, MFN and Enforcement

*Bagwell, K. and R. W. Staiger, "Economic Theory and the Economic Interpretation of the GATT/WTO," in M. Szenberg and L. Ramrattan (eds.), **New Frontiers in Economics**, Cambridge University Press, 2004. Working paper at: <http://www.columbia.edu/%7Ekwb8/papers.html>

*World Trade Report 2007, Chapter II, Part C

Bagwell, K. and R. W. Staiger, Chapters 4, 5 and 6.

www.wto.org (THE WTO...What is the WTO?...About the WTO – 'Understanding the WTO')

V. Remedies in the WTO

*Bagwell, K., "Remedies in the WTO: An Economic Perspective," in M. Janow, V. Donaldson, and A. Yanovich (eds.), **The WTO: Governance, Dispute Settlement & Developing Countries**, Juris Publishing, 2008. Working Paper at: <http://www.columbia.edu/%7Ekwb8/papers.html>

Schwartz, W. F. and A. O. Sykes, "The Economic Structure of Renegotiation and Dispute Resolution in the World Trade Organization," *Journal of Legal Studies*, 2002, 31, S179-S204. (Available via JSTOR)

VI. Case Analysis

*Bagwell, K. and A. O. Sykes, "Chile – Price Band System and Safeguard Measures Relating to Certain Agricultural Products," *World Trade Review*, Volume 3, Issue 3, November 2004, 507-28. (Also in **The WTO Case Law of 2002**, pp. 133-78). Available at: <http://www.columbia.edu/%7Ekwb8/publications.html>

VII. Student Presentations