



### ET410 Asia and Australia Trade Issues (Online)

<b>Instructor Information</b>	Runcheng (Richard) Xie Email: <a href="mailto:runchengxie@gmail.com">runchengxie@gmail.com</a> Office Hours: Determined by Instructor		
<b>Term</b>	June 27, 2022 - July 22, 2022	<b>Credits</b>	4 units
<b>Course Delivery</b>	The class will be delivered in online format. Other than recorded lecture videos, the instructor will arrange 2.5 hours' real-time interactions with students per week (via discussion forum, Zoom meetings, and WeChat). The workload students are expected to complete to properly pass this course is about 15 hours per week.		
<b>Required Texts</b>	Handout materials in digital format and multimedia (video, audio, etc.) content displayed on the class		
<b>Prerequisite</b>	N/A		



## Course Overview

Did you know that the Asia market comprises about 65% of Australia's international trade? Few of its western counterparts have such a characteristic. Such a reliance means the country wants to put extra attention to the Asia Pacific region. Yet, Australia also doesn't forget its role as a member of the commonwealth alliance. Such a unique combination means the country has to carefully balance its foreign affairs effort to remind various Australian partners of its loyalty.

The attention of this class is an exploration of Australia's standing on the international playground. The class will try to answer three seemingly philosophical yet practical questions: 1) how the international trade of Australia started; 2) how is Australia international trade currently; 3) how Australia international trade is going to develop in the future. The ultimate goal of this class is not to give you a definite answer so you can memorize, but to foster open-minded critical thinking so that you can apply it in the future.

## Learning Outcomes

After completing this course, you should be able to:

1. Have a top-down view of the current Australian situation on the world stage of the Asia Pacific region
2. Understand deeper the implication of the various international trade policy through various examples of those of Australia and of its trading partner
3. And probably most importantly, equip yourself with the analytical skill and critical thinking mindset to arrive at your own opinion regarding the Australian and Asia international trade status and issues

## Individual Assignment (Essay)

You are given the choice to pick either of the following topics:

1. Discover a challenge that Australia has with one of its Asian trading partners and offer your own recommendation
2. Praise or criticize one of the Australian trading policies with one of its Asian trading partners

## Group Project Report & Presentation

Try to analyze/demonstrate/decompose/highlight/profile one of Australia's trading partners (don't have to be an Asian country) that is not covered by this class, you can do it in a style similar to this class or in a way that you prefer. To give you an idea, some of the major trading partners that are not covered in this class (the list is not conclusive and exhaustive):

1. United Kingdom
2. United States
3. Germany
4. EU
5. Vietnam
6. Switzerland
7. Netherland



### Grading Policy

Attendance and participation	20%
Individual assignment	40%
Group Project	40%

### Grading Scale

Number grade	Letter grade	GPA
90-100	A	4.0
85-89	A-	3.7
80-84	B+	3.3
75-79	B	3.0
70-74	B-	2.7
67-69	C+	2.3
65-66	C	2.0
62-64	C-	1.7
60-61	D	1.0
≤59	F (Failure)	0



## Class Schedule

Day	Lecture	Reading	Supplement	Online Teaching Arrangement
1	Introductory class: an overview	Why Australia's Economy Is The Wonder Down Under (14:55) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zy09tMkuR94">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zy09tMkuR94</a>	Global push for green steel could hit Australia's \$150bn iron ore exports if miners don't adapt, report finds <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/business/2021/dec/02/global-push-for-green-steel-could-hit-australias-150bn-iron-ore-exports-if-miners-dont-adapt-report-finds">https://www.theguardian.com/business/2021/dec/02/global-push-for-green-steel-could-hit-australias-150bn-iron-ore-exports-if-miners-dont-adapt-report-finds</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
2	What is Australia's trade policy history	DFAT-Trade Through Time <a href="https://www.dfat.gov.au/publications/minisite/tradethroughtimegovau/site/index.html">https://www.dfat.gov.au/publications/minisite/tradethroughtimegovau/site/index.html</a>	The current state of trade policies in Australia <a href="https://www.apf.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/pubs/BriefingBook45p/TradeAgreements">https://www.apf.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/pubs/BriefingBook45p/TradeAgreements</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
3	An overview of Australia current situation (Part 1): Challenges	Australia needs to diversify its economy, not just its trading partners <a href="https://www.canberratiimes.com.au/story/6891270/an-over-reliance-on-natural-resources-and-china-is-seeing-australia-fall-further-behind/">https://www.canberratiimes.com.au/story/6891270/an-over-reliance-on-natural-resources-and-china-is-seeing-australia-fall-further-behind/</a>	Could household debt levels be a trigger for another round of credit tightening? <a href="https://www.corelogic.com.au/news/could-household-debt-levels-be-trigger-another-round-credit-tightening">https://www.corelogic.com.au/news/could-household-debt-levels-be-trigger-another-round-credit-tightening</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
4	An overview of Australia current situation (Part 2): Dependency on world trade	Asia-Pacific partnership creates new 'centre of gravity' for global trade <a href="https://thediplomat.com/2021/12/challenges-for-the-australia-south-korea-middle-power-partnership/">https://thediplomat.com/2021/12/challenges-for-the-australia-south-korea-middle-power-partnership/</a>	In Asia, China's Long Game Beats America Short Game <a href="https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/12/12/china-us-asean-trade-geopolitics/">https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/12/12/china-us-asean-trade-geopolitics/</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
5	An overview of Australia current situation (Part 3): Trade agreements	The RCEP ratification and its implications <a href="https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/econographics/the-rcep-ratification-and-its-implications/">https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/econographics/the-rcep-ratification-and-its-implications/</a>	WTO _ Trade policy review - Australia 2020 - Concluding Remarks by the Chairperson <a href="https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tpr_e/tp496_crc_e.htm">https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tpr_e/tp496_crc_e.htm</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video



6	An overview of Australia current situation (Part 4): Opportunity	Business envoy: <a href="https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/business-envoy-april-2021-digital-trade-edition.pdf">https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/business-envoy-april-2021-digital-trade-edition.pdf</a>	Middle power conundrum amid US–China rivalry <a href="https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2022/01/01/middle-power-conundrum-amid-us-china-rivalry/">https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2022/01/01/middle-power-conundrum-amid-us-china-rivalry/</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
7	An overview of Australia current situation (Part 4): Climate	Climate change in Australia: <a href="https://www.csiro.au/en/research/environmental-impacts/climate-change/climate-change-information">https://www.csiro.au/en/research/environmental-impacts/climate-change/climate-change-information</a>	La Niña weather pattern keeps temperatures in Australia down but 2021 still hotter than average _ Australia weather <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2022/jan/03/la-nina-weather-pattern-keeps-temperatures-in-australia-down-but-2021-still-hotter-than-average">https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2022/jan/03/la-nina-weather-pattern-keeps-temperatures-in-australia-down-but-2021-still-hotter-than-average</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
8	What is foreign direct investment and why is it important?	2020 Investment Climate Statements Australia <a href="https://www.state.gov/reports/2020-investment-climate-statements/australia/">https://www.state.gov/reports/2020-investment-climate-statements/australia/</a>	Investment flows to developing Asia defy COVID-19, grow by 4% <a href="https://unctad.org/es/node/33375">https://unctad.org/es/node/33375</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
9	What is foreign aid and why is it important	The state of Australian aid <a href="https://www.lowyinstitute.org/issues/australian-foreign-aid">https://www.lowyinstitute.org/issues/australian-foreign-aid</a>	‘Not a club we should be part of’: Australia slumps in generosity rankings <a href="https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/not-a-club-we-should-be-part-of-australia-slumps-in-generosity-rankings-20210509-p57qas.html">https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/not-a-club-we-should-be-part-of-australia-slumps-in-generosity-rankings-20210509-p57qas.html</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
10	Humanitarian issues of Australia	Human Right Watch, Australia, Events of 2020: <a href="https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2021/country-chapters/australia">https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2021/country-chapters/australia</a>	‘Turn the planes around’ _ Māori leader says New Zealand should block Australian deportations _ Australian immigration and asylum _ The Guardian <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2021/dec/27/turn-the-planes-around-maori-leader-says-new-zealand-should-block-australian-deportations">https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2021/dec/27/turn-the-planes-around-maori-leader-says-new-zealand-should-block-australian-deportations</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video



11	What is ASEAN and why is it important?	Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) <a href="https://www.dfat.gov.au/international-relations/regional-architecture/asean">https://www.dfat.gov.au/international-relations/regional-architecture/asean</a>	Why ASEAN matters: our shared prosperity <a href="https://www.dfat.gov.au/international-relations/regional-architecture/asean/why-asean-matters-our-shared-prosperity">https://www.dfat.gov.au/international-relations/regional-architecture/asean/why-asean-matters-our-shared-prosperity</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
12	Australia 1 <sup>st</sup> largest trading partner profiling: China	China country brief <a href="https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/china/china-country-brief">https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/china/china-country-brief</a>	Australian wine in China: Impact of China's anti-dumping duties <a href="https://www.awe.gov.au/abares/research-topics/trade/australian-wine-in-china">https://www.awe.gov.au/abares/research-topics/trade/australian-wine-in-china</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
13	Australia 2 <sup>nd</sup> largest trading partner profiling: Japan	Japan country brief <a href="https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/japan/japan-country-brief">https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/japan/japan-country-brief</a>	Australia resumes entry from Japan <a href="https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2021/12/15/national/australia-entry-japan/">https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2021/12/15/national/australia-entry-japan/</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
14	Australia 5 <sup>th</sup> largest trading partner profiling: Korea	Republic of Korea country brief <a href="https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/republic-of-korea/republic-of-korea-south-korea-country-brief">https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/republic-of-korea/republic-of-korea-south-korea-country-brief</a>	Australia, South Korea sign \$717m defence deal <a href="https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/12/13/australia-south-korea-sign-680m-defense-deal">https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/12/13/australia-south-korea-sign-680m-defense-deal</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
15	Australia 6 <sup>th</sup> largest trading partner profiling: Singapore	Singapore country brief <a href="https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/singapore/singapore-country-brief">https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/singapore/singapore-country-brief</a>	Singapore slams its border shut to the world <a href="https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/singapore-slams-its-border-shut-to-the-world-as-omicron-fears-grow/ar-AAS2FTa">https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/singapore-slams-its-border-shut-to-the-world-as-omicron-fears-grow/ar-AAS2FTa</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
16	Australia 7 <sup>th</sup> largest trading partner profiling: India	India country brief <a href="https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/india/india-country-brief">https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/india/india-country-brief</a>	The dangers in Australia's blissful ignorance about India <a href="https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/dangers-australia-s-blissful-ignorance-about-india">https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/dangers-australia-s-blissful-ignorance-about-india</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
17	Australia 8 <sup>th</sup> largest trading partner profiling: New Zealand	New Zealand country brief <a href="https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/new-zealand/new-zealand-country-brief">https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/new-zealand/new-zealand-country-brief</a>	Fractious Australia has much to learn from the kindness and purpose of New Zealand politics _ Eleanor de Jong _ The Guardian <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/dec/12/fractious-australia-has-much-to-learn-from-the-kindness-and-purpose-of-new-zealand-politics">https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/dec/12/fractious-australia-has-much-to-learn-from-the-kindness-and-purpose-of-new-zealand-politics</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video



18	Australia 10 <sup>th</sup> largest trading partner profiling: Thailand	Thailand country brief <a href="https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/thailand/thailand-country-brief">https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/thailand/thailand-country-brief</a>	Commentary: COVID-19 didn't dampen the drugs trade, it worsened it <a href="https://www.channelnewsasia.com/commentary/drugs-thailand-myanmar-instability-pandemic-2407471">https://www.channelnewsasia.com/commentary/drugs-thailand-myanmar-instability-pandemic-2407471</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
19	Australia and pacific islands	Pacific Step-up <a href="https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/pacific">https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/pacific</a>	In remote Pacific islands, businesses look local to survive COVID <a href="https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2021/11/22/in-remote-pacific-islands-businesses-pandemic-isol">https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2021/11/22/in-remote-pacific-islands-businesses-pandemic-isol</a>	Approximately 120 minutes recorded lecture video
20	Final presentation/ Reserved for provisional			Online Presentation

Please note that online teaching arrangement is possible to be adjusted.