Term Project

Description of Project
Your term project for this class will be a research paper and presentation of findings in class. Your paper should survey the trade position and effects of trade liberalization and globalization for a country other than the United States. The research paper should be 2,500 to 3,000 words in length, exclusive of tables, charts or other addendums. Your in-class presentation should be no more than 15 minutes in length, with visual aid support, and you should allow for an additional 10 minutes of questions and answers.

Deadlines
Country selection and consultation with professor: Friday, January 14
Presentations: Beginning Monday, February 14
Final papers due: Noon, Tuesday, February 22

Checklist / Suggested Paper Organization
The following is a suggested topical outline that will be used to evaluate the content of your paper.

1. Pattern of trade

   In this section, your paper should provide the reader with a detailed overview of the country’s trading position. Key elements of this overview will include the country’s balance of payments, key trading partners, key exports and imports, and a brief discussion about how well the standard models of trade explain the country’s pattern of trade.

   - Have there been recent significant changes in the country’s balance of payments position? (If so, consider a balance of payments table that provides data related to these changes.) What implications do these changes have for the country’s trading position and overall economic stability?

   - To what degree do models of comparative advantage or imperfect competition explain the observed patterns of trade? Do historical relationships with other countries seem to influence the observed pattern of trade?

2. Political economy of trade

   In this section you should survey the trade policies of the country.

   - Does the country’s government explicitly offer protection or subsidies to any industries in order to facilitate exports or otherwise influence the pattern of trade? If so, evaluate the policies – in your view, have they been successful or detrimental, and what constituencies have been helped and/or hurt by these policies?
Do the country’s monetary and/or exchange rate policies seem directed at promoting a particular level or direction of trade? If so, evaluate the policies and their consequences – in your view, have they been successful or detrimental, and what constituencies have been helped and/or hurt by these policies?

Are there other elements of the country’s trade and commercial policies that a multinational business should consider if it were doing business in this country?

3. Effects of trade liberalization / globalization

In this section, you should review the effects of trade liberalization and globalization through the eyes of various constituencies within the country. Key sources for this section of your paper might include macroeconomic and business related data, news stories about trade and economic performance within the country, and articles that discuss arguments for and against openness that have gained credence within the country.

Has trade liberalization and globalization had any effect on the macroeconomic stability or growth of the country?

Has trade liberalization created winners and losers within the country? If so, elaborate. Has trade liberalization contributed to economic and social tensions or has it been unambiguously beneficial to the population of the country? To what degree do your observations here explain general attitudes toward trade in the country?

Evaluation Criteria
Your paper and presentation will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Content (using the outline above) 40%
2. Quality of written exposition, including grammar and usage 20%
3. Quality of verbal exposition, including use of visual aids 20%
4. Discussion / Engagement in fellow student’s presentations 10%
5. Submission to Rose-E-Portfolio, global criterion 2* 10%

Even though this component of the criteria is weighted at 10%, the entire project will not be considered complete and no grade will be assigned until it has been submitted to the Rose-E-Portfolio.