

**Course Name: Selected Business Topics – Commodity Trade\***

Degree programmes:

Responsible Lecturer: Erika Kullmann

**Work load:** 150 hours/semester  
(1 hour = 60 minutes )**Lecture hours per week:** 4  
(1 lecture hour = 45 minutes)**ECTS Credits:** 5**Course objectives:**

To make the students aware of the impact of international commodity trade.

To further develop the student's

- linguistic (English) competence for international business,
- methodology for acquiring and developing language knowledge and skills in Business English
- autonomy as a learner,
- academic reading skills,
- research skills,
- presentation skills

**Contents:** Language work and study will be centred on an internationally traded commodity. While looking at the economic, environmental, social and health implications of the supply chain in question we will also take it as the starting point for further reading and research especially in the field of sustainability. Clothing being one of the biggest consumer sectors, we may look at the supply chain of cotton. We may also study other highly traded commodities depending on the students' choice in the first session.

\* winter semester only

**About didactics and work load distribution:**

- Teaching methods:
  1. short lectures
  2. group work
  3. plenary and group discussions
  4. simulations
  5. impromptu presentations (1 -5 online if required by COVID-19 restrictions)
  6. field trips (if COVID-19 restrictions allow)
- Independent study:
  - reading
  - researching
  - studying texts for their linguistic content and relevance
- Work load distribution (1 hour = 60 minutes):
  - class hours: 45 hours
  - preparatory reading, independent study, exam preparation and exam: 105 hours

**Requirements for participation:**

English at Level B2 – preferably C1 – of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)

German (reading comprehension only) at CEFR Level B1 desirable, but not compulsory.

Native speakers of English are not eligible for this course.

**Course language:**

English

**Type of exam / Assessment:**

Presentation and/or research report in class **plus** a piece of writing done at home **or** oral exam

**Literature:**

Research topics and required reading to be announced in the first two sessions