The course deals with the macro side of international economics. Topics include the cause and effect of current account deficits, the theory of exchange rates, the role of government policy under fixed and flexible exchange rates, the problem of coordinating policies in an integrated world economy, and the causes and consequences of balance of payments crises.

Econ 461 is Writing Intensive, giving you firsthand experience in applied economic analysis. Through homework essays and project presentations, you will develop your understanding of key concepts and your ability to use these concepts to analyze issues of current interest.

Questions we will try to answer include:
- What factors have created the current global financial crisis?
- Should stimulus plans be coordinated internationally?
- How is the euro a barrier to European recovery?
- Why has the U.S. trade balance improved recently?
- What do big budget deficits mean for the future path of the dollar?