Why do countries trade?  
Wouldn’t we be better off buying everything locally?  
What’s the big deal about China’s growing trade with other countries?  
What does it mean for trade to be “fair”?  
What are the connections between trade and multinational firms, trade and the environment, trade and workers’ rights?

We’ll be answering these questions and many more in Economics 460.  We will examine why nations trade with each other, what they trade and why they use various forms of trade restrictions.  The objective of this course is to provide students with the tools needed to think critically about international trade issues and policies.  With increasing public interest in international economics and foreign competition, it is vital that students gain an understanding of international trade theory so that they can discern fact from fiction in the coverage of international trade issues in the popular press and political arenas.