CASE STUDIES AS A TEACHING-LEARNING TOOL IN ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND QUANTITATIVE COURSES An Instructor's Perspective

Yusof Ismail



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An Instructor's Perspective

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Case Studies in International Economics

Norma Md Saad

Introduction

The International Economics course is designed for third year students of the KENMS. The purpose of this course is to present theories and principles of international economics that are essential for understanding and evaluating important international economic problems. Topics include (a) the theoretical and policy aspects of international trade, (b) protectionism, (c) the role and functions of foreign exchange market with preliminary discussion of exchange rate theories, (d) balance of payment and its adjustment policies, and (e) the monetary system. It is necessary for students to learn the theories and principles of international economics that are essential for understanding and evaluating important international economic problems in the increasingly globalized world.

This course uses case studies as a teaching-learning tool to aid the instructor to introduce certain theories/principles of international economics to students. I addition, the use of case studies in the course helps students to relate the theories/principles of international trade that they learn with what is happening in the real world.

Objectives of using cases

I have three objectiveds in using case studies in the course:

- 1. To illustrate the importance of international trade and the interdependence of one country with another.
- 2. To show that different countries have different resource endowment.
- 3. To emphasize on the importance and rapid growth of trade in manufacturing products.

Relevance of the cases

Cases are relevant to theory to show that a certain theory is applicable in the real world situation. For example, if a theory states that a country will export a commodity that requires an intensive use of a factor endowment of that country, then a case study can illustrate the trade pattern of countries in the real world.

Cases are relevant to tell us the reality of certain business practice. For example, one way of eliminating or reducing competition is by practicing dumping (selling at a low price or below cost). Cases on dumping cases filed by one country against another illustrates to what extent business are adopting this strategy to increase market share and also to eliminate competitors.

Criteria of adoption of main textbook

My rating for book adoption using this rating scale *Not important* 1 2 3 4 5 *Important* is shown below: