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**FEDERAL STATE AUTONOMOUS EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
EDUCATION PEOPLES' FRIENDSHIP UNIVERSITY OF RUSSIA NAMED AFTER  
PATRICE LUMUMBA  
(RUDN University)  
Faculty of economics**

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## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

### **International statistical databases**

**Recommended by the Didactic Council for the Education Field of  
38.03.01 Economics**

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(code and name of the direction of training/specialty)

**The course instruction is implemented within the professional education programme  
of higher education**

**International Economic Relations**

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(name (profile/specialization))

## 1. COURSE GOALS

The goal of mastering the discipline "International Statistical Databases" is to teach students to work with reliable sources of statistic and analytical information - international statistical databases - and use them to achieve the goals of foreign economic activity.

The achievement of this goal will be facilitated by the following **tasks**:

1. to develop students' skills in obtaining and processing statistical information
2. to focus students' attention on working with primary sources for competent analysis in the field of international economic relations and foreign economic activity, including international statistical databases of international economic organizations, databases of international industry associations, national statistical bureaus;
3. to teach students to fluently master the terminology of the main statistical indicators in the field of international economic relations;
4. to instill in students the skills of critical evaluation and interpretation of the data obtained during the analysis.

## 2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Studying the discipline " International statistical databases" is aimed at the formation of the following competencies (part of competencies) among students:

*Table 2.1. List of competencies formed in students when studying the discipline (results of mastering the discipline)*

Competence code	Competence	Competence indicators
GC-12	Able to: search for necessary information and data sources, perceive, analyze, store and transmit information using digital means. It can also use algorithms when working with information received from various sources to effectively use the information to solve problems. The system evaluates the reliability of information and draws logical conclusions based on incoming information and data.	GC-12 / YK-12.1 Know how to search for necessary information and data sources, perceive, analyze, memorize and transmit information using digital tools as well as algorithms when working with data from various sources to effectively use received information to solve problems. GC-12 / YK-12.2 Able to evaluate information, its reliability, build logical conclusions based on incoming information and data
GPC-5 / OIHK-5	Able to understand the principles of operation of modern information technologies and use them to solve problems of professional activity	GPC-5 / OIHK-5.1 Know how to use modern information technologies and software, incl. domestic production, to solve the problems of the digital economy

Competence code	Competence	Competence indicators
		GPC-5 / OPIK-5.2 Recognize and take into account the sources of threats, compliance with information security requirements
		GPC-5 / OPIK-5.3 Able to choose modern information technologies and software in solving problems of professional activity

### 3. COURSE IN HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The discipline " International statistical databases " refers to the part formed by the participants of the educational relations of block B1 of the EP.

Within the framework of the EP, students also master other disciplines and / or practices that contribute to the achievement of the planned results of mastering the discipline " International statistical databases ".

*Table 3.1. List of Higher Education Programme components / disciplines that contribute to expected learning/training outcomes*

Code	Competence	Previous disciplines/modules, practices*	Subsequent disciplines/modules, practices*
GC-12	Able to: search for necessary information and data sources, perceive, analyze, store and transmit information using digital means. It can also use algorithms when working with information received from various sources to effectively use the information to solve problems. The system evaluates the reliability of information and draws logical conclusions based on incoming information and data.	Computer science Statistics for Economists Variable component Economic informatics	Interdisciplinary coursework Interdisciplinary course project Business process modeling Geographic Information Systems: Visualization of Spatial Data Business on the Internet Basics of international trade Electronic commerce in international business

			<p>Big Data</p> <p>Project-technological internship</p> <p>Undergraduate practice</p> <p>Final state examination procedures</p> <p>Degree thesis procedures</p>
GPC-5 / OIK-5	Able to understand the principles of operation of modern information technologies and use them to solve problems of professional activity	Econometrics	<p>International trade in high-tech products and technology transfer</p> <p>Undergraduate practice</p> <p>Final state examination procedures</p> <p>Degree thesis procedures</p>

#### 4. COURSE WORKLOAD AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

The total laboriousness of the discipline "International statistical databases" is 4 credits.

TABLE 4.1. Types of academic activities during the period of the HE programme mastering

Type of educational work		TOTAL, academic hours	Semester			
			4			
Contact academic hours		144	144			
Including:						
Lectures		17	17			
Lab work		34	34			
Seminars (workshops/tutorials)						
Self-study (ies), academic hours		66	66			
Evaluation and assessment academic hours		27	27			
Type of educational work		TOTAL, academic hours	Semester			
			4			
Overall laboriousness of the discipline	academic hours	144	144			
	credits	4	4			

## 5. COURSE MODULES AND CONTENTS

Course Modules and Contents	Modules and Topics (Units/Themes)
Section 1. Theoretical aspects of international statistical databases.	<p>Topic 1: International Statistical Databases</p> <p>Definition and Classifications</p> <p>Data Provided</p> <p>Analysis Methods</p> <p>Effective Data Presentation</p>
Section 2. Sources of statistical information in the field of international trade.	<p>Topic 2:</p> <p>Sources of Statistical Information: UN Comtrade DATA, WTO CISDS, WITS, Trend Economy, UNCTAD stat.</p> <p>International Classifications: Harmonized System (HS), Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), Balance of Payments (BOP) classification.</p> <p>Indicators: Value, volume, trade balance, terms of trade.</p> <p>Data Processing Methods: Aggregation, weighting, decomposition.</p> <p>Topic 3: National Sources: Russian Federation's customs database, national statistical offices of USA, UK, EU. External Sector Data: Balance of Payments, International Investment Position (IIP).</p>
Section 3. Sources of international industry statistics.	<p>Topic 4. Sources of statistical information on international commodity markets:</p> <p>International industry associations: FAO Stat, IFA, OIV, IOGP, OICA.</p> <p>Topic 5. Sources of analytical industry reviews and research:</p> <p>Statista database reports;</p> <p>International organization journals;</p> <p>Industry reports and forecasts by Deloitte, KPMG, RBC.</p>
Section 4. World Economy Statistics of the World Bank	<p>Topic 6. Sustainable Development Goals. Indicators of sustainable development of the world economy. Activities of international organizations to achieve these goals. World Bank Database: Socio-Economic Indicators of Sustainable Development.</p>
Section 5. International ratings and indices in the field of international economic relations.	<p>Topic 7: International ratings and indices in the field of international economic relations. The concept and methods of compiling ratings. Ratings of international official economic periodicals: The Economist rankings, Fortune 500. Industry ratings. Types of international economic indices: Global Competitiveness Index (GCI); Doing Business; World Innovation Index; Human Capital Index.</p>

## 6. CLASSROOM EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS

Name of special * placements and placements for independent work	Equipment of special placements and placements for independent work	List of licensed software. Details of the confirming document
Lecture Hall	Auditorium for lecture-type classes, equipped with a set of specialized furniture; whiteboard (screen) and technical means of multimedia presentations.	
Computer Lab	Computer class for group and individual consultations, current control and intermediate certification, equipped with personal computers (in the amount of 21 pcs.), a whiteboard (screen) and technical means of multimedia presentations.	
For independent work of students	Computer class for classes, group and individual consultations, current control and intermediate certification, equipped with personal computers (in the amount of 21 pcs.), a whiteboard (screen) and technical means of multimedia presentations. Computer class for classes, group and individual consultations, current control and intermediate certification, equipped with personal computers (in the amount of 21 pcs.), a whiteboard (screen) and technical means of multimedia presentations.	

### 1. RESOURCES RECOMMENDED FOR COURSE STUDY

#### Main reading(sources)

1. Maskus K. E. Comparing international trade data and product and national characteristics data for the analysis of trade models. – 1989.
2. Statistics G. F., Data U. N. C. International Trade Statistics //Statistisches Bundesamt, Wiesbaden, Germany. – 2005.
3. Yasui T. The Unreliability of Merchandise Trade Statistics //Global Trade and Customs Journal. – 2018. – T. 13. – №. 6.
4. Valdivia-Velarde E., Razin T. 5. International Merchandise Trade Statistics //Balance of Payments Manual, Sixth Edition Compilation Guide. – International Monetary Fund, 2014.

#### Additional (optional) reading (sources)

5. Darrell Huff. How to Lie with Statistics = How to Lie with Statistics. — M.: Alpina Publisher, 2015. — 163 p. — ISBN 978-5-9614-5212-9.
6. Bazaleva O.I. Mastery of data visualization.: - SPb.: OOO «Dialectika», 2018. – 192 p.
7. Bogachev A. Graphs that convince everyone.: - AST, 2020. – 280 p.
8. Publications of the World Trade Organization

1. World Trade Report 2020
  2. World Trade Statistical Review 2020
  3. Trade Profiles 2020
  4. World Tariff Profiles 2020
- Publications of the International Monetary Fund
1. World Economic Outlook Reports
  2. Global Financial Stability Report
  3. Regional Economic Outlook

*Microsoft Office 2010:*

*Databases, reference and search engines:*

*Databases of UNIBCR RUDN University:*

- Electronic catalog – a database of books and periodicals in the fund of the RUDN University library.*
- Electronic resources – including section: Licensed resources of UNIBC (NB):*
- University Library ONLINE*
- SPRINGER. Book collections of the publishing house*
- Rudn University Bulletin*
- East View*

*Universal Databases*

- eLibrary.ru*
- Grebennikon*
- Library PressDisplay*
- SwetsWise*
- Swets Wise online content*
- University of Chicago Press Journals*
- Books by Alpina Publishers*
- Electronic library of RSL dissertations*

*Database "Multilingual Dictionary of Terms", information bibliographic databases OF INION RAS, Databases of normative acts of the Russian Federation: ConsultantPlus: VersiyaProf. ON-LINE VERSION, Business Source Complete Database.*

*Other databases*

1. *IMF, UNCTAD, OECD*
2. *University of Chicago Press Journals*
3. *<http://europa.int> (European Union)*
4. *[www.cbr.ru](http://www.cbr.ru)*
5. *[www.gks.ru](http://www.gks.ru)*
6. *[www.eur.ru](http://www.eur.ru)*
7. *[www.iccwbo.org](http://www.iccwbo.org) (International Chamber of Commerce)*
8. *[www.minfin.ru](http://www.minfin.ru)*
9. *[www.unctad.org](http://www.unctad.org) (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)*
10. *[www.usitc.gov](http://www.usitc.gov) (U.S. International Trade Commission)*
11. *[www.world-bank.org](http://www.world-bank.org) (World Bank)*
12. *[www.wto.org](http://www.wto.org) (World Trade Organization).*
13. *<https://ourworldindata.org/trade-and-globalization> (Oxford University)*
14. *<https://gtmarket.ru/> (Гуманитарный портал)*
15. *<https://www.statista.com/> (Business Data Platform)*
16. *<https://trendeconomy.com/> (TrendEconomy Ltd)*

17. <http://i-tip.wto.org/goods/Default.aspx> (I-tip WTO)
18. <http://tariffdata.wto.org/ReportersAndProducts.aspx> (WTO Tariff download facility)
19. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/SPROLLS/world-economic-outlook-databases#sort=%40imfdate%20descending> (World economic outlook database)
20. <https://www.globaltradealert.org/> (Global trade alert)
21. <http://rtais.wto.org/UI/PublicMaintainRTAHome.aspx> (Regional trade agreements database)
22. <https://worldinfigures.com/rankings> (The economist rankings)
23. <https://wits.worldbank.org/Default.aspx?lang=en> (World integrated trade solution)
24. <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/> (
25. <https://tax.kpmg.us/insights/insights-on-trade-customs/survey-and-studies.html> (KPMG surveys and studies)
26. <https://www.wipo.int/portal/en/index.html> (

## **8. ASSESSMENT TOOLKIT AND GRADING SYSTEM\* FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENTS' COMPETENCES LEVEL UPON COURSE COMPLETION**

Evaluation materials and a grading system\* for assessing the level of formation of competencies (part of competencies) based on the results of mastering the discipline "Basics of international trade" are presented in the Appendix to this Course Syllabus of the discipline.

### **AGREED**

Developer:

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Head of the Higher Education Program(me)

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