MASTERING TRADE POLICY
Understanding and Acting in Today’s Economy

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HARVARD Kennedy School
Executive Education
YOU’RE HERE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE."
Globalization has dramatically increased the complexity of trade policy, making it a more prominent and complex sphere of public policy. No longer confined to tariffs and quotas, trade policy is inextricably linked to a nation’s social and environmental policies, a country’s overall development strategy, and the shared economic development goals of regional trade initiatives. Hot-button issues include the compatibility of regional and multilateral arrangements; the need to make the trade system more conducive to economic development and poverty alleviation; and how to integrate issues at the technological frontier in intellectual property rights, biotechnology, and genetically modified organisms.

**Mastering Trade Policy: Understanding and Acting in Today’s Economy** is designed to help trade policymakers and practitioners like you analyze, formulate, negotiate, and implement strategic policies and practices in the field of trade. The program is also of tremendous benefit to policymakers, analysts, business leaders, and activists who must deal simultaneously with initiatives at the national, bilateral, regional, and multilateral levels. The program will:

» Enhance your understanding of the economic underpinnings of trade policy
» Advance your negotiations skill set
» Increase your practical knowledge of trade agreements and disputes
» Provide you with a deeper knowledge of the institutions and rules of international trade
» Expand your capacity to integrate theory and practice in all of these areas
Mastering Trade Policy brings together the international trade community to provide a practical approach to trade policy emphasizing the core competencies of successful practitioners. Here, you will build your global network and learn the latest political and policy developments in the field.

The curriculum is both rigorous and stimulating. It consists of a unique combination of lectures, trade-specific negotiation simulations, videoconferences, and small group work, supplemented by interactive discussions using the case study method pioneered at Harvard.

The cases promote exploration and discussion of a variety of current international and regional trade issues. Representative case study topics from previous sessions range from Brazil’s challenge to the United States on cotton subsidies at the World Trade Organization to the disagreement between the European Union and the United States over the use of beef hormones.

Harvard Kennedy School’s videoconferencing sessions allow participants to interface directly and in real-time with top professionals from world renowned institutions. Far more than a simulation or exercise, the videoconferences for this course enable you to gain valuable insight and question the best minds in trade policy.

The Computerized Encyclopedia of Trade Law and Policy (CENTRAL) is a one-of-a-kind digital reference library available exclusively to program participants. It contains hundreds of fully cross-linked primary and secondary materials on the law, politics, and economics of trade. This virtual library centralizes documents needed by negotiators, legislators, lawyers, journalists, analysts, and other trade practitioners. This invaluable electronic resource is a capacity-building tool for novices and experienced professionals alike.
Mastering Trade Policy is designed for leaders working in public, nonprofit, and private organizations, including:

» National ministries and federal agencies
» Legislatures, state, and provincial governments
» Regional and multilateral organizations
» Corporations
» Development banks
» Labor unions
» Academic institutions
» Law firms
» Non-governmental organizations

The vast global reach of program participants provides an unparalleled opportunity for rich and diverse discussions on trade policy and practice, creating connections with others in the international trade community. Alumni of this program report that the professional and personal relationships formed among their peers often continue for many years following the program, and that the learning environment extends far beyond the walls of the classroom. An extensive background in economics is not required for this course.

“The professors built bridges and synergies between the topics covered. A very new dynamic way of teaching.”
— 2016 PROGRAM PARTICIPANT
Robert Z. Lawrence, Faculty Chair, is the Albert L. Williams Professor of International Trade and Investment; a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics; and a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. He served as a member of the U.S. President’s Council of Economic Advisers from 1998 to 2000. Professor Lawrence has also been a senior fellow in the Economic Studies Program at the Brookings Institution, a professorial lecturer at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, and an instructor at Yale University, where he received his PhD in economics. He has served as a consultant to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the World Bank, the OECD, and UNCTAD. His research focuses on trade policy.

Craig VanGrasstek is a trade consultant and a lecturer in political economy. His firm, Washington Trade Reports, has provided professional services to the trade policy community since 1985. His expertise includes the policymaking process, trade negotiations, trade laws and dispute settlement procedures, preferential trade programs, trade in services, and accessions to the World Trade Organization. VanGrasstek holds a PhD in political science from Princeton University.

Brian S. Mandell is Senior Lecturer in Public Policy and Director of Harvard Kennedy School’s Negotiation Project. His current teaching and research address the theory and practice of negotiation, emphasizing third-party facilitation and consensus-building in domestic and international protracted policy disputes. A Pew Faculty Fellow and Senior Research Associate at Harvard Kennedy School’s Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Mandell holds a PhD from the University of Toronto.
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