

# A Comparative Study of the Three Modes of the Curriculum Setting of International Economics in Universities

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## **Abstract:**

Currently, there are three modes of curriculum setting for International Economics in China's universities. The first one has International Finance and International Trade. The second one has three courses of International Economics, International Trade, and International Finance in the same major; and the third one only has International Economics. 163 majors of 81 universities were surveyed and analyzed. This study provided information that 84 majors adopted the second mode, 68 majors adopted the first one, and only 11 majors adopted the last one. By contrastive analysis methods, this thesis focuses on the advantages and disadvantages of these three modes, and finally proposes some relevant suggestions about how to make optimization and improvement of International Economics in universities. Because the largest number of majors chooses this mode and there are many advantages in it, the second mode is highly recommended to majors adopting the third mode, and strengthening cooperation between teachers of different three courses is proposed.

**Keywords:** *Three Modes; International Economics; Curriculum Setting.*

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## **I. Analysis of the Three Modes of Curriculum Setting about International Economics in Universities**

### *A. Requirements of Chinese Ministry of Education for the Curriculum Setting of International Economics*

Curriculum setting of undergraduate students in Economics is based on a professional category of 2020 of normal undergraduate in higher-level education, the International Economics is a core course and a compulsory course of the Economic majors identified by the Ministry of Education.

International Economics focuses on the optimal allocation of resources worldwide and the impact of international economic relations on resource allocation. Its main content includes International Finance and International Trade. The international financial sector includes the development of the international monetary system, foreign exchange markets and exchange rates and exchange rate regimes and related theories, international revenue theories and policies, multinational company theory, the international flow

of goods, services, capital, and labor[1]. The international trade section includes the conditions and basis for the development of international trade, international trade policies, the distribution of trade benefits, the global evolution of the trading system, and the future direction of development [2]. The Ministry of Education expressly stipulates that the Economics major (Code: 020101) must have an International Economics. Table I below is a professional category of 2020 in economics discipline.

**TABLE I. A PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY OF 2020 IN ECONOMICS MAJOR OF AN UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT IN UNIVERSITIES**

<b>02 Discipline: Economics</b>	
<b>Specialty Code</b>	<b>profession and discipline</b>
<b>0201</b>	<b><i>Economics Category</i></b>
020101	Economics
020102	Economic Statistics
020103T <sup>a</sup>	National Economy Management
020104T	Resources and Environmental Economics
020105T	Business Economics
020106T	Energy Economics
020107T	Labour Economics
020108T	Economical Engineering
020109T	Digital Economics
<b>0202</b>	<b><i>Public Finance Category</i></b>
020201K <sup>b</sup>	Public Finance
020202	Taxation
<b>0203</b>	<b><i>Finance Category</i></b>
020301K	Finance
020302	Financial Engineering
020303	Insurance
020304	Investment
020305T	Financial Mathematics
020306T	Credit Management
020307T	Economics and Finance
020308T	Actuarial Science
020309T	Internet Finance
020310T	Financial Technology
<b>0204</b>	<b><i>Economics and Trade Category</i></b>
020401	International Economics and Trade
020402	Trade Economics

Note: a. T denotes Basic Core Courses.

b. K denotes State - controlled layout specialty.

In Table I, there are 23 majors under Economics discipline, among which International Economics and Trade (Code: 020401) and Trade Economics (Code: 020402) belong to Economics and Trade category.

According to the regulations of the Ministry of Education above, International Economics course should be offered for the two majors. Referring to the National Standard proposed by the Ministry of Education for the Teaching Quality of Undergraduate Majors in Economics and Trade, International Economics course is also applicable for the basic courses in International Economics and Trade and Trade Economics.

The above national standards for the teaching quality of undergraduate majors in Economics and Trade have put forward two basic standards for professional basic courses and specialized courses.

First, the Economics and Trade professional basic courses should include Political Economy, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, International Economics, Econometrics, Accounting, Finance, Statistics, Public Finance, Management, and other related courses. Universities can reasonably arrange the time and structure of a course based on their own professional construction characteristics and positioning [3].

Second, as for professional courses in Economics and Trade, universities can offer professional compulsory and elective courses according to their own professional condition specialty orientation and characteristics. The courses should meet the requirements of professional training objectives and reflect professional characteristics. The compulsory courses for Economics and Trade should include International Political Economics, International Trade, International Trade Practices, International Settlement, World Economy, Transnational Corporations Operations and Management, Industrial Economics, Introduction to China's Foreign Trade, Economic Law, Trade Economy Studies, International Business Law, International Marketing, Marketing, Consumer Economics, Service Economy and Service Trade, Circulation Economics, Logistics, International Service Trade, Futures Marketing, E-commerce, International Business, Business Negotiation, etc. According to professional requirements, at least 6 courses must be selected from the 22 courses listed above in universities [4].

However, the Ministry of Education does not necessarily require the establishment of an International Economics curriculum for Finance (Code: 0203) and Public Finance (Code: 0202).

Therefore, in Table I, among 23 majors of 4 economic categories, only 2 majors, including Economics major and Economics and Trade major, are required to offer International Economics.

But some universities do not offer International Economics due to the similar contents of International Economics as International Finance and International Trade, while the two courses of International Finance and International Trade are only offered.

Therefore, the methods of universities and colleges about whether or not International Economics should be offered in the major of Economics and International Economics and Trade are divided into three modes.

### *B. Three Modes of the Curriculum Setting of International Economics*

At present, there are three modes of International Economics course in all universities in China: the first mode is to offer International Finance and International Trade, and not to offer an International Economics course. The second one is to offer three courses at the same time, namely International Economics, International Finance and International Trade. The third one is to offer an International Economics and not to offer International Finance and International Trade.

*C. Research on Three Modes of Curriculum Setting of International Economics in Universities*

In total, 163 majors in 81 universities (mainly focusing on Economics, International Economics and Trade, and Trade and Economics, also including Finance, Insurance, and Financial Engineering) were investigated, including 31 National 985 Project Universities, 33 National 211 Project Universities, and 17 local Universities. The specific distribution is shown in Figure 1.

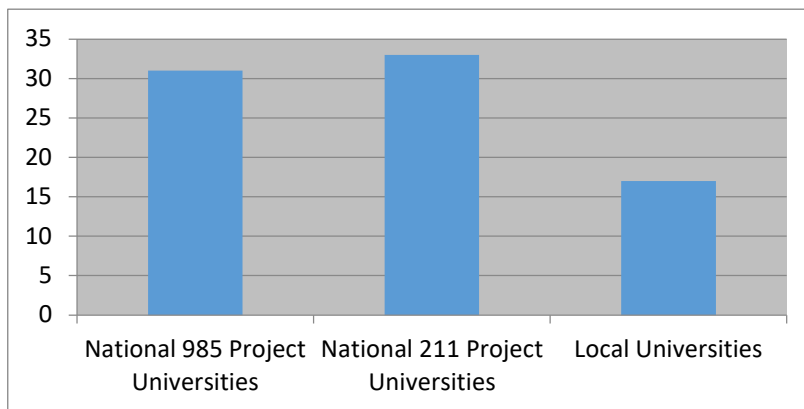


Fig 1: Classification diagram of 81 universities

Among the 163 majors in 81 universities, there are 70 majors in Economics, 43 majors in International Economics and Trade (or International Economy), 4 majors in Trade Economy (or International Trade), and 33 majors in Finance (or International Finance), 13 other majors (such as Financial Engineering or Insurance, Public Finance, etc). The specific distribution is shown in Figure 2.



Fig 2: Distribution graph of proportion of majors among 163 majors in 81 universities

Among the 163 majors in 81 universities, 68 majors adopt the first mode, that is to say, they only offer International Finance and International Trade. 84 majors offer three courses of International Economics, International Finance, and International Trade, namely, the second mode. 11 majors only offer International Economics, namely, the third mode. The mode distribution of majors is shown in Figure 3.

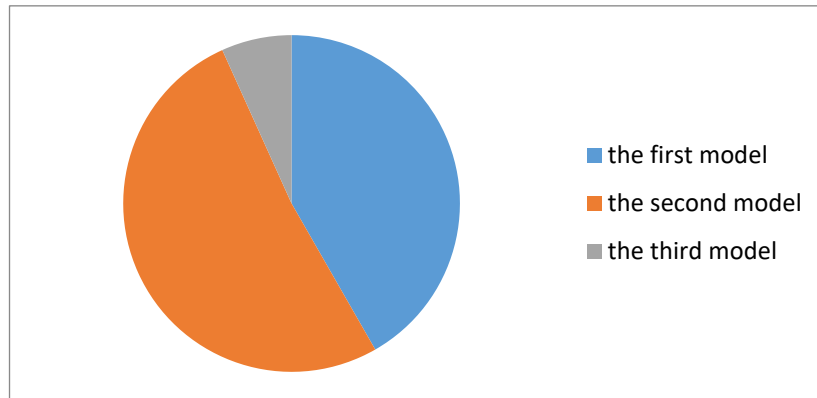


Fig 3: Distribution graph of curriculum pattern among 163 International Economics majors in 81 universities

Universities offering International Finance and International Trade and their majors are shown in Table II.

**TABLE II. Table of universities adopting the first mode and their majors**

University	Major	International Finance class hours	International Trade class hours	International Settlement <sup>c</sup> class hours	International Trade Practice <sup>d</sup> class hours
Beijing Normal University	International Economic and Trade	32	32		
Beijing Normal University	Economics	32	32		
Beijing Normal University	Finance	32	32		
Beijing Technology and Business University	Economics	Unknown	Unknown		
Beijing Technology and Business University	Trade and Economic	Unknown	Unknown		
Beijing University of Science and Technology	International Economic and Trade	32			
Beijing University of	International Economic and	Unknown	Unknown		

Posts and Telecommunications	Trade				
Institute of International Relations	International Economic and Trade	45	45	45	
Beijing foreign language university	Finance	54	54		
Beijing foreign language university	International Economic and Trade	54	54	54	36
Beijing Jiaotong University	Finance	48	32		
Beijing Industry University	International Economic and Trade	Unknown	Unknown		
Beijing Union University	International Economic and Trade	Unknown	Unknown		
Jilin University	International Economic and Trade	Unknown	Unknown		
Beijing University of Chemical Technology	International Economic and Trade	Unknown	Unknown		
Tongji University	International Economic and Trade	51	34		
East China Normal University	International Economic and Trade	54	54		
Tianjin Normal University	International Economic and Trade	36	36		
Zhejiang University	International Economic and Trade	54	54		
Suzhou University	International Economic and Trade	54	54		
Nanjing Normal University	International Economic and Trade	54	54		
Jiangnan	International	48	64		

University	Economic and Trade				
Jiangxi Agricultural University	Finance	54	54		
Jiangxi Agricultural University	International Finance	54	54		
Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics	International Economic and Trade	48	48		
Southwest Jiaotong University	International Economic and Trade	51	48		
Southwest Jiaotong University	Finance	51	48		
Southwestern University of Finance and Economics	Finance	48		48	
Southwestern University of Finance and Economics	Finance (CFA )	48	No		
Southwestern University of Finance and Economics	Financial Engineering	48	No		
Wuhan University	Economics-Math	54	54		
Wuhan University	Finance- Math	54	54		
Wuhan University	Mathematical Hongyi Major	54	54		
Huazhong University of Science and Technology	Financial Engineering	48	40		
Huazhong University of Science and Technology	International Economic and Trade	48	40		
Huazhong University of	International Business&	40	40		

Science and Technology	English				
Huazhong University of Science and Technology	Finance	48	40		
Huazhong University of Science and Technology	Economics ( Experimental Class )	48	40		
Huazhong University of Science and Technology	Economic Statistics	48	40		
Huazhong University of Science and Technology	Economic Innovation Experimental Class	48	40		
Wuhan University of Technology	Quantitative Finance	48	48		
Wuhan University of Technology	International Economic and Trade	48	48		
Wuhan University of Technology	Finance	48	48		
Wuhan University of Technology	Economics	48	48		
Ocean University of China	International Economic and Trade	48			48
Ocean University of China	Finance	46	32		
Ocean University of China	Finance ( CFA )	46	32		
Zhongshan University	Finance	36	No	No	No
South China University of Technology	Economics ( Innovation Class )	No	48		
Shenzhen University	Finance ( Mathematical Finance	54	54		



	Experimental Class )				
Shenzhen University	Finance	54	54		
Guangdong University of Foreign Studies	Financial Mathematics and Actuarial	48	48		
Guangdong University of Foreign Studies	Finance	48	48		
Guangdong University of Foreign Studies	Financial Engineering	48	48		
Shantou University	International Economic and Trade	48	48		
Shantou University	Finance	48	48		
Shantou University	Economics	48	48		
Hunan University	Finance	48	48	48	
Hunan University	Insurance	48	No	No	
Zhongshan University	International Economic and Trade	48	40		
Zhongshan University	Finance	48	No	40	
Hunan University of Finance and Economics	Finance	48			
	Finance ( CFA&FRM )	32		32	
	Taxation	32	32		
Xibe University	Finance	54	54		
Xibe University	Financial Engineering	54	No		
Xibe University	International Economic and Trade	54	54		
Xi'an Jiaotong University	Quantity Economics and Finance	32	48		

Note: c.d. The relevant majors of some schools do not offer International Trade, but offer International Settlement or International Trade Practice or International Trade Theory and Practice.

In Table II, some schools do not have International Trade, but offer International Settlement, International Trade Practice or International Trade Theory and Practice. This is in accordance with the

Ministry of Education's requirements and regulations on the Economics curriculum, that is to say, 6 courses are chosen from 22 courses. As shown in Table II, apart from the unknown class hours of some majors, the two major adopting the first mode have a minimum total of 64 class hours per semester and a maximum of 108 class hours per semester.

Universities offering simultaneously International Economics, International Trade and International Finance and their majors are shown in Table III.

**TABLE III. Table of universities adopting the second mode and their majors**

University	Major	International Economic class hours	International Finance class hours	International Trade class hours
Xiamen University	Economics	56	56	64 (International Business)
Xiamen University	International Economic and Trade	56	56	56
Xiamen University	Finance	56	56	56
Fudan University	Economics	51	51	51
Peking University School of Economics	Economics	51	51	51
Peking University School of Economics	International Economic and Trade	51	51	51
Capital University of Economics and Business	Economics	48	48	48
Capital University of Economics and Business	International Economic and Trade	48	48	48
China University of Political Science	Economics	48	32 (World Financial History)	No
China University of Petroleum	Economics	48	48	48
Beijing Jiaotong University	Economics	32		32 (International Trade Practice)
China University of Geosciences	Economics	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
North China Electric Power University	Economics	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Harbin Institute of Technology	Finance	32	48	48
Harbin Institute of Technology	International Economic and	32	48	48

	Trade			
Harbin Engineering University	Finance	48	40	48
Harbin Engineering University	International Economic and Trade	48	40	48
Central University for Nationalities	Economics	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics	Economics	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics	International Economic and Trade	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Beijing Information Science and Technology University	Economics	48	40	40
Capital Normal University	International Economic and Trade	54	54	54
Capital Normal University	Economics	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Central University Of Finance and Economics	Finance ( International Finance )	54(International Trade)	54	36 (International Trade Practices and Settlement)
Central University Of Finance and Economics	International Economic and Trade	54	54	54
Central University Of Finance and Economics	International Business	54	54	54
Central University Of Finance and Economics	Economics	36	No	No
Central University Of Finance and Economics	Trade and Economic	54	54	54
Central University Of Finance and Economics	International Trade	54	36	54
Central University Of Finance and Economics	National Economic Management	36	No	No
Beijing Institute of	International	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

Technology	Economic and Trade			
Renmin University of China	Economics	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Beijing Material School	Economics	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Beijing Material School	International Economic and Trade	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Tsinghua University	Economics	51	51	51
Tsinghua University	International Economic and Trade	51	51	51
Tsinghua University	Finance	51	51	51
Beijing University of Chemical Technology	International Economic and Trade	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
China Agricultural University	International Economic and Trade	48	48	48
China Agricultural University	Finance	No	32	No
China Agricultural University	Agriculture and Forestry Economic Management	No	No	No
Fudan University	Economics	51	51	51
Shanghai International Studies University	Economics	36	28	54
Shanghai University of Finance	Economics	48	32	32
Shanghai International Business and Economics University	Economics	36	54	36
Nankai University	Economics	57	38	57
Zhejiang Normal University	Economics	48	48	48
Zhejiang University of Commerce and Industry	Economics	64	45	48
China Measurement University	Economics	32	48	40
Nanjing University	Economics	54	54	54

Hehai University	Economics	48	48	48
Nanjing Science and Technology University	Economics	32	32	32
Yangzhou University	Economics	54	54	54
Nanjing Information Technology University	Economics	48	48	48
Nanchang University	International Economic	48	48	48
Nanchang University	International Trade	48	48	48
Jiangxi Agricultural University	International Economic and Trade	54	54	54
Anhui University	International Economic and Trade	54	54	54
Southwest Jiaotong University	Economics	51	51	48
Sichuan Agricultural University	Economics	58	40	40
Sichuan Agricultural University	Finance	58	40	32
Southwestern University of Finance and Economics	Economics	48	48	48
Wuhan University	Economics	54	48	48
Wuhan University	Finance	54	48	48
Wuhan University	Financial Engineering	54	48	48
Wuhan University	International Economic and Trade	54	48	48
Ningxia University	Economics	51	34	34
Northwestern Polytechnical University	International Economic and Trade	32	32	32
Xibei University	Quantitative Economics	54	48	36
Hunan University of Finance and Economics	Business Economics	32	48	48
Hunan Normal University	Economics	48	32	32
Hunan Normal	International	48	48	48

University	Economic and Trade			
South China University of Technology	International Economic and Trade	48	64	48
Shenzhen University	International Economic and Trade	54	54	54
Shandong University	International Economic and Trade	32	32	48
Shandong University	Economics	32	32	48
Shandong University	Finance	32	32	48
Ningxia University	Economics	51	34	34
East China Institute of Technology	Economics	30	46	46
South China University of Technology	Economics	48	64	48
Hunan University	Economics	48	48	48
Hunan University	Finance	48	48	48

As shown in Table III, 84 majors adopt the second mode, except the unknown class hours, the minimum total number of three courses is 110 class hours, and the maximum number of three courses is 162 class hours.

Universities offering only International Economics and their majors are shown in Table IV.

**TABLE IV. Table of universities adopting the third mode and their majors**

University	Major	International Economic class hours
Nanchang University	Economics	48
Beijing Technology and Business University	Trade and Economic	48
Shanghai Jiaotong University	Economics	32
Hebei University of Technology	Economics	48
University of Science and Technology of China	Finance	60
Southwestern University of Finance and Economics	Economics	48
Wuhan University	Insurance	54
Wuhan University	Public Finance	54
Wuhan University	Economics	54
Ocean University of China	Economics	48
Xibei University	Economics	54

As shown in the 11 majors of the third mode in Table IV, there are three majors: Finance major of the University of Science and Technology of China, Insurance of Wuhan University and Public Finance of Wuhan University do not have to offer International Economics. The remaining 7 majors in Economics Category and 1major in Economics and Trade Category are required to have International Economics. But the class hours they offered are not too much, their maximum lesson number is only 54 class hours. The class hour number is far less than the second mode. If some majors have International Economics, International Trade, and International Finance, and each course is about 54 lessons, as shown in Table V.

**TABLE V. COMPARISON OF THE TOTAL CLASS HOURS FOR THE THREE MODES**

<b>Class Hour Range</b>	<b>The first mode of two courses total class hours</b>	<b>The second mode of three courses total class hours</b>	<b>The third mode of a course total class hours</b>
minimum	64	110	32
maximum	108	162	54

As shown in Table V, the class hour number adopted by the third mode is too small, the instructors cannot teach much more content of three courses or two courses involved in such few time. Meanwhile, the minimum class hours in the second mode are 2 hours more than the maximum class hours in the first mode. Therefore, the second mode is superior in the allocation of total class hours.

**II. A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE PROS AND CONS OF THREE MODES IN THE COURSE OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS**

*A. Comparison of the Advantages and Disadvantages of the First Mode*

The first mode only has International Trade and International Finance without the International Economics course, the advantage of splitting international economics is that the instructors can freely arrange their teaching content according to their own professional preferences and teaching plans. In other words, the freedom and flexibility of instructors are relatively high.

However, this mode has more obvious disadvantages:

First, strictly speaking, the first mode does not meet the regulations and requirements of the Ministry of Education on the curriculum of International Economics. If the requirements of the Department of Education’s core courses and required courses for Economic majors are strictly followed, International Economics is a compulsory and professional basic course. Economics majors, International Economics and Trade majors, Trade and Economics majors of colleges and universities must contain International Economics, in other words, they must have International Economics courses. In practice, some universities divide contents of International Economics into two parts, offering International Finance and International Trade respectively, namely, adopting the first mode. There is no International Economics course. Instead, the course is divided into two parts. The sample data we surveyed had 163 majors in 81 universities In the sample data from this survey, 68 majors did not meet the requirements of the Ministry of Education. These 68 majors mainly offer International Economics and Trade and Trade Economics. These relevant

universities may consider that the content of International Economics is mainly consists of two parts, such as International Finance and International Trade. Therefore, a relatively flexible measure has been adopted, and International Finance and International Trade have been independently offered.

Second, it is difficult to control and grasp the key points of the two courses simultaneously. The content of the lectures is poorly targeted. It easily causes problems, such as the omission of knowledge points and related content, the narrow coverage of the lecture content, as well as broad knowledge but not enough depth. So it will make the curriculum system cannot meet the requirements and be lack of completeness.

Third, according to the National standards of the Ministry of Education on the quality of undergraduate education in economics and management, the requirement of selecting at least 6 out of the 22 courses in the professional curriculum is put forward. 68 majors have all chosen International Finance courses, and 6 majors either do not have International Trade nor have International Settlement, International Trade Practice, International Trade Theory and Practice. Therefore, the course content of these 6 majors is serious lack of related knowledge of international trade theory and practice, and there are more serious blind spots of knowledge.

Fourth, although this mode supplies greater flexibility for instructors, the difference between instructors will deepen the imperfection of the curriculum system. Because of the different degrees of preference for their professions, if there are several instructors who teach the same course at the same time, there is a huge difference between different instructors who focus on different key points of courses, which is not beneficial to the integrity and systematization of the curriculum system.

### *B. The Advantages and Disadvantages of the Second Mode*

The Second Mode has International Economics, International Finance, and International Trade Simultaneously.

The advantages of the three courses are more prominent:

First, International Economics involves both International Trade and International Finance, and ensures that the curriculum system is scientific, complete, and systematic. And it can guarantee that the key content of the course is repeatedly emphasized and continuously deepened.

Second, it is beneficial to the refinement of the curriculum system and the decomposition of related content, which facilitates both the broadening of knowledge and the deepening of knowledge points.

Third, it is not easy to produce omissions of knowledge points and related content, and it is easy to master knowledge.

The disadvantages of the second mode are relatively less. The main disadvantage is that there may be more duplication of content, and there will also be small parts of blind spots that are not involved in three courses.

### *C. Comparison of the Advantages and Disadvantages of the Third Mode*

The third mode only has International Economics, without International Finance and International Trade.



This mode has no outstanding advantages. Although it does not violate the relevant regulations of the Ministry of Education, the disadvantages are quite obvious. Regarded as a course, the course system of International Economics is basically complete and systematic. However, the lack of integrity and scientificity of the professional development and curriculum systems of the 23 majors under the code 0201-0204 Economics category is more serious. Therefore, there is too much lack of knowledge and theory in many aspects such as International Finance, International Trade, International Trade Practices, International Settlements, International Payments, and International Capital Flows, as well as a large area of blindness in related knowledge. Because the number of class hour of the third mode severely limits the instructor's lecture content. The fact that only 11 of the 163 majors adopted this mode has fully demonstrated the severity of defect in this mode.

### **III. SUGGESTIONS ON OPTIMIZING THE CURRICULUM SETTING OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS IN UNIVERSITIES**

#### *A. Recommendations for the 68 Majors Using the First Mode*

The first mode occupies a considerable proportion of the Economic majors in ordinary universities and colleges. Therefore, the solution to optimize the existing problems of the first mode is urgent.

First, the instructors' personal preferences of lecture content should be avoided. Teachers who teach International Finance and International Trade, especially teachers of International Trade, must enhance communication with each other, and regularly discuss course key points. The teachers should adjust lecture content at any time according to the latest development trend of global trade, continually add new content, highlight the emphasis of the curriculum, and strengthen the interrelated and systematic knowledge. They also should enhance the practicability and pertinence of the curriculum by adding new theories and cases of domestic and foreign trade development under the new situation.

Second, the teaching team should regularly hold seminars on the contents of the courses, highlighting the key points, improving and minimizing the blind spots of knowledge that are not involved in current courses.

Finally, under the framework and constraints of the training program, and the focus of the lectures, the subjective initiative, flexibility, and autonomy of the instructors should be fully utilized.

#### *B. Recommendations for the 84 Majors Using the Second Mode*

Because there are many advantages in second mode, many majors use this mode. The disadvantages are relatively few, and the most obvious disadvantage is that there are more repetitions in the teaching content. According to the results of our research, usually in majors adopting the second mode, International Finance and International Trade are taught previously, and then the International Economics course is taught. Therefore, our suggestion is that all teachers who teach these three courses should join in regular seminars and forums. Teachers who teach International Economics should listen to those teachers' lectures who teach the other two courses, and should avoid such phenomenon that these teachers ignore

some certain content because they consider it has been taught in other two courses. This phenomenon resulted in loopholes of knowledge. However, the more important thing is to avoid content repetition.

First, teachers of International Economics can communicate with teachers who teach International Trade. If there is no emphasis on explaining the theories and practices of International Trade or International Settlement, then the teacher who teaches International Economics must add this part before the beginning of the course.

Second, teachers of International Economics should discuss teaching content with teachers of International Finance who do not teach the Mundell-Fleming Model[5], the Ternary Paradox[6], the Interest Rate Parity Theory[7], the Purchasing Power Parity Theory[8], etc, and the former must add these parts.

Finally, the teachers of three courses negotiate together as much as possible to avoid duplication of more content. For the basic knowledge points already taught in International Finance and International Trade, the teachers of International Economics just need spend less time explaining them. As a result, the teachers of International Economics have more time to introduce international economic hot issues and cases studies, continuously enhance and optimize the lecture content, as well as improve and cultivate the practical ability of applied economic talents.

### *C. Adjusting and Modifying the Training Program in 11 Majors of the Third Mode*

We do not advocate to adopt the third model, not only because only 11 majors in the 163 samples take this approach, but also because the disadvantages of this model are significant and obvious. In fact, it has been shown that this model is not suitable for training applied economic talents.

Because the professional training programs of universities are revised every 4 years in China, and fine-tuning can be carried out each year when the training methods are implemented. It is suggested that colleges adopting this mode can appropriately adjust according to the development direction of their respective professions and use the second mode adopted universally.

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