

African Continental Free Trade Agreement

Course Description:

This course offers a comprehensive examination of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) with a specific focus on the potential advantages and obstacles it presents for Ghana. As AfCFTA is a significant initiative reshaping the economic landscape of the African continent, this course aims to provide students with a deep understanding of the principles and architecture of the AfCFTA, the opportunities and challenges that Ghana faces in the context of this transformative trade agreement, the provisions that determine a product from benefiting from the AfCFTA preferences, as well as the supportive infrastructure and policy frameworks required to position Ghana to derive the maximum benefits that AfCFTA offers.

Course Objectives:

Explore the AfCFTA Framework: Understand the African Continental Free Trade Area's fundamental principles, goals, and key components.

Analyze the Benefits for Ghana: Investigate how Ghana stands to gain from AfCFTA, including expanded market access, economic growth, and diversification of exports.

Examine Challenges and Implications: Delve into the challenges Ghana may encounter, such as increased competition, policy harmonization, infrastructure requirements, and informal trade.

Examine the Rules of Origin (RoO): The provisions used to determine the economic nationality of a product so as to benefit from the preferences offered by the AfCFTA

Case Studies and Best Practices: Explore real-world examples and best practices from other countries to illustrate how Ghana can maximize its benefits and mitigate challenges.

Policy and Regulatory Frameworks: Study the policy and regulatory changes required to align with AfCFTA and enhance Ghana's trade competitiveness.

Infrastructure and Capacity Building: Evaluate the infrastructure needs and the importance of capacity building to participate in the AfCFTA effectively.

Future Trends and Implications: Discuss potential future developments in AfCFTA and their implications for Ghana's economic development.

Course Format:

The course will be delivered through a combination of lectures, discussions, case studies, group projects, and guest speakers. Students will have the opportunity to engage in critical analysis, policy development, and scenario planning to better understand the complex landscape of the AfCFTA.

Assessment:

Assessment methods will include research projects, presentations, and class participation. Students will also work on a final project, proposing a comprehensive strategy for Ghana to maximize the benefits of the AfCFTA while addressing its challenges.

This course is suitable for students, professionals, policymakers, and anyone interested in the economic development and trade dynamics of Ghana within the context of the African Continental Free Trade Area. It equips participants with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate and leverage the opportunities presented by this historic trade agreement.