

Following are some suggested ideas for the project. You are welcome to come up with your own idea!

Chapter 1 Project Ideas:

1. UNCTAD data (<http://unctad.org/en/Pages/statistics.aspx>)
 - Data on trade and development and the interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development
2. Census Govt. Data (<https://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/statistics/state/data/index.html>)
 - US exports and imports by state, by country, by commodity
3. FRED Data (<https://fred.stlouisfed.org/search?st=trade>)
 - Data on exports, imports, trade balance etc.
4. WTO Data (https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/statis_e.htm)
 - The WTO provides quantitative information in relation to economic and trade policy issues. Its data-bases and publications provide access to data on trade flows, tariffs, non-tariff measures (NTMs) and trade in value added.
5. World Bank Data (<https://wits.worldbank.org/countrystats.aspx?lang=en>)
 - Trade by country, continent

Chapter 2 Project Ideas:

1. The link provided (<http://tse.export.gov/TSE/>) connects to detailed U.S. trade data published by the International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. After choosing a product, examine the top ten countries exporting the product to the United States and provide the reasons for trade.
2. Access trade data (http://dataweb.usitc.gov/prepared_reports.asp) and explore the part of the United States International Trade Commission website. Explore U. S. trade balances sectors, note down if you find any trends. Also consider what role comparative advantage might play in the trends you observe.
3. In this exercise you will find a specific good and try to understand the major trading partners of the United States. Go to the International Trade Administration of the U. S. Department of Commerce (<http://www.trade.gov/mas/>). You can access the National Trade Data, and the Global Patterns of U. S. Merchandise Trade. You can pick goods of your choice to investigate U. S. imports, exports, and trade balance. Look up a good you expect the United States to have a comparative advantage or disadvantage in and to test your beliefs with current data.

Chapter 3 Project Ideas:

1. In this chapter, we discussed the effect of goods' prices on returns to both fixed and mobile factors of production. Look up the most recently available world coffee prices published by the International Coffee Organization (http://www.ico.org/coffee_prices.asp). Use this data to predict what has happened to factor return on land in coffee exporting countries.
2. We often talk about how an economy can benefit by engaging in international trade. However, it is clear that not all sectors within the economy enjoy the overall gains from trade. The question then is whether it is the role of the government to temporarily assist those who lose their jobs due to foreign competition.

In the United States, workers displaced by import competition may qualify for compensation through the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program, which was introduced by President Kennedy in 1962, was brought into the twenty-first century by the stimulus bill passed in 2009.

Investigate the current characteristics of U.S. employment and unemployment. Visit the Bureau of Labor Statistics and investigate the Labor Force Statistics from the Current Population Survey (<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/disp.toc.htm>). Here you can explore the most current data on the characteristics of the U. S. employed and unemployed.