



## UOM-WCP ESSAY COMPETITION

### Free Trade and Economic Development: The Struggle of Small Island Developing Economies

The UoM-WCP invites participation from students of tertiary institutions. The objective of the essay competition is to provide opportunities for students to analyse the prospects and challenges that trade liberalisation and globalisation present to small island developing economies.

#### Conditions for participation

1. Each team of 4 participants will be allowed only one entry and an individual participant can be part of only one team.
2. Each team must submit an essay in the range of 5,000 - 7,000 words
3. The essay must be typed in A4 format using Times New Roman size 12 font and double line spacing. The page number should appear at the bottom of the page. Charts and Tables, if any, must be included as appendices.
4. The essay must be highly analytical
5. The essay must be submitted in duplicate copy together with an entry form duly completed. [Note: The entry form can be downloaded from <http://sites.uom.ac.mu/WTOChair> or available at your school]
6. The essay accompanied by the entry form must be submitted in **sealed envelopes by registered post** marked "**Free Trade and Economic Development: The Struggle of Small Island Developing Economies**", by latest 3.00 p.m. on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2011, and must be addressed to:

**The WCP Secretary  
Department of Economics and Statistics  
Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities  
University of Mauritius, Reduit.**

7. Three teams will be shortlisted to make a PowerPoint presentation of their essay at the University of Mauritius. Presentations must not exceed 20 minutes.
8. The three shortlisted teams will be assessed on the quality of their presentation and their ability to defend their arguments.
9. The essay will be reviewed and selected by a panel of experts.
10. The decision of the expert panel shall be final.
11. Failure to comply with the above conditions will lead to the team(s) being disqualified.

## Prizes

A prize-giving ceremony will be held at the University of Mauritius. Three prizes will be awarded:

- First Prize – Rs 60,000 + Shield
- Second Prize – Rs 30,000 + Shield
- Third Prize – Rs 15,000 + Shield

All participants will be awarded a certificate of participation.

## Essays will be judged on seven criteria outlined below.

1. **Focus:** How well the essay responds to the topic. Does the essay provide specific and thorough responses to the topic: **“Free Trade and Economic Development: The Struggle of Small Island Developing Economies”**.
2. **Organization:** Structure of the essay. Does the essay have an organized structure? An excellent essay has an introduction, a body and a conclusion. The organization includes an excellent essay and moves the reader through the text.
3. **Analysis:** How well the arguments are supported. Are the discussion points argued coherently and supported with research? In an excellent essay all of the arguments are strong, well detailed and extremely well supported by convincing and accurate evidence.
4. **Conclusions and Recommendations:** How well conclusions and recommendations are expressed and how closely they follow from the analysis. An excellent essay provides a coherent and comprehensive summary based on the analysis. All of the solutions to the problems presented are specific and well thought out.
5. **Originality:** Does the writer use/develop ideas creatively? In an excellent essay, the writer proposes and develops creative ideas, through the selection of cases and/or examples, to present novel analysis and alternatives throughout the entire essay.
6. **Voice:** How well the essay engages the reader. Is the essay compelling and/or engaging? An excellent essay fully captures the reader's attention. The flow of the essay keeps the reader engaged throughout the entire text.
7. **Style and Mechanics:** How well the essay is written in terms of grammar, spelling, and punctuation, as well as word choice and sentence construction. Is the essay well written? An excellent essay uses standard writing conventions correctly, e.g. grammar, spelling, and punctuation, with no errors. There are no errors in word choice and all sentences are well constructed.
8. **Analytical:** Students are expected to prove their analytical and reasoning skills when writing the essay. The essay should not be descriptive but should be applied by analysing updated figures and considering concrete examples on economic issues of trade and development in small island economies. Case studies or basic statistical modelling will be an advantage.



## Entry Form

This entry form must accompany the submission of a team. Please make sure that full details are included and that all conditions for participation are met.

Thank you for participating and good luck.

	<b>Full Name of Participants in the Team</b>	<b>Age (years)</b>	<b>National Identity Card No.</b>	<b>Residential Address</b>
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
<b>Phone Numbers on which the Team can be contacted:</b>				
1.	_____		2.	_____
3.	_____		4.	_____
<b>Contact E-mail Address for the Team:</b>				
_____				
<b>Total number of pages in the essay:</b> _____				
<b>Word Count:</b> _____				
We, the undersigned, declare that the essay submitted is our original work.				
<b>Signature of Participants:</b>				
1.	_____		2.	_____
3.	_____		4.	_____
<b>Signature of Dean of Faculty/ Director of Tertiary Institution:</b> _____				
<b>Date:</b> _____				