

**Peter Sai-wing Ho**  
**Associate Professor**

Ph.D., Economics, Stanford University, 1989; B.Soc.Sci., University of Hong Kong, 1982

**Research:**

My research has largely been related to trade, foreign (direct) investment, and development. It has a history of analysis aspect, in that I have re-examined the works of the classical economists and have advanced an alternative approach to integrate their trade and foreign investment analyses. I have also been re-examining the works of certain ‘protectionists’ and early generation development economists. My aim is to clarify the framework of their development analyses, reassert these frameworks’ prominence in shaping their studies, and then elucidate the role that policy interventions – including trade and non-trade instruments, investment measures, and attempts to enhance indigenous technological capabilities – play within those frameworks. This proves to be a useful contrast to the mainstream approach that exaggerates the role played by trade interventions and then dismisses it as nothing but ‘protectionism’, thereby trivializing an otherwise complex process of development. Based on this history of analysis aspect, I have extended my research into an area that is more institutional, *viz.* assessing the changing environment for development that is defined by various multilateral trade agreements negotiated under the auspices of GATT/WTO. The hope is that my non-mainstream approach to development and trade analysis could enable one to sensibly caution against the implications of such agreements for Third World development. These different dimensions of my research are quite neatly represented in Ho (2010). In preliminary manners I am planning my second book. It re-examines the so-called ‘infant-industry argument’ for promoting industrial development, but again with the hope that that exercise can shed light on today’s policy debates.

Representative publications of mine include:

“Revisiting Prebisch and Singer: beyond the declining terms of trade thesis and on to technological capability development,” *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, vol. 36, July, 2012, pp. 869–893.

*Rethinking Trade and Commercial Policy Theories: Development Perspectives*, Cheltenham (UK) and Northampton (MA): Edward Elgar Publishing, 2010.

“Arguing for policy space to promote development: Prebisch, Myrdal, and Singer,” *Journal of Economic Issues*, vol. XLII, no. 2, June, 2008, pp. 509–516.

“Analyzing and arresting uneven development: Friedrich List and Gunnar Myrdal compared,” *Journal of Economic Issues*, vol. XL, June, 2006, pp. 359-367.

“Distortions in the trade policy for development debate: A re-examination of Friedrich List,” *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, vol. 29, September, 2005, pp. 729-746.

“Myrdal’s backwash and spread effects in classical economics: Implications for multilateral trade negotiations,” *Journal of Economic Issues*, vol. XXXVIII, June, 2004, pp. 537-544.

“Multilateral trade negotiations and the changing prospects for Third World development: assessing from a Southern perspective,” *Journal of Economic Issues*, vol. 32, June, 1998, pp. 375-383.

“Foreign trade,” entry to Kurz, Heinz and Neri Salvadori (eds), *Elgar Companion to Classical Economics*, Cheltenham (UK) and Northampton (MA): Edward Elgar Publishing, 1998.

“Technological gap and uneven accumulation in a classical production model,” *Metroeconomica*, vol. 48, February, 1997, pp. 147-173.

**Teaching:**

My teaching interests are in the areas of Economic Development and International Economics. In recent years I have taught: “International Economics”, “International Trade: Theories and Policies”, “Economic Development” (at both intermediate and seniors’ level), and introductory Economics.