Economics 763
History of Capitalist Development in Europe and the World Economy
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Spring 2017

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Class Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, 11:30-12:45 p.m., 309 Crotty Hall
Office Hours: Wednesday, 2:00-4:00 p.m. or by appointment

Course Description: This course examines the emergence and evolution of capitalist forms of economic organization, and their interaction with noncapitalist forms. It begins with the Atlantic economy and the African slave trade, and then covers nineteenth-century industrialization in Britain, France, Germany and Russia. The next readings, which include areas in both the center and periphery of the world economy, are organized by topic: trade and the international division of labor, international finance and foreign investment, imperialism, migration, and changing industrial leadership in the world economy. Special attention is paid to ways in which capitalist development has been uneven across space, time, and economic groups or classes.

The course is an upper-level course and will assume that students are familiar with the material in Economics 703 (Introduction to Economic History) on the transition from feudalism to capitalism.

Readings: All required readings will be available through e-journal databases (such as JSTOR), on digital reserve at http://ereserves.library.umass.edu, or on physical reserve at the W. E. B. Du Bois Library, Lower Level. The course password for digital reserve is hists17.

The following books are available for purchase at Amherst Books, 8 Main Street, Amherst:


All items on this reading list are required, and should be read prior to class. Other references can be provided as a guide to further reading, if students wish to pursue topics in more depth. The following abbreviations for journal titles are used in the reading list:

- EHR Economic History Review
- EREH European Review of Economic History
- JEH Journal of Economic History
- P&P Past and Present

If you come across references to events, places, people, and so on in the readings that you don't recognize, there are several standard reference works that can give you a concise summary in a few paragraphs. These two are available online through the W. E. B. Du Bois library:

You also might wish to consult a textbook for narrative overview and background on topics we'll be covering. The following textbooks will be on physical reserve at the W. E. B. Du Bois Library:
2. Ivan Berend, An Economic History of Nineteenth-Century Europe: Diversity and Industrialization (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013), which has more focus on central and eastern Europe.

The main course requirement is a 20 to 30-page research paper, due by 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 4 (hard copy and electronic copy). Students will submit a topic, outline, and preliminary bibliography for the paper by 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 10 (emailed to cheim@econs.umass.edu). They will make brief presentations summarizing the findings of their papers in a meeting to be held during the final exam period. Students also will write weekly response papers (2 double-spaced pages) on one or more of the week's readings and e-mail them to the SPIRE email list for the course so everyone in the class can read them. The list address is: econ-763-1-spr17@courses.umass.edu.

The research paper will be given a letter grade. Late research papers will be penalized; typically, they will be graded down one grade increment per day (for example, an "A" will become an "A-" after one day, a "B+" after two days, etc.) The response papers will be graded on a pass/fail basis. They must be posted by 12:00 noon on the day prior to the class at which the readings will be covered in order for you to receive credit for that paper. The first response paper is due by
noon on either Wednesday, Jan. 25 or Monday, Jan. 30. The second response paper is due by noon either on Monday, Feb. 6 or Wednesday, Feb. 8. Students may omit any two of the thirteen required response papers without penalty. Lively and informed participation in class discussion will be credited to a student's grade and students will be expected to be prepared to discuss all required readings in class.

In reading and taking notes, students may find the following suggestions from "A Note on Notes" (by Professor William N. Parker) helpful:

"Unlike much of what economists read, economic history readings are long and frequently contain large amounts of rather low-grade ore. When reading an assignment, it is usually best to glance through the pages quickly first to get a notion of its scope, style, and structure, and if possible to pick up its underlying argument--if there is one. Then you may wish to read it through at one or two sittings simply to cover the detail of what is being said. Finally, you should take your own, careful reading notes, putting down some selection of the factual material and the main outline and argument. As you do this, ideas and questions sometimes occur, even great theories of historical change. If you note them down separately, they may form good material for discussion."

**Note on academic honesty:** Penalties for plagiarism are severe and include University disciplinary action. Student papers may be submitted to Turnitin by the instructor to check for possible plagiarism. Submitted assignments will be included in the UMass Amherst dedicated database of assignments at Turnitin and will be used solely for the purpose of checking for possible plagiarism during the grading process in spring 2017 or later.

For the purposes of this course, plagiarism means presenting someone else's work as your own (for example, copying all or part of someone else's paper, buying a pre-written term paper, or having someone else do a paper for you) or using outside sources without proper acknowledgment. Footnotes always must be provided for direct quotations and in cases where you are paraphrasing or summarizing another author's ideas or research. Any material, including material from internet web sites, that is a direct quotation must be put in quotation marks. Students are advised to consult a standard manual such as *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th ed. (2013), by Kate L. Turabian, revised by Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, Joseph M. Williams, and University of Chicago Press editorial staff, or to speak with Professor Heim, if questions arise while working on your papers.

Information on the University's academic honesty policy and examples of academic dishonesty is available under Academic Honesty Policy at http://www.umass.edu/dean_students/academic_policy.
Reading List

Introduction (Jan. 24)


THE ATLANTIC ECONOMY AND THE SLAVE TRADE

Africa and the Slave Trade

A. Commerce between Europeans and Africans (Jan. 26)


B. African Social Structure, Enslavement, and the Slave Trade (Jan. 31)


Library Session: Research Tools for Economic History (Feb. 2)

Steven McGinty, Subject Specialist Librarian (Economics)
Class will be held in Room 1620, W. E. B. Du Bois Library (16th floor).

Caribbean Slavery, British Industrialization, and African Political Institutions

A. Economic and Political Effects of the Slave Trade (Feb. 7)


INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTIONS AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES

Industrialization and the Market

A. Enclosures, Agricultural Transformation, and the Home Market (Feb. 9)


**Topic, Outline, and Preliminary Bibliography for Paper Due by 5 p.m., Friday, Feb. 10 (email to cheim@econs.umass.edu)**

B. The Household, Consumption, and the Industrious Economy (Feb. 14)


C. Perspectives on Industrialization and Mass Production (Feb. 16)


**The Industrial Revolution in Britain**

A. Merchants, War Capitalism, and Industrial Capitalism (Feb. 21)


B. Why Britain? Debates about Wages and the Standard of Living (Feb. 23)


C. Organizational and Technical Change (Feb. 28)


D. Financial Markets and Industrialization (Mar. 2)


**Industrialization in Follower Countries**

A. The Gerschenkron Thesis (Mar. 7)


France

A. The French Revolution and the French Economy (Mar. 9)

B. French Economic Growth and Industrialization (Mar. 21)

Germany

A. German Industrialization and the Role of Banks (Mar. 23)

B. Bureaucracy, the Large-Scale Firm, and Cartels (Mar. 28)

Russia

A. Agriculture and the Home Market (Mar. 30)
B. The State, Foreign Investment, and Industrialization (Apr. 4)


THE NINETEENTH-CENTURY WORLD ECONOMY

Trade and the International Division of Labor

A. Center and Periphery in the World Economy (Apr. 6)


B. Trade and Commercial Policy (Apr. 11)


International Finance, Foreign Investment, and Imperialism

A. The International Monetary System and the Gold Standard (Apr. 13)


B. Patterns of Foreign Investment (Apr. 20)


C. Imperialism (Apr. 25)


Migration, Fluctuations, and Global Inequality

A. Migration, Economic Fluctuations, and the Regions of Recent Settlement (Apr. 27)


B. Long-Run Economic Growth and Inequality (May 2)


Papers due: Thursday, May 4, 5 p.m. (hard copy and electronic submission)

Students will present brief summaries of their papers at a meeting during the final exam period.