Economics 361
European Economic History
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Spring 2023
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Office Hours: Tuesdays, 10 am-12 pm or by appointment

Class Hours:
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:30-3:45 pm, Machmer Hall, Room W-22

Course Description:
This course will cover the economic development of Europe from ancient times to the late twentieth century, focusing on episodes and methods that influenced economic growth. The course will cover the emergence and development of economic institutions in Western and Eastern Europe (Britain, France, Germany, Russia, and Ukraine) over time that helped shape the economies of that area. We will study the economic recovery after World War II, the contradictions of the Cold War Era, and the Russian military aggression in Ukraine. We will look at recent developments and compare them to historical events.

Prerequisites:
(ECON 103 or RES-ECON 102) and ECON 104.

Course Credits: 3

Learning Objectives:
- students will understand the process of the emergence and development of economic institutions in Western and Eastern Europe
- students will gain an understanding of the methods that influenced economic growth throughout the considered historical periods
- students will gain an understanding of comparative features of the economic development of Britain, France, Germany, Russia, and Ukraine
- students will learn the economic basis and implications of recent events in the light of historical developments.

Books, Readings, and Videos:

You don’t have to buy these books, but if you choose to, any edition is acceptable. The fifth edition of the first book and the second edition of the second book will be put on electronic reserve in the library. Readings and videos will be available through the course Moodle page and accessible through the W. E. B. Du Bois Library databases (such as JSTOR and ProQuest Ebook Central) for e-books and e-journals. Books that are available as e-books are hyperlinked in the readings and videos list below.
Readings and videos must be read and watched before class to prepare you for our discussions during class.

**Requirements and Grading:**

The course requirements are: attendance and participation in class discussions, an opening essay, a midterm exam, a final paper topic and bibliography, a final paper (2,000-2,500 words), presentation slides (at least 5 slides) and an in-class presentation. The opening essay, the final paper topic and bibliography, the final paper and presentation slides will be assigned on Moodle with detailed guidelines.

*In-class discussions* (first 15 min of each class except for the introductory lecture) will be based mostly on discussions of assigned readings and videos as well as recent developments considered in the light of historical experience.

*The opening essay* of 300-350 words will be assigned on Moodle after the first introductory lecture. It should be submitted on Moodle until Feb. 21st, 11:59pm.

*The midterm exam* will be based on the assigned readings, videos, and lectures. No make-up exams will be given without prior permission.

You will have to submit your final paper topic (your choice of the reading/video) and the bibliography of two additional sources through the course Moodle page until Friday, April 14th. Since topics cannot be repeated, it would be wise to select your paper topic early.

*For the final paper*, the goal is to write a review of one of the assigned readings or videos, including analysis of strengths and weaknesses of that article, book chapter or video. For the detailed instructions see *Guidelines for the Final Paper*.

Each final paper should include:

a) a synopsis of the author's argument and summary of main points of the reading/video;

b) a critical analysis and review, including reasons and evidence for your views and the identification of one strength and one weakness from the reading/video;

c) two other questions on recent economic developments sparked by the reading/video and historical evidence that might be used to answer it;

d) you also must attach a photocopy or print out of a page, table, or graph from a relevant source for each of the questions in c) above.

Final papers must be submitted electronically on Moodle until Friday, Apr. 28th (in Word or PDF format). The following source may be useful in writing the final papers: The Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL), [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/)

*Presentation slides* (in PowerPoint format) should be submitted electronically on Moodle until Friday, Apr. 28th. Presentation must include at least 5 slides:

- Slide 1: brief reading/video highlights;
- Slide 2-3: main results of critical analysis and review: one strength and one weakness of the reading/video;
- Slides 4-5: two other questions on recent economic developments sparked by the reading/video, historical evidence that might be used to answer it and scan copies of pages, tables, or graphs from relevant sources for each of the questions.
The *in-class presentation* will be based on the final paper research. It should include a short description of the results highlighted in your final paper and will conclude with questions and a follow-up discussion.

Late papers and presentation slides will be graded down at a rate of one grade increment per day (for example, an A will become an A- if it is one day late, etc.).

**Grading Criteria:**
See Grading Rubric for Final Paper Presentation in the Key Course Materials section on the course Moodle page.

**Grading will be based approximately as follows:**
- In-class Discussions: 30%
- Opening Essay: 5%
- Midterm Exam: 20%
- Final Paper Topic and Bibliography: 2%
- Final Paper: 20%
- Presentation Slides: 8%
- In-class Presentation and follow-up discussions: 15%

**Grades will be assigned according to the following schedule with no rounding:**

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<th>Cut-off</th>
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<td>A</td>
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**Policies:**

**ACCOMMODATION POLICY:** The University of Massachusetts Amherst is committed to providing an equal educational opportunity for all students. If you have a documented physical, psychological, or learning disability on file with Disability Services (DS), you may be eligible for reasonable academic accommodations to help you succeed in this course. If you have a documented disability that requires an accommodation, please notify me within the first two weeks of the semester so that we may make appropriate arrangements. For further information, please visit Disability Services: [https://www.umass.edu/disability/](https://www.umass.edu/disability/).

**PREFERRED GENDER PRONOUN AND NAME:** Class rosters are provided to instructors with the student’s legal name, where you can put in your preferred pronouns. Please let me know if you use a different name. Also, when you introduce yourself to the instructors or other students, please take the opportunity to share your preferred pronouns.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:** Since the integrity of the academic enterprise of any institution of higher education requires honesty in scholarship and research, academic honesty is required of all students at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Academic dishonesty is prohibited in all programs of the University. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and facilitating dishonesty. Appropriate sanctions may be imposed on any student who has committed an act of academic dishonesty. Instructors should take reasonable steps to address academic misconduct.
Any person who has reason to believe that a student has committed academic dishonesty should bring such information to the attention of the appropriate course instructor as soon as possible. Instances of academic dishonesty not related to a specific course should be brought to the attention of the appropriate department Head or Chair. Since students are expected to be familiar with this policy and the commonly accepted standards of academic integrity, ignorance of such standards is not normally sufficient evidence of lack of intent (http://www.umass.edu/dean_students/codeofconduct/acadhonesty/).

IN-CLASS RECORDINGS BY STUDENTS AND SELLING OF NOTES: Students may only use the notes they take from class for their own personal use, or share with UMass Disabilities Services. Students cannot share (sell) these notes via an outside vendor or entity without the faculty/instructor’s permission. This pertains to in-class recordings as well. Usage of the notes or in-class recordings in this way without instructor permission is a violation of instructor copyright protection.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE USE POLICY: Even though artificial intelligence is rapidly evolving, especially with recent breakthroughs in language artificial intelligence such as OpenAI's ChatGPT, such tools are prohibited from being used to write your opening essay and final paper. The AI is imperfect and makes mistakes when quoting facts and cannot be used as a solid reference. You should be using official articles, books, and other sources for your papers. Your papers must be written by you, and you are prohibited from using any artificial intelligence to help you write them. Violation of this policy will result in consequences under the University's Academic Dishonesty policy.

CONTINGENCY PLAN: Class may be canceled when the University closes based on inclement weather. Policy here: https://www.umass.edu/newsoffice/article/emergency-closing-and-snow-related-5. Classes may experience disruptions to the normal operations of class for a variety of reasons including changes in policy, your course instructor having difficulties, the university experiencing technology issues with campus technology, or national or world-wide technology outages related to our communication tools including Zoom. In addition to official UMass announcements, whenever possible, the instructor will use class announcements and/or email to notify students of any emergency changes or adjustments to the course.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY: No electronic devices (cell phones, tablets, computers, etc.) allowed in class except for taking notes. Please turn off the sound on your cell phone at the beginning of class.

COMMUNICATION: I expect that you check your UMass email regularly. You may email me at any time. Please use the course title in the subject line of emails. Under normal circumstances, I am able to respond to emails within a few business days.

TITLE IX: Title IX is a federal law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, providing protection against sexual harassment and violence, bullying, and pregnancy and parenting discrimination. While we encourage you to report incidents or concerns to Title IX staff, there are a number of other offices you may choose to contact. Here you will find a list of both confidential and
non-confidential organizations, along with contact information and details on how they can help. **Your professor is not a Mandatory reporter for Title IX incidents.**

OTHER RESOURCES: W.E.B Du Bois Library: The Learning Commons is a space on the lower level of that brings together academic, technology, and library support. The Writing Center provides one-on-one consultations to students on their writing projects, providing feedback and strategies at any stage of the writing process. [https://www.umass.edu/writingprogram/writingcenter](https://www.umass.edu/writingprogram/writingcenter) For tutoring, visit the Learning Resource Center (LRC) [https://www.umass.edu/lrc/](https://www.umass.edu/lrc/)

UMass Center for Counseling and Psychological Health: [https://www.umass.edu/counseling/](https://www.umass.edu/counseling/)

For information on resources relating to food access, housing, legal services, etc. see: [https://www.umass.edu/studentlife/single-stop](https://www.umass.edu/studentlife/single-stop).

For information on resources relating to advocacy, inclusion, and support: [https://www.umass.edu/studentlife/advocacy-inclusion-support](https://www.umass.edu/studentlife/advocacy-inclusion-support)
1. Introduction and Course Overview (Feb. 7th)
   - No required readings

2. Europe in Ancient Times (Feb. 9th)
   Required:

   Optional:

3. Agricultural Revolution and Glorious Revolution (Feb. 14th)
   Required:

   Optional:

4. Industry, Trade and the Mercantilist State (Feb. 16th)
   Required:

   Optional:

5. The Industrial Revolution in Britain, Part 1: Organizational Change: Handicraft Industry to the Factory System (Feb. 21st)
   Required:

   An opening essay submission due date (Tuesday, Feb 21st by 11:59 p.m. on Moodle.)

6. The Industrial Revolution in Britain, Part 2: Technological Change (Feb. 23rd)
   Required:
7. The Industrial Revolution in Britain, Part 3: Labor and Social Policy (Feb. 28th)

Required:

8. Religion and European Economic Development (Mar. 2nd)

Required:

9. Industrialization in Follower Countries in Continental Europe (Mar. 7th)

Required:

**INDUSTRIALIZATION IN SPECIFIC FOLLOWER COUNTRIES IN CONTINENTAL EUROPE:**

10. France, Part 1 (Mar. 9th)
11. France, Part 2 (Mar. 21st)

12. MIDTERM EXAM (Mar. 23rd)
13. Germany, Part 1 (Mar. 28th)
14. Germany, Part 2 (Mar. 30th)

15. Russia, Part 1 (Apr. 4th)

Required:

16. Russia, Part 2 (Apr. 6th)

Required:

17. Ukraine, Part 1 (Apr. 11th)

Required:
18. **Ukraine, Part 2 (Apr. 13th)**

   Required:

   A final paper topic (your choice of the reading/video) and a bibliography of two additional sources submission due date (Friday, April 14th by 11:59 p.m. on Moodle.)

19. **The Economics of World War I and Interwar Years (Apr. 20th)**

   Required:


   Required:


   Required:
   - Timothy Snyder, Niall Ferguson, Serhii Plokhii, “The Place of this War in Human History”, The 17th Annual Meeting of Yalta European Strategy (YES) – “Ukraine: Defending all Our Freedom” (Kyiv, September 9-10, 2022).

   A final paper & presentation slides submission due date (Friday, Apr. 28th by 11:59 p.m. on Moodle.)

22. **In-class Presentations: Part 1 (May 2nd)**

23. **In-class Presentations: Part 2 (May 4th)**

24. **In-class Presentations: Part 3 (May 9th)**

25. **In-class Presentations: Part 4 (May 11th)**

26. **In-class Presentations: Part 5 / Self-Assessment / Wrap-Up Discussion (May 16th)**