Economics 763
History of Capitalist Development in Europe and the World Economy
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Spring 2013

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Office Hours: Mondays, 2-4 p.m. or by appointment

Class Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, 11:15-12:30 p.m.

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 JSTOR, on electronic reserve at http://ereserves.library.umass.edu, or on course reserve at the W. E. B. Du Bois Library, Lower Level. The course password for electronic reserves is hists13.

The following books will be 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
- JEH  Journal of Economic History
- P&P  Past and Present


The main course requirement is a 20-30 page research paper, due by 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 2. Students will submit a topic, outline, and preliminary bibliography for the paper in class on Thursday, February 14 (hard copy submitted in class, electronic copy submitted prior to class). 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 electronic mailing list for the course so everyone in the class can read them. The list address is econ-763-01-spr13@courses.umass.edu.

The research paper will be given a letter grade. Late research papers 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 will be due during the week beginning Jan. 28 (by noon on Monday, Jan. 28 if it addresses the Thornton reading, and by noon on Wednesday, Jan. 30 if it addresses the Richardson and/or Morgan readings). 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.

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. 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, 7*th* ed.*, 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.
Reading List

Introduction (Jan. 22)


THE ATLANTIC ECONOMY AND THE SLAVE TRADE

Africa and the Slave Trade

A. Commerce between Europeans and Africans (Jan. 24)


B. African Social Structure, Enslavement, and the Slave Trade (Jan. 29)


The Slave Trade and British Industrialization

A. Trade and British Economic Growth (Jan. 31)


INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTIONS AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES

Industrialization and the Market

A. Enclosures, Agricultural Transformation, and the Home Market (Feb. 5)


B. The Household, Consumption, and the Industrious Economy (Feb. 7)


C. Perspectives on Industrialization and Mass Production (Feb. 12)


*Topic, Outline, and Preliminary Bibliography for Paper Due in Class (Feb. 14)*

The Industrial Revolution in Britain

A. Organizational and Technical Change (Feb. 14)


B. Why Britain? (Feb. 21)


Economy and Society during Industrialization

A. War, Government Spending, and Financial Markets in Britain (Feb. 26)


B. Industrialization, the Standard of Living, and Working-Class Households (Feb. 28)


Industrialization in Follower Countries

A. The Gerschenkron Thesis (Mar. 5)


France

A. The French Revolution and the French Economy (Mar. 7)


B. French Economic Growth and Industrialization (Mar. 12)


Germany

A. German Industrialization and the Role of Banks (Mar. 14)


B. Bureaucracy, the Large-Scale Firm, and Cartels (Mar. 26)


Russia

A. Agriculture and the Home Market (Mar. 28)


B. The State, Foreign Investment, and Industrialization (Apr. 2)


**THE NINETEENTH-CENTURY WORLD ECONOMY**

**Trade and the International Division of Labor**

A. Center and Periphery in the World Economy (Apr. 4)


B. Trade and Commercial Policy (Apr. 9)


**International Finance, Foreign Investment, and Imperialism**

A. The International Monetary System and the Gold Standard (Apr. 11)


B. Patterns of Foreign Investment (Apr. 16)


C. Imperialism (Apr. 18)


Migration, Fluctuations, and Changing Industrial Leadership in the World Economy

A. Migration, Economic Fluctuations, and the Regions of Recent Settlement (Apr. 23)


B. The Relative Decline of Britain and the United States (Apr. 25)


Conclusion: Globalization and Reglobalization (Apr. 30)


Papers due: Thursday, May 2, 5 p.m. (hard copy and electronic submission)
Students will present brief summaries of their papers at a meeting during the final exam period.