

**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

ECON-318.001
History of Economic Development
Spring 2006
MTH 9:55 - 11:10

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Office: Roper 111
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Office Hours:
M: 12:35 - 4:35
Th: 12:35 - 2:35

SYLLABUS

REQUIRED TEXTS

Rondo Cameron, *A Concise Economic History of the World*, 4th Ed. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003).

E.L. Jones, *The European Miracle*, 3d ed. (New York: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2003).

Douglass C. North, *Structure and Change in Economic History* (New York: W. W. Norton, 1981).

Recommended:

Hammond Historical Atlas of the World, Maplewood, N.J.: Hammond Inc., 2000.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- 1) **Two Exams:** Midterm (March 9) and Final (May 4, 8:30 - 11:00 a.m.).
- 2) **A term paper:** Maximum of 6,000 words (approximately 20 pages, double spaced). Outline due Feb. 20; Final paper due April 10.
- 3) **Attendance:** You are expected to attend all of the classes during the course of the semester. You are expected to be in class on time. Absences will be excused for medical reasons only. You will not be penalized for one absence. However, each additional absence prior to the midterm will subtract two points from your midterm grade. After the midterm, each absence will subtract two points from your final examination score.

Note: No incompletes will be given for this course.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS (An additional article or two may yet be added).

I. The Idea of History and Approaches to Economic History

Cameron, Ch. 1 (pp. 3-19).

Jones, Chs. 1, 2 (pp. 3-41).

North, Part I (pp. 3-68).

Jon D. Wisman, John Willoughby, and Larry Sawers, "The Return of Grand Theory in Economic History: North's Challenge to Marx," *Social Research*, 55 (4), Winter 1988, pp. 747-73.

II. The Neolithic Revolution

Cameron, Ch. 2 (pp. 20-29).

North, Chs. 7,8 (pp. 69-112).

Alfred Me'teaux, "The Revolution of The Ax," *Diogenes*, no. 25, Spring, 1959, pp. 29-40.

III. Antiquity

Cameron, Ch. 2 (pp. 29-43).

North, Ch. 9 (pp. 113-23).

William J. Baumol, "Entrepreneurship: Productive, Unproductive, and Destructive," *Journal of Political Economy*, 98 (5), 1990, 893-921.

IV. Feudalism

Cameron, Ch. 3.
Jones, Chs. 3, 4.
North, Ch. 10 (pp. 124-42).
Keith Thomas, "Work and Leisure in Pre-industrial Society," *Past and Present*, 29 (Dec. 1964), pp. 50-66.

V. Market Expansion and Crises

Cameron, Ch. 4, 5, 6.
Jones, Chs. 5-7.
North, Ch. 11 (pp. 143-57).
Alfred Kieser, "Organizational, Institutional, and Societal Evolution: Medieval Craft Guilds and the Genesis of Formal Organizations," *Administrative Science Quarterly*, 34, 1989, 540-64.
Jon D. Wisman, "Economic Causes of War and Peace," *Encyclopedia of Violence, Peace and Conflict*. San Diego: Academic Press, 1999, pp. 625-37.
Chang, Ha-Joon. 2002. "Kicking Away the Ladder," *Challenge*, Sept/Oct, 63-97.

VI. The Industrial Revolution

Cameron, Chs. 7, 8, 9.
Nicholas Crafts, "Forging Ahead and Falling Behind: The Rise and Relative Decline of the First Industrial Nation," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 12 (2), Spring 1998, 193-210.
North, Ch. 12 (158-70).

VII. Industrial Maturation

Cameron, Ch. 10.
North, Ch. 13 (171-86).
Jon D. Wisman, "Straightening Out The Backward-Bending Supply Curve of Labor: From Overt to Covert Compulsion and Beyond" *Review of Political Economy*, I (1), March 1989, pp. 94-112.

VIII. Imperialism

Cameron, Ch. 11, 12.
Douglas F. Dowd, "The State, Power and The Industrial Revolution, 1750-1914," Occasional Paper No. 4, The Union for Radical Political Economics, Spring, 1971. (44pp.).

IX. Toward Collapse and WW II

Cameron, Chs. 13, 14.
Jon D. Wisman and Aaron Pacitti, "U.S. Labor Reexamined, 1880-1930: Success, Ideology, and Reversal," in Dell P. Champlain and Janet T. Knoedler, eds. *The Institutionalists Tradition in Labor Economics*. Armonk, New York: M.E. Sharpe, 2004.

X. Since WW II

Cameron, Ch. 15.
Lloyd G. Reynolds, "The Spread of Economic Growth: 1850-1980," *Journal of Economic Literature*, XXI (3), Sept. 1983, 941-80.

XI. Another Brief Glance Beyond Europe

Jones, Chs. 8-12.
North, Ch. 14 (pp. 187-98).
Andrew Sharpe, "Angus Maddison Rewrites Economic History Again," *Challenge*, July-August 2002, 20-40.

XII. Final Reflections

Cameron, Ch. 16.
North, Ch. 15 (pp. 201-10).
Jon D. Wisman, "Is There A Significant Future for Workplace Democracy?," in Jon D. Wisman (ed.), *Worker Empowerment: The Struggle for Workplace Democracy*. New York: Bootstrap Press, 1991, 11-23.
William Foote Whyte, "Understanding the Mondragon Cooperative Complex," in Jon D. Wisman (ed.), *Worker Empowerment: The Struggle for Workplace Democracy*. New York: Bootstrap Press, 1991, 27-36.
Jon D. Wisman, "Christianity, John Paul II and the Future of Work," *International Journal of Social Economics*, 25

(11/12), 1658-71.