Syllabus
ECON2101W Economic History of Europe

Course and Instructor Information

Course Title: Economic History of Europe (ECON2101W)
Credits: 3
Prerequisites: ECON 1200 or both 1201 and 1202; ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011 or 3800
Instructor: Richard N. Langlois
E-mail: richard.langlois@uconn.edu
Phone: (860) 486-3472

Course Materials

Required Text:

A Concise Economic History of the World
by Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal

Recommended Text

Guns, Germs, and Steel
by Jared Diamond

The developer of this course is Richard N. Langlois, Professor of Economics at the University of Connecticut.
Course Description

This course studies the economic development of Europe from prehistoric times to the early twentieth century. Although the course is chronological, the vastness of such a history necessarily means that we will be selective in our treatment, focusing on a few episodes and approaches.

In general, the course will try to explain the uniqueness of Western Europe. Why was Western Europe (including Great Britain) able to achieve sustained economic growth in a way that no other part of the world - including the great civilizations of history - was able to do?

Course Goals

At the completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Explain and manipulate theories of economic growth and related economic concepts.
- Identify key historical phenomena in time and relate them to economic concepts and theories.
- Analyze the economics of the ancient Mediterranean and the rise and fall of Rome.
- Analyze the economics of the European Middle Ages, including the Manorial System, the Open-Field System, and the Enclosure Movement.
- Analyze the economics of Mercantilism and the nation-state in the Early Modern Period.
- Analyze the concept of the Industrial Revolution and be able to evaluate the reasons why the industrial revolution took place in Britain.
- Discuss the history and economics of British economic and political dominance in the nineteenth century.

Grading

Structured Paper

This is a "W" course. That means that much of your grade must depend on a writing assignment graded for writing style as well as content. I take this requirement seriously. Your assignment will be what I call a "structured" paper. That is, it will be a long (20 pp+) paper that will follow a preset outline. Sections of the paper will be due over the course of the semester.

The paper you are to write will be an economic history of one particular country in Europe (Eastern or Western). You can choose any country that interests you. Your history will be chronological.
I will return each draft section with comments. You will revise the section according to my comments, and you may return it to me for additional comments as many times as you like. At the end of the semester, you will put all the pieces together and turn in a finished paper on the last day of class. You should also keep a running bibliography, to which you can add with each succeeding section.

Your paper should develop the following theme, which is essentially the theme of the course: what were the social institutions and economic conditions that led this country to develop (or fail to develop) economically? I encourage and expect you to find sources and references beyond what I have assigned for class readings.

**Schedule of Assignments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Section due</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>Proposal</td>
<td>One page: choose a country and give reasons for your interest in it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 12</td>
<td>Ancient</td>
<td>Before the year 1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 3</td>
<td>Medieval</td>
<td>1000-1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 24</td>
<td>Mercantilist</td>
<td>1500-1750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 14</td>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>1750-1914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 21</td>
<td>Final version</td>
<td>All sections rewritten, with complete bibliography.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** The terms "medieval," "mercantilist," etc., are common labels for periods of development in the most advanced countries of Western Europe. Your country may not follow this pattern very well. Use the dates given as your guide.

**Writing Assignment**

The writing assignment will count for 42 per cent of your course grade. (As this is a W course, however, the rule is that you cannot pass the course if you do not pass the writing assignment.) I will grade each installment separately. The four installments will be worth five per cent of the course grade each. You may revise the installments and resubmit them to me for additional comments; but your installment grade will not change, that is, your grade for each installment will be based on the first submission. I reserve the right to lower your grade in any installment that you submit after the deadline -- the later the submission, the lower the grade.

[Click here for a fuller description of the writing assignment]

Instruction in writing is part of the curriculum for the course. You will receive extensive feedback on your installments. And you are expected to watch the
writing videos linked on the left menu in HuskyCT. In fact, you should rewatch them several times over the semester as you work on your paper. If you have questions about writing, post them to the Ask the Professor discussion so everyone can benefit from the answers.

**Discussions**

Discussions are graded on a five-point scale according to the rubric linked below. Discussion Board posts are to be the original work of each student. When a source is cited or included in any way in a post, a full citation should appear in the post so that the instructor and other students can examine the underlying source document. Students must follow the University's Student Code on discussion boards as with other activities completed for this course. The discussion counts 15 per cent of your grade.

*Click here for a complete set of instructions in the Discussion Grading Rubric*

Posting early and often is important for a good discussion -- and for your grade in the discussion.

**Quizzes**

You will complete a multiple-choice quiz on the video lectures in each week's module. The quizzes will all become available on June 1 when the course begins, but each quiz will close on midnight on the day its module closes. The quizzes will count three (3) per cent of your grade each, for a total of 18 per cent of your grade. All video lectures will be available throughout the course, and you will be able to review your quizzes (but not change them once taken) as an aid to studying for the final exam.

**Final Exam**

This course will have a cumulative open-book (essay) final exam. The exam will be online. Unless you have made special arrangements with me, it will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. EDT on Friday, August 26. The final exam will count 25 per cent of your grade.

The exam will consist of two parts. Each part will be a Word file giving you a choice of essay questions. You will answer the questions in the file and then upload the file to the assignments area of HuskyCT.
Course Grading Summary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installment 1</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installment 2</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installment 3</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installment 4</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final draft</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General Course Outline and Due Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Open Date:</th>
<th>Close Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>See Learning Modules links in the left menu for complete assignments and course materials.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 1: Theories of Economic Growth</td>
<td>May 9, 2016</td>
<td>May 22, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 5: The Industrial Revolution</td>
<td>July 25, 2016</td>
<td>August 14, 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Responsibilities and Resources

As a member of the University of Connecticut student community, you are held to certain standards and academic policies. In addition, there are numerous resources available to help you succeed in your academic work. This section provides a brief overview to important standards, policies and resources.

**Student Code**

You are responsible for acting in accordance with the [University of Connecticut's Student Code](https://www.uconn.edu/student-affairs/services/support/student-code/index.html) Review and become familiar with these expectations. In particular, make sure you have read the section that applies to you on Academic Integrity:

- [Academic Integrity in Undergraduate Education and Research](https://www.uconn.edu/student-affairs/services/support/academic-integrity-undergraduate.html)
- [Academic Integrity in Graduate Education and Research](https://www.uconn.edu/student-affairs/services/support/academic-integrity-graduate.html)

Cheating and plagiarism are taken very seriously at the University of Connecticut. As a student, it is your responsibility to avoid plagiarism. If you need more information about the subject of plagiarism, use the following resources:
Copyright

Copyrighted materials within the course are only for the use of students enrolled in the course for purposes associated with this course and may not be retained or further disseminated.

Netiquette and Communication

At all times, course communication with fellow students and the instructor are to be professional and courteous. It is expected that you proofread all your written communication, including discussion posts, assignment submissions, and mail messages. If you are new to online learning or need a netiquette refresher, please look at this guide titled, The Core Rules of Netiquette.

Adding or Dropping a Course

If you should decide to add or drop a course, there are official procedures to follow:

- Matriculated students should add or drop a course through the Student Administration System.
- Non-degree students should refer to Non-Degree Add/Drop Information located on the registrar’s website.

You must officially drop a course to avoid receiving an "F" on your permanent transcript. Simply discontinuing class or informing the instructor you want to drop does not constitute an official drop of the course. For more information, refer to the Undergraduate Catalog.

Academic Calendar

The University's Academic Calendar contains important semester dates.

Academic Support Resources

Technology and Academic Help provides a guide to technical and academic assistance.

Students needing special accommodations should work with the University's Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD). You may contact CSD by calling (860) 486-2020 or by emailing csd@uconn.edu. If your request for accommodation is approved, CSD will send an accommodation letter directly to
your instructor(s) so that special arrangements can be made. (Note: Student requests for accommodation must be filed each semester.)

Blackboard measures and evaluates accessibility using two sets of standards: the WCAG 2.0 standards issued by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act issued in the United States federal government.” (Retrieved March 24, 2013 from Blackboard’s website)

Policy against Discrimination, Harassment and Inappropriate Romantic Relationships

The University is committed to maintaining an environment free of discrimination or discriminatory harassment directed toward any person or group within its community – students, employees, or visitors. Academic and professional excellence can flourish only when each member of our community is assured an atmosphere of mutual respect. All members of the University community are responsible for the maintenance of an academic and work environment in which people are free to learn and work without fear of discrimination or discriminatory harassment. In addition, inappropriate Romantic relationships can undermine the University’s mission when those in positions of authority abuse or appear to abuse their authority. To that end, and in accordance with federal and state law, the University prohibits discrimination and discriminatory harassment, as well as inappropriate Romantic relationships, and such behavior will be met with appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the University. Refer to the Policy against Discrimination, Harassment and Inappropriate Romantic Relationships for more information.

Sexual Assault Reporting Policy

To protect the campus community, all non-confidential University employees (including faculty) are required to report assaults they witness or are told about to the Office of Diversity & Equity under the Sexual Assault Response Policy. The University takes all reports with the utmost seriousness. Please be aware that while the information you provide will remain private, it will not be confidential and will be shared with University officials who can help. Refer to the Sexual Assault Reporting Policy for more information.

Software Requirements and Technical Help

The technical requirements for this course include:

- Word processing software
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Internet access
This course is completely facilitated online using the learning management platform, HuskyCT. If you have difficulty accessing HuskyCT, students have access to the in person/live person support options available during regular business hours through HuskyTech. Students also have 24x7 Course Support including access to live chat, phone, and support documents.

### Minimum Technical Skills

To be successful in this course, you will need the following technical skills:

- Use electronic mail with attachments.
- Save files in commonly used word processing program formats.
- Copy and paste text, graphics or hyperlinks.
- Work within two or more browser windows simultaneously.
- Open and access PDF files.

University students are expected to demonstrate competency in Computer Technology. Explore the [Computer Technology Competencies](#) page for more information.

### Evaluation of the Course

Students will be provided an opportunity to evaluate instruction in this course using the University's standard procedures, which are administered by the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIRE).

Additional informal formative surveys may also be administered within the course as an optional evaluation tool.

Updated: 03/08/2016