

San José State University
Department of Economics
Econ 113B—Economic History of Europe
Section 01—Class Number 47873
Hist 113B—Economic History of Europe
Section 01—Class Number 49419
Fall 2019
Wednesday, August 21 – Monday, December 9

Instructor:	Mark Brady
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Office Hours:	MW 12:00–12:30 PM; TTh 10:30–11:00 AM; and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	MW 10:30 – 11:45 AM
Classroom:	DMH 348
Prerequisites:	Upper division standing, or instructor consent

Course Description (from the catalog)

Historical setting of economic institutions, problems, theories and policies traced from antiquity, Greece, Rome and the Middle Ages to the early twentieth century.

Course of Study

We begin with an introduction to economic history (and how it differs from the history of economics), the geography and history of Europe, and the economic way of thinking. We survey the economic history of the world to c.600—the primitive hunting and gathering tribes that roamed the more hospitable locations, the emergence of settled agriculture, the urban revolution of the Bronze Age, the adoption of writing, and the rise of states in Eurasia, with particular reference to the Mediterranean region (Greece and Rome). Our detailed story begins with the collapse of the Western Roman Empire and the emergence of a European economy by c.1000. We study the organization of the medieval economy and the rise and decline of feudalism. We explore how the development of commerce and industry replaced traditional ways of making a living and led to the creation of the modern world—and we never lose sight of the development of government and the rise of the nation-state. We learn how the voyages of exploration created overseas empires that placed early modern Europe at the heart of a global economy. We learn how market orders arise spontaneously as the unintended outcome of human action. We explore how changes in economic organization—like specialization and the division of labor, the evolution of money and banking, and economic integration across natural constraints and national boundaries—led to a rising level of productivity and prosperity for more and more people. We learn how the capital accumulation and technological progress that characterize the industrial revolution led to a sustained rise in the rate of growth of output per head—and we tell the story up to 1914 with the outbreak of World War I.

Course Goals and Learning Objectives

The goal of this course is to study the historical evolution of the European economy, from antiquity to 1914.

Student Learning Objectives

The course provides a survey of economic events during this period, noting the interaction of economics with social, legal, and political institutions and the impact of economic events on culture and society (Econ SLO 2.1). Students also learn how to integrate economic theory with historical particulars (Econ SLO 1.3).

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the general features and possible causes of the agricultural, commercial, and industrial development of Europe from antiquity to 1914; and
- Appreciate how economic theory enriches our understanding of historical events, with particular emphasis on the origin and development of markets, money, and economic integration, the rise of the nation-state and the evolution of government policies, and the great transformation wrought by the Industrial Revolution.

Required Texts/Readings

Required Texts

1. Karl Gunnar Persson and Paul Sharp, *An Economic History of Europe: Knowledge, Institutions and Growth, 600 to the Present* 2nd ed. (Cambridge University Press, 2015); ISBN-13: 978-1-107-47938-8. **Be advised that I teach from the revised and extended second edition.**

This book very much exemplifies the economist's approach and is stronger on economics than history. We read the first three-quarters of the book.

<https://www.cambridge.org/us/academic/subjects/history/economic-history/economic-history-europe-knowledge-institutions-and-growth-600-present-2nd-edition?format=PB>

Click on the URL above, then on Resources, and go to General Resources.

http://csinvesting.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/an_economic_history_europe.pdf

The URL above provides access to a pdf of the first edition.

2. Emma Griffin, *A Short History of the British Industrial Revolution* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010); 2nd ed. (Macmillan International, 2018). Emma Griffin is a historian who is thoroughly familiar with both the economics and history of the first industrial revolution in world history. We read the entire book.

Once I receive a copy of the second edition I'll let you know which edition to buy.

Go here to listen to a discussion with three academics, including Emma Griffin, on *The Consequences of the Industrial Revolution*: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00wr9r7>

Other Readings

I also assign supplementary readings and the occasional video on the web.

Course Requirements and Assignments

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities.” More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf), Course Syllabi at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>.

There are four components to your grade: three exams (55%), your ten best quizzes (20%), a term paper (25%), and extra credit (one half point for attending each of three lectures, David Skarbek Wed. 9/18, Alex Tabarrok Wed. 10/30, and Marc Joffe Tues. 11/19).

All **three exams** consist very largely, if not entirely, of multiple choice questions created by your instructor. There are two shorter exams on **Monday, September 30**, and **Monday, November 4**, which emphasize what we have covered since the previous exam and are worth 15% each. The final exam on **Thursday, December 12, 9:45 AM – 12:00 PM** is comprehensive but with a major emphasis on the causes, characteristics, and consequences of the Industrial Revolution to 1914 and is worth 25%.

There are at least fifteen objective **quizzes** worth a total of twenty points. Each quiz is worth two points, allowing students to drop or miss at least five quizzes. Quiz scores are calculated pro rata so that 10/10 on a quiz is worth two points, and 5/10 is worth one point. Quizzes are based chiefly on the assigned readings and lectures. The questions emphasize key concepts and important events and developments. **There are no make-ups for any quizzes.**

The **term paper** (6-10 page paper, including bibliography and references) is worth 25 points, of which five points are allocated for a typed proposal, to include the sources that you will consult, for my approval by **6 PM on Monday, October 14**. The term paper itself is due by **6 PM on Wednesday, November 13**.

Grading Policy

Converting number grades to letter grades:

95-100	A+	90-94	A	85-89	A-	
80-84	B+	75-79	B	70-74	B-	
65-69	C+	60-64	C	55-59	C-	
50-54	D+	45-49	D	40-44	D-	0-39 F

If every student does first-rate work, I’d be delighted to award everyone an A.

I am happy to help you. If you experience any difficulty in this course, please do not hesitate to come to me for help. I am available not only during office hours but also by email and phone, and I am always happy to clarify difficult concepts, resolve any lingering confusion, or otherwise assist you in making this course enjoyable and rewarding.

“A minimum aggregate GPA of 2.0 SJSU Studies (R, S, & V) shall be required of all students as a graduation requirement.” To see full text, review [University Policy S11-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S11-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S11-3.pdf>.”

Classroom Protocol

Class attendance is not mandatory and will not directly affect a student’s grade. However, students who miss several classes, in addition to dropping quizzes, will very likely consign themselves to doing extremely poorly on their exams. I therefore strongly encourage students to attend fully every class.

University Policies <http://info.sjsu.edu/> <http://www.sjsu.edu/students/>

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's Catalog Policies section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic calendar web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/academic_affairs/resources/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course.

“Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”

“Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University's Academic Integrity policy, located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-7.pdf>, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec/> to establish a record of their disability.

Course Schedule—and this is subject to change with fair notice (announcement in class)

You may read the Registrar’s fall 2019 calendar here: <http://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/calendar/2194/index.html>

And the academic year 2019/20 calendar is here: http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/academic_affairs/resources/Academic_Calendars/

Week	Dates	Topics, Readings, Exams, Deadlines
1	Monday, August 19 Wednesday, August 21 August 21	Academic year begins—Fall semester begins First day of instruction—classes begin First day to drop a class without a “W” grade and with 100% refund Late Registration period begins—Registration via MySJSU starting after 7am First day of class—Introduction to economic history
2	August 26 & 28	Europe in the “Dark Ages”—c.600-1000 The emergence of a European economy
3	Monday, September 2 Tuesday, September 3 September 4	Labor Day—campus closed Last day to drop a class without a “W” grade and with 100% refund The medieval economy to 1500
4	Tuesday, September 10 September 9 & 11	Last day to add via MySJSU online and without a petition & late fee Last day to submit Audit option (PDF) Last day to submit Credit/No Credit grading option (PDF) The medieval economy to 1500 (cont’d)
5	Wednesday, September 18 September 16 & 18	Enrollment Census Date. To add a class after this date, Late Enrollment Post-Census request (PDF) will be required. The European voyages of discovery and the emergence of a global economy
6	September 23 & 25	Commerce and state formation in early modern Europe
7	September 30 October 1 October 1	First short exam (15%) Instructions regarding the term paper Commerce and state formation in early modern Europe (cont’d)
8	October 7 & 9	The Industrious Revolution
9	October 14 October 14 & 16	A typed proposal for your term paper, to include the sources that you will consult, is due for my approval by 6 PM The Industrial Revolution—Why Britain? Why Europe?
10	October 21 & 23	Britain—the first industrial nation
11	October 28 & 30	Britain—the first industrial nation (cont’d)
12	Sunday, November 3 November 4 November 6	2 AM: Clocks go backward by one hour (PDT → PST) Second short exam (15%) Britain—the first industrial nation (cont’d)
13	Monday, November 11 November 13 November 13 Friday, November 15	Veterans Day (Observed)—campus closed The term paper is due by 6 PM Britain—the first industrial nation (cont’d) Last Day to Withdraw -Withdrawal from the Semester Request on AARS website Last Day to submit a Late Enrollment Petition for Post-Census Requests(PDF)
14	November 18 & 20	Industrialization in continental Europe
15	November 25 Wednesday, November 27 November 28 & 29	The British economy to 1914 Non-Instructional Day—campus open Thanksgiving Holidays—campus closed
16	December 2 & 4	The British and continental European economies to 1914
17	Monday, December 9 December 9	Last day of instruction—last day of classes Last day of class—Lessons learned and open questions
Final exam	Tuesday, December 10 December 11-13, 16-17 Thursday, December 12 Wednesday, December 18	Study/Conference Day (no classes or exams) Final examinations Final exam (25%) DMH 348 9:45 AM–12:00 PM Final examinations make-up day

