

# ECON 4514001: Economic History of Europe

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University of ColoradoMuenzinger E431

Spring 2013 MWF 9:00-9:50

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CourseWebsite: <https://learn.colorado.edu>

Office: Sewall Hall. 42A (303492-3555)

Office Hours: M&F 11:00-12:30, W 11:00-12:00 and by appointment. I occasionally need to cancel office hours to meet other University commitments, so checking with me in class or by email before you stop by is always good.

FYI: Sewall is a residence hall with offices for those of us who teach for the academic program there. Entry is by key card only. Therefore, you will need to come to the west side by the parking circle and call me on your cell phone to have me let you in. Sewall has no elevator, so let me know if stairs are a problem and we can meet elsewhere if necessary.

## CourseDescription

This course draws on economic reasoning to examine the transformation of European economies from a circumstance in which Malthusian population pressure on resources was the dominant historical force to one in which growth of income per capita has become a norm. This transformation, covering the period from roughly 1200-1900, marks one of history's great changes. This course aims to provide both historical perspective and experience in the application of economic analysis to major issues. The topics



If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Injuries under Quick Links at Disability Services website (<http://disabilityservices.colorado.edu>) and come discuss your needs with me.

**Absences due to Religious Observances:** Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. ~~As the~~ talk to me at least a week ahead of time regarding any expected absences due to religious obligations. full details of CU policy at [http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac\\_relig.html](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html)

**Discrimination and Harassment Policies:** Any student, staff, or faculty member who believes he or she has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127, <http://www.colorado.edu/odh/>. The Office of Judicial Affairs can be reached at 303-492-5550.

**Academic Integrity:** All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy include: cheating, plagiarism, aiding academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior.

**Examinations:** There will be two essay-based exams. Both the midterm and final will be takehome, open book. The midterm examination will be posted on the D2L course site on Monday morning February 25<sup>th</sup> and will be due on D2L by midnight on Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup>. The final will be posted by Monday morning April 29<sup>th</sup> and will be due on D2L by 10 am Thursday May 9<sup>th</sup>. Further instructions will be given when exam questions are posted. Grading rubrics for the essay exams will be posted on D2L.

**In-Class Activities and Attendance:** I will take attendance on a fairly random basis, though this is especially likely when students are giving group presentations. In addition, we will do several activities or short assignments throughout the term. Many times these are as simple as brainstorming answers to questions in order to prepare for discussion. Other times there will be slightly more specific directions. On days when we do these activities, your participation counts as part of your attendance and participation grade. There are no make-up opportunities for these activities.

**Group Presentation:** You will each be assigned to a group of 3 students who will be responsible for a 20 minute presentation of a journal article from the reading list. This presentation will be followed by questions on your article from the class and from Prof. Jobin. A grading rubric for the presentation with fuller instructions is available on D2L. (0) 2 (n) - (6 ( 2 (24 ) 1 32t) 97 T4 0 0.0105 Tc4 97 T4 5 0.01-1 (t) 2 (i) 2 (n) -05 Tc4 (g) .01 (

# Schedule of Readings and Assignments

(Anything not from your textbook should have a link on the D2L course site under "Readings" including the articles for group presentations usually found in PDF format. Please check back with D2L often as I will note any changes to the syllabus schedule in the announcements section of the course home page on D2L.)

<p>Economic History: Growth and Development</p> <p>We start the course with the basic issue of defining important turning points in the industrial economy. How does a modern economy differ from traditional agrarian economies or pre-industrial economies? How do we distinguish "traditional" from "modern"?</p>	
1/14	Introduction
	Syllabus and Introduction
1/16	Economic History and Economic Development Cameron and Neal Ch 1 UNDP 2010 report (or any recent Year) Allen Ch. 1
1/18	Economic Development in Ancient Times Agricultural Revolution
	Diamond, Ch8, 9, OR 10 from Guns, Germs, and Steel (class divides 1/3 on each) Cameron and Neal Ch 2
1/21	Martin Luther King

Institutions, Exploration and Trade, Technology, and Culture

In this section of the course our focus shifts to discovering the necessary ~~sources~~ to industrialization. Economic historians still dispute about the weight of importance that should be given to each of these transitions. Looking at their arguments will also help illuminate the important question of when European growth diverged from the rest of the world and why?

2/4 The Benefits and Pitfalls of Expansion

## Demography and Agriculture

The study of demography captures another important slice of economic history: the relationship between man and the environment and the role of agricultural productivity in the standard of living. For many pre-industrial societies per

3/15	Why Britain? Allen's Argument
	Allen Ch. 6 Allen Ch. 5(optional)
3/18	British Economic Growth & The Rate and Nature of Change



