

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF WESTERN EUROPE, 1700-1914

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ESCUELA DE VERANO 2015

Salón: W-404

Fechas: 6 al 17 de julio

Horario: 08:00 a 11:00 am.

OBJETIVE

This course presents key issues and events in the economic development of Western Europe. Topics include land reform and peasant emancipation; the industrial revolution; investments in transportation and other infrastructure; demographic transformation; and the role of trade and trade policy. Class meetings will consist of background presentation combined with in-class discussions of selected readings. The papers use economic models and econometric methods, but the emphasis throughout is on historical economic development.

Prerequisites: The course is open to economists and historians. I will assume a background in micro, macro, and econometrics at an advanced undergraduate level.

SYLLABUS

This syllabus is for a 30-hour mini-course taught at the University of the Andes in the summer of 2015. We will meet 5 days per week, a total of 3 hours per day.

Basics:

Sometimes I will lecture, but I would also like class sessions to include a lot of discussion. This will be more fun if you do the reading in advance.

The course is open to economists and historians. I will assume a background in micro, macro, and econometrics at an advanced undergraduate level. Students lacking this background may find some sessions hard to follow, but anyone who wants to come is welcome. You will note that there is more reading assigned for some days than for others—it will make sense to plan ahead.

I really enjoy talking to students, and I drink vast amounts of coffee. But I am not big on email.

Readings marked with a * are “required.” The other readings may be of interest, but I do not expect students to cover everything.

Journal title abbreviations:

AER – American Economic Review
EEH – Explorations in Economic History
EHR or EcHR - Economic History Review
EJ – Economic Journal
EREH – European Review of Economic History
JEH - Journal of Economic History
JEL – Journal of Economic Literature
JIH – Journal of Interdisciplinary History
JPE - Journal of Political Economy
QJE – Quarterly Journal of Economics
SEHR- Scandinavian Economic History Review

“F&M” refers to chapters in a book entitled *The Economic History of Britain* since 1700. This book is out of print. The newer version is not appropriate for graduate students, so I am posting scanned chapters from this version.

There are 10 sessions listed here, each corresponding to a single day of course meetings.

(1) The Big Picture: Economic History and the Economic History of Europe

Sevket Pamuk, “The Black Death and the origins of the ‘Great Divergence’ across Europe, 1300-1600” EREH 2007 ([Link](#))

(2) Institutions

*Acemoglu et al, “The consequences of radical reform: the French Revolution” AER 2011 ([Link](#))

*Greif, Avner, “Reputation and Coalitions in Medieval Trade: Evidence on the Maghribi Traders’ Coalition.” JEH 1989 ([Link](#))

*Edwards and Ogilvie, “Contract Enforcement, Institutions, and Social Capital: the Maghribi Traders Reappraised.” EcHR 2012 ([Link](#))

Nafziger, “Russian Serfdom, Emancipation, and Land Inequality.” Working paper ([Link](#))

(3) Population and economic development

*Galor and Weil, “Population, technology, and growth: from Malthusian Stagnation to the demographic transition and beyond.” AER 2000 ([Link](#))

Schofield, F&M, Vol I, chapter 4. [*Biblioteca Economía* No. 330.94107 E155 1994 V. 2]

Guinnane, "The historical fertility transition: a guide for economists." *Journal of Economic Literature* 2011 ([Link](#))

(4) Agriculture

Robert Allen, F&M volume 1, chapter 5 [*Biblioteca Economía* No. 330.94107 E155 1994 V. 2]

*Bekar and Reed, "Open fields, risk, and land divisibility" EEH 2003 ([Link](#))

(5) Transportation

Bogart, "Did Turnpike Trusts Increase Transportation Investment in Eighteenth-Century England?" JEH 2005 ([Link](#))

(6) Industrialization (I)

Crafts, F&M, chapter 3. [*Biblioteca Economía* No. 330.94107 E155 1994 V. 2]

Feinstein, "Pessimism Perpetuated: Real Wages and the Standard of Living in Britain during and after the Industrial Revolution." JEH 1998 ([Link](#))

*Bodenhorn, Guinnane, and Mroz, "Selection biases in historical heights" ([Link](#))

(7) Industrialization (II)

*Robert Allen, "Why the Industrial Revolution was British: Commerce, induced invention, and the scientific revolution" EcHR 2011([Link](#))

*Peter Solar, "Poor relief and English Economic Development before the Industrial Revolution." EHR 1995. ([Link](#))

(8) Technology and technical change

Mokyr, F&M Volume I, chapter 2 [*Biblioteca Economía* No. 330.94107 E155 1994 V. 2]

Mokyr also wrote a justly famous book, *The Lever of Riches*, that has an efficient and thoughtful exposition of the most important technologies for the period we discuss. There are many used copies of that book available. I encourage you to read at least chapters 2-6.

[*Biblioteca Economía* No. 338.064 M549]

Nuvolari and Verspagen, "Technical choice, innovation, and British steam engineering, 1800-50" EcHR 2009 ([Link](#))

NFR Crafts, "Steam as a General Purpose Technology: A Growth Accounting Perspective." EJ 114. ([Link](#))

Streb et al, "Knowledge spill-over from new to old industries: the case of German synthetic dyes and textiles (1878-1913)".EEH 2007 ([Link](#))

*Brunt, Lerner, and Nicholas, "Inducement Prizes and Innovation." *Journal of Industrial Economics* 2012 ([Link](#))

(9) Money, Banking, and the Gold Standard Trade

Neal, F&M, Volume I, chapter 7 [*Biblioteca Economía* No. 330.94107 E155 1994 V. 2]

*Veronica Aoki Santarosa, "Financing Long-Distance Trade without Banks: The Joint Liability Rule and Bills of Exchange in 18th-century France." ([Link](#))

Bordo and Rockoff, "The Gold Standard as a 'Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval'". *JEH* 1996 ([Link](#))

(10) Public finance and "law and finance"

David R. Weir, "Tontines, Public Finance, and Revolution in France and England, 1688-1789" *JEH* 1989 ([Link](#))

*EN White, "From privatized to government-administered tax collection: tax farming in eighteenth-century France." *ECHR* 2004 ([Link](#))

*Timothy Guinnane, Ron Harris, Naomi Lamoreaux, and Jean-Laurent Rosenthal. "Putting the Corporation in its Place." *Enterprise and Society* 8(3): 687-729, 2007. ([Link](#))

Guinnane and Martínez-Rodríguez, "Choice of enterprise form: Spain, 1835-1935."

CALIFICACIÓN:

Numérica de acuerdo con la escala de la Universidad de los Andes (ver Reglamento General de Estudiantes de Maestría RGEM). El profesor podrá evaluar el desempeño de los estudiantes en el curso aplicando una sola prueba que corresponda al 100% de la calificación del curso.

<http://secretariageneral.uniandes.edu.co/index.php/es/normatividad-institucional/20-normatividad-institucional/74-reglamento-general-de-estudiantes-de-maestria>

FECHA DE RETIRO:

El estudiante podrá retirar el curso, sin devolución, hasta un día hábil antes de la fecha del examen final estipulado por el Profesor. La Universidad no devolverá el dinero cancelado por concepto de matrículas de estos cursos de la Escuela de Verano.