Fall semester 1984
Professor John P. Powelson
Mon Wed Fri 3-3:50 PM
Economics Building 117

ECONOMICS 451/551
The Economic History of Europe

REQUIRED READING

The minimum required reading consists of five books available at the
bookstore and two books on reserve in Norlin Library.

Available at bookstore
(may also be on reserve at Norlin)

Cipolla, Carlo M., 1976:
Before the Industrial Revolution: European Society and Economy,
1000-1700.

de Vries, Jan, 1976:
The Economy of Europe in an Age of Crisis, 1600-1750.

Landes, David, 1969:
The Unbound Prometheus.

Mathias, Peter, The First Industrial Nation: An Economic History of Britain,

Miskimin, Harry A., 1975:
The Economy of Early Renaissance Europe, 1300-1460.

On two-hour reserve in Norlin Library

Miskimin, Harry A., 1977:
The Economy of Late Renaissance Europe, 1460-1600.

North, Douglass, and Thomas, Robert Paul, 1973:
The Rise of the Western World: A New Economic History.
READING ASSIGNMENTS

You are urged to pace yourself. Suggestion: skim all books first, to determine which materials are relevant for which lectures, and read them before the lectures. Students who are up to date on reading will understand the lectures more clearly. Warning: it is fatal to let the materials pile up until just before the examination. The lectures will NOT repeat the reading materials except for emphasis or because of context. The lectures often assimilate, carry further, and comment on materials in the reading. But some lectures will be on totally different subjects from the reading.

Professor's lecture notes are available at Kinko's (copy service), on the southeast corner of College and 13th Streets (upper floor). These notes were prepared by and for the professor for his use only: THEY WERE NOT INITIALLY INTENDED FOR STUDENTS. But after they had been prepared, it seemed that they might be of help to students. DO NOT EXPECT THE LECTURE NOTES TO TELL THE COMPLETE STORY — often they are just reminders for the professor, of points to be elaborated in lectures. Thus they are supplements to (not substitutes for) attending lectures and taking your own notes. If you read the Professor's notes before going to lecture, you will know better what notes to take for yourself.

On the hour examination, you will be responsible for all lecture material to date and for the following readings (but they should be done much earlier): all of Miskimin vol. 1 (1300-1460); Cipolla chapters 1-8; and North and Thomas parts 1 and 2 (i.e., chapters 1-7). On the final examination, you will be responsible for ALL readings and ALL lectures from the beginning of the course.

The following materials are also on reserve at Norlin. While they are technically optional, nevertheless you should understand that you are expected to become knowledgeable and insightful on subject matters, not just knowers of specific materials. Therefore, the optional shades into the required, and you are urged to go as far as necessary to become knowledgeable and insightful. Thus: take this course if you are interested in it, and work to the extent of your interest. The above is subject to minimum requirements, of course, but don't count on doing well if your interest takes you only to the minimum.

Pauline Gregg, Black Death to the Industrial Revolution.
Fritz Rörig, The Medieval Town.
Marc Bloch, French Rural History.
Gordon Leff, The Dissolution of the Medieval Outlook.
E.M. Carus-Wilson, Essays in Economic History.
Raymond F. Kierstead, State and Society in Seventeenth-Century France.
Jerome Blum, Lord and Peasant in Russia.
Jerome Blum, The End of the Old Order in Rural Europe.
Pauline Gregg, A Social and Economic History of Britain 1760–1963
E.J. Hobsbawn, The Age of Capital.
Douglass C. North, Structure and Change in Economic History.
EXAMINATIONS

Both examinations will be essay type. On the hour examination, students will be asked to choose two essay topics from some greater number (three or more, not to be announced in advance, so don't ask). Think about each essay for about five minutes and write for about twenty minutes. On the final examination (three hours), choose five out of a larger number (six or more, once again not to be announced in advance). Think about them and write your outlines for a half hour or so, and then write approximately one half hour on each essay. Thus you will have written a total of seven essays (two on the hour examination and five on the final examination). These essays will be graded separately, and your grade for the course will be the average grade for all seven.

OFFICE HOURS

Mr. Powelson's office hours will take place on Monday from 4 to 5 p.m. (the hour following this class), and on Wednesday and Friday from 2 to 2:50 p.m. (the hour preceding this class). Students unable to see Mr. Powelson during these hours may make special appointments.

Mr. Powelson's office is located in the Institute of Behavioral Science, building no. 2, at 1546 Broadway. Walk north on Broadway from the economics building, cross University and Grandview; it is the third building beyond Grandview on the east side of Broadway.
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STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE
(Please fill in and return to professor)
PRINT OR WRITE CLEARLY

Last Name ___________________________ First name ______________________

Local address ____________________________________________ ZIP ______

Local telephone no. ___________________________

Home address (if different): _______________________________________

Major field ____________________________

If undergraduate, graduation year _______ If graduate, degree sought _______

List courses already taken in economics (201/202 by number, others by name):