### Course Information

**Economics 4/5524**  
**Economic History of the United States**  
**Spring 1989**  
*Professor Barry W. Poulson*  
*Office: Economics 108*  
*Office Hours: 2:00-3:00 MWF and by appointment*


**Books on Reserve:**
- Gary Walton and James Sheperd, *The Economic Rise of Early America*
- Peter Temin, *The Jacksonian Economy*
- Robert Fogel and Stanley Engerman, *Time on the Cross*
- Peter Temin, *Did Monetary Forces Cause the Great Depression*
- Terry Anderson and Peter J. Hill, *The Birth of a Transfer Society*

### Topic Assignment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Jan 9    | Introduction                                    | Poulson Ch. 1  
          |                                                 | Handout land2  
          |                                                 | Anderson and  
          |                                                 | Hill, Ch. 1-4 |
| Jan 16   | The Institutional Framework                     | Poulson Ch. 2  
          |                                                 | Anderson and  
          |                                                 | Hill, Ch. 1-4 |
| Jan 23   | Demographic Change                              | Poulson Ch. 3  
          |                                                 |                                                      |
| Jan 25   | Economic Growth                                 | Poulson Ch. 4  
          |                                                 | Shepard and  
          |                                                 | Walton, Ch. 1-9 |
| Jan 30   | International Trade                             | Poulson Ch. 5  
          |                                                 |                                                      |
| Feb. 1   | Structural Change                               | Poulson Ch. 6  
          |                                                 |                                                      |
| Feb. 3   | Monetary Change and Public Finance              | Poulson Ch. 7  
          |                                                 |                                                      |
| Feb. 6   | Distribution of Income and Wealth               | Poulson Ch. 8  
          |                                                 |                                                      |
| Feb. 10  | Midterm Examination 1                          | Poulson Ch. 9  
          |                                                 |                                                      |
| Feb. 13  | Institutional Change                            | Poulson Ch. 10  
          |                                                 |                                                      |
Feb. 20  Demographic Change
Feb. 24  Economic Growth
Mar. 1   International Trade
Mar. 3   Structural Change
Mar. 2   Transportation
Mar. 13  Regional Trends
Mar. 15  Monetary Change and Public Finance
Mar. 20  Distribution of Income and Wealth
Mar. 24  Midterm Examination 2
          Part III Economic Growth in a Mature Economy
Apr. 7   Demographic Change
Apr. 10  Economic Growth
Apr. 14  International Trade
Apr. 17  Agriculture
Apr. 19  Manufacturing
Apr. 21  The Service Industries
Apr. 24  Regional Trends
Apr. 26  Monetary Trends and Public Finance
May 3   Distribution of Income and Wealth
          Final Examination

Hill, Ch. 5-9
Poulson, Ch. 10
Hill, Ch. 5
Poulson Ch. 11
Poulson Ch. 12
Poulson Ch. 13
Poulson Ch. 14
Poulson Ch. 15
Fogel and Engerman, passim
Poulson Ch. 16
Temin, passim
Poulson Ch. 17
Temin, passim
Poulson Ch. 18
Hill, Ch. 6-11
Poulson Ch. 19
Poulson Ch. 20-21
Poulson Ch. 22
Poulson Ch. 23
Poulson Ch. 24
Poulson Ch. 25
Poulson Ch. 26
Poulson Ch. 27
Temin, passim
Poulson Ch. 28
Course Requirements

Examinations:
Students are required to take the midterm and final examinations. The final examination is divided into two parts, the first part covers the last third of the course, the second part is comprehensive. Students with an excused absence from one of the midterm examinations are required to take the second part as well as the first part of the final examination. Students with an excused absence from both midterm examinations will be dropped from the course. For students who take all of the examinations the second part of the final examination is optional; if the student receives a higher grade on the second part of the final than either of the midterms the higher grade will be substituted for the lower grade.

Term Paper:
Students are required to write a term paper with the following topic, ‘Is The American Economy A Just Economy?’. In answering this question the student should deal specifically with the following issues:

1. Philosophy, What are the philosophical foundations for a just economy?
2. Political Economy, How is justice embodied in the institutional framework of an economy?
3. Economic History, How has the evolution of the institutional framework of the American economy affected the welfare of its citizens? Note that in answering this question you will want to explore both qualitative dimensions, such as the rules of the game for economic activity, and quantitative dimensions such as trends in the income and wealth and other dimensions of welfare.
4. Policy, What policies would you recommend to move the American economy closer toward a just economy?

Deadline for the term paper are as follows:
Feb. 1 preliminary outline and references
Mar. 1 detailed outline and bibliography
May 1 final draft

Grading Policy:
The final grade is determined by four equally weighted grades including the term paper, two midterm grades, and a final exam grade. All of these are required to complete the course.