

ECONOMIC HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

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Room: Econ 117
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Fall 2003
Econ 4524-001 TTH 2:00-3:15
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Required Reading: Jonathan Hughes and Louis Cain (H&C), **American Economic History** (Sixth Edition); and **Material posted or on reserve.**

Components of Final Grade: Three exams: Exam 1 (25%); Exam 2 (35%); Exam 3 (40%).

Schedule of Classes:

Aug 26 Do I Want To Take This Class?

Aug 28 The Institutional Background for Economic Growth
H&C: Chapters 1, 2 (pp.38-43).

Sep 2 Indentured Servitude: The Market for Moving Free People to America
H&C: Chapter 1 (pp. 10-12).

Sep 4 Slavery
& 9 H&C: Chapters 9 & 10

Sep 16 Economics of the Civil War
H&C: Chapter 13

Sep 18 Peopling the Country: Births, Deaths, Immigration and Migration
& 23 H&C: Chapters 16-17

Sep 25 Money, Banks and Government Policy
H&C: Chapter 19

Sept 29 Exam 7-9 pm in EDUC 155

Sept 30 Southern Agriculture - Not Everyone Was Sipping Mint Juleps
& Oct 7 H&C: Chapter 13 (pp. 263-270)
Alston: "Issues in U.S. Postbellum..."
Atack and Passell: "The South After the.."

Oct 9 Northern Agriculture- Too Wet To Plow: Protest
& H&C: Chapter 15
14 Atack and Passell: "Northern Agricultural.."

Oct 16 The Iron Horse and Economic Growth
H&C: Chapter 14

Oct 21 The Microsofts of the 19th Century: Regulation and the Origins of Anti-Trust
H&C: Chapter 18

Oct 23 The Wild West: The Use and Abuse of Natural Resources
Libecap, "Property Rights in ..."

Oct 28 The Great War
H&C: Chapter 22

Oct 30 The Roaring Twenties: Farms Failing and Banks Busting
H&C: Chapter 23

Nov 4 EXAM 2 – EVENING 7-9 pm EDUC 231

Nov 4 The Great Depression
6, 11 H&C: Chapters 24 & 25
& 13 Atack and Passell: "The Great Depression: The Contraction" and "The Recovery"

Nov 18 World War II: The End of, or Continuation of the Great Depression?
H&C: Chapter 26
Higgs: " "

Nov 20 When and Why Government Got Big
H&C: Chapters 27 & 30
Higgs, "The Sources of Big Government..."
Higgs, "How Much Has Government Grown..."
Higgs, "On Ideology as an Analytical ..."

Dec 2 The New Frontier and the Great Society: Why then?
Alston and Ferrie, "

Dec 4 Transition in the Rest of the World: lessons from U.S. Economic History

Dec 9 Answers to Anything You Ever Wanted to Know About Economic History But Were
Afraid to Ask Part I

Dec 11 Answers to Anything You Ever Wanted to Know About Economic History But Were
Afraid to Ask Part II

FINAL EXAM - DECEMBER 15, MONDAY 4:30-7:00 PM