

---

---

## History of Economic Growth—World Economics 8764/8554

Spring 2023 Tue & Thurs 9:30-10:45 a.m.

Professor Carol H. Shiue, email [shiue@colorado.edu](mailto:shiue@colorado.edu)  
Office Hours: Tue & Thurs 11-11:30 a.m. & 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

---

---

### Course Outline

#### Overview

This course examines competing explanations for cross-country differences in long run economic growth, addressing the question, “why are some countries so rich and other so poor” from a historical and comparative standpoint. We also explore the origins of issues that are of economic significance today. The period covers the Middle Ages to the 20<sup>th</sup> century and more focus is given to Britain and Northwestern Europe because that is where economic growth first occurred, but Asia, Latin America, and Africa are also included as much as possible. Knowledge of standard analytical tools and empirical techniques of macro and micro is strongly recommended.

This course has several objectives: the first is to show how theoretical approaches and quantitative tools can be applied to historical evidence. The second objective is to introduce students to research and paper writing in economic history and other applied fields of economics. We will be reading and discussing articles to learn how a research article is put together. You will also have many opportunities in this class to pose your own questions and present your ideas. This is a skill that is of immense value as you start to enter into the dissertation-writing phase of your program and will be spending more of your time doing research in economics. With practice, you will also feel more comfortable and confident in seminars, whether the seminar is your own or someone else’s.

#### Course Requirements

Classes will consist of lectures and student presentations and discussions. The course list is intentionally long to provide references and background for that section. For each class meeting, you should read carefully one paper, which is indicated in bold type on the reading list. These are labeled “Student’s presentation” and are the papers that everyone should read carefully for each class. Published articles can be accessed via the library website; most working papers are available via an online search.

30 minute presentations of research papers, totaling 30% of your grade. These presentations should be made with an eye on content and without any critiquing of the paper. Students should have an organizational meeting during the first week of class to discuss who will be presenting which paper. Most papers fall into a certain format and presenting papers will help you understand the structure of economics paper in detail. We will talk about the sequence of the slides, and what to put into the slides. Please email me your presentation 3 days before you are presenting so that I can review your slides and give you feedback to help make the slides clear and of benefit to everyone in the class.

Class participation, 20% of your grade. Those who are not presenting should carefully read the paper that is being presented that day and write-up slides for class discussion that consists of a balanced critique.

Slide 1: What is good about the paper?

Slide 2: What is a weakness of the paper?

Slide 3: An idea for further improvement, or ideas for further research.

After the main presentation, students discuss their response and critique. The idea is to initiate more discussion and participation in an environment like a seminar or workshop.

Give a literature review on 6-10 papers on a certain research agenda, 5% of grade. Please send me your selections by March 1.

A midterm 5-page (double-spaced) draft of your paper proposal and presentation, 15% of grade. The proposal should motivate an open question in economic history, based on existing research that is related to that question. The draft should be a minimum of 5 double-spaced pages, in addition to the bibliography. Please send me your draft 2 days before your presentation (March 14-21).

A final 15-page (double-spaced) draft of your paper and in-class presentation, 30% of grade. Ideally this will be the same proposal that you worked on for the midterm presentation. You should include in your proposal reference to potential data sources and how these data can be used to address your key questions; aim to be as specific as you can about your strategy and approach. These presentations will take place during the last weeks of class (April 25-May 4). I will be happy to give you feedback on your slides and/or your paper if you send them to me in advance.

The final draft is due by May 8.

## Reading List Outline

### I. Introduction

***What is this course about? What are the questions addressed in economic history? What do economic historians do? Why study economic history? I will also give tips on the class presentations and what the paper proposal for this course should aim for in the introduction and body.***

Solow, Robert M., 1985, "Economic History and Economics," *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings* 75:2 (May), pp. 328-331.

Greif, Avner, 1997. "Cliometrics After 40 years," *American Economic Review*, 87(2), pp. 400-403.

Nunn, Nathan, 2009. "The Importance of History for Economic Development," *Annual Review Economics*, 1:65-92.

Abramitzky, Ran, 2015. "Economics and the Modern Economic Historian" *JEH*, 75(4).

Gutmann, Myron et al. 2018. "Big Data in Economic History", *Journal of Economic History*, 78(1).

Margo, Robert. 2018. "The Integration of Economic History into Economics," *Cliometrica*, September.

Nunn, Nathan, 2020. "The historical roots of economic development," *Science*, 367, 1441.

### II. Long-Term Trends in Economic Growth: The Stylized Facts and Measurements

***What is to be explained? What are overall trends in income, population, mortality, fertility from pre-industrial times to the modern economy? How does the industrialization of the 18th century compare with modernization in developing countries today? Has there been convergence or divergence since the year 1800? Are there differences in historical income trends within Europe, and specifically between Britain and continental Europe? Between Europe and Asia?***

**Student's presentation (1/24):** Allen, Robert C. 2011. "Wages, Prices, and Living Standards in China, 1738-1925: in comparison with Europe, Japan, and India," *Economic History Review*, 64(s1): pp. 8-38.

Mitchell, B. 1981. *European Historical Statistics, 1750–1975*, 2nd edition. New York University Press.

Maddison, Angus, 2003. *The World Economy: Historical Statistics*, Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development.

Broadberry, Stephen, and Bishnupriya Gupta. 2006. "The Early Modern Great Divergence: Wages, Prices and Economic Development in Europe and Asia, 1500-1800." *The Economic History Review* 59, no. 1: 2–31.

Steckel, R. H. 2009. Heights and human welfare: Recent developments and new directions. *Explorations in Economic History*, 46(1), 1-23.

Branko Milanovic, Peter H. Lindert, Jeffrey G. Williamson, Pre-Industrial Inequality. 2011. *The Economic Journal*, Volume 121, Issue 551, 1: 255–272.

Cameron, Rondo E. and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Robert Allen, 2017. "Absolute poverty: When necessity displaces desire" *American Economic Review* 107 (12), 3690-3721.

Broadberry, Stephen, Hanhui Guan, and David Daokui Li. 2018. "China, Europe, and the Great Divergence: A Study in Historical National Accounting, 980-1850," *Journal of Economic History*, 78(4).  
\_\_\_\_\_. 2021. "China, Europe, and the Great Divergence: A Restatement." *Journal of Economic History*, 81, no. 3: 958-974.

Solar, Peter. 2021. "China's GDP: Some Corrections and the Way Forward." *The Journal of Economic History*, 81(3), 943-957.

*The Times Atlas of World History.*

### ***The British Industrial Revolution***

Lindert, Peter and Jeffrey Williamson, 1983. "English Workers' Living Standards During the Industrial Revolution: A New Look," *Economic History Review*, February.

Williamson, Jeffrey. 1984. "Why Was Growth So Slow during the Industrial Revolution?" *Journal of Economic History*, 44(3): 687-712

Crafts, N. 1994. "The Industrial Revolution" in Floud and McCloskey, eds., *The Economic History of Britain since 1700*.

Mokyr, Joel, ed., 1999. *The British Industrial Revolution: An Economic Perspective*, Westview Press.

Clark, Gregory. 2005. The Condition of the Working Class in England 1209-2004. *Journal of Political Economy*, Vol. 113 (6).

Broadberry et al. 2011. "British Economic Growth, 1270-1870: An Output based Approach."

Nicholas Crafts, Terence C. Mills. 2017. "Six centuries of British economic growth: a time-series perspective," *European Review of Economic History*, Volume 21, Issue 2, May 2017, Pages 141–158

Cummins, N. 2021. Where Is the Middle Class? Evidence from 60 Million English Death and Probate Records, 1892–1992. *The Journal of Economic History*, 81(2), 359-404.

### **III. Pre-industrial Economy**

***What does the Malthusian model imply about birth rates and material living standards? What is the relationship between population growth and the rate of technological change? How long did it take for a population to rebound from a crisis? Do famines matter from the longer-run perspective? Were there lasting effects of famine? What is the important relationship between markets and famines? What are other examples of health crises from more recent times that also have long-term effects?***

#### ***1. Malthusian dynamics***

**Student's presentation (1/26):** Morgan Kelly and Cormac Ó Gráda, 2012. "The Preventative Check in Medieval and Preindustrial England," *Journal of Economic History* 72(4), December.

Laslett, Peter, 1983. *The World We Have Lost: Further Explored*, third edition (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Chapters 4-5, pp. 81-121.

Boyer, George R., 1989. "Malthus Was Right After All: Poor Relief and Birth Rates in Southeastern England," *Journal of Political Economy*, 97(1), pp. 93-114.

Wrigley, E. A., R. S. Davies, J. E. Oeppen, and R. S. Schofield. 1997. *English Population History from Family Reconstruction: 1580-1837*. Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press.

Fogel, Robert. 2004. *The Escape from Hunger and Premature Death, 1700-2100, Europe, America and the Third World*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-65.

Clark, Gregory, 2005, *Farewell to Alms*, Princeton University Press.

Clark, Gregory and Gillian Hamilton, 2006. "Survival of the Richest: The Malthusian Method in England, 1585-1638." *Journal of Economic History* 66(3): 707-736.

## **2. The European Marriage Pattern**

**Student's Presentation (1/31):** de Pleijt, Alexandra and van Zanden, Jan. 2021. "Two worlds of female labour: gender wage inequality in western Europe, 1300–1800." *The Economic History Review*, 74.

Hajnal, John. 1982. "Two kinds of pre-industrial household formation system," *Population Development Review*.

Botticini, Maristella, 1999. "A Loveless Economy? Intergenerational Altruism and the Marriage Market in a Tuscan Town, 1415-1436," *Journal of Economic History*, 59(1): 104-121.

Botticini, Maristella and Aloysius Siow, 2003. "Why Dowries?" *American Economic Review*, 93(4), pp. 1385-1398.

De Moor, Tine and Jan Luiten Van Zanden, 2010. "Girl Power: the European marriage pattern and labour markets in the North Sea region in the late medieval and early modern period" *Economic History Review*.

Tracy Dennison and Sheilagh Ogilvie, 2014. "Does the European Marriage Pattern Explain Economic Growth?" *JEH*, 74(3).

Carmichael, et al. 2016. "The European Marriage Pattern and its Measurement," *JEH*, 76(1).

Tracy Dennison and Sheilagh Ogilvie, 2016. "Institutions, Demography, and Economic Growth," *JEH*, 76(1).

## **3. EMP vs. Lineage organization**

**Student's Presentation (2/2):** Bahrami-Rad, Duman and Beauchamp, Jonathan and Henrich, Joseph and Schulz, Jonathan, 2022. "Kin-Based Institutions and Economic Development," [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=4200629](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4200629)

Peng, Y., 2004. Kinship networks and entrepreneurs in China's transitional economy. *American Journal of Sociology*, 109(5):1045-1074.

Shiue, Carol H. 2016. “A Culture of Kinship: Chinese Genealogies as a Source for Research in Demographic Economics,” *Journal of Demographic Economics*, 82(4), pp. 459-482.

Hilt, Eric, and Katharine O’Banion. 2019. “The Limited Partnership in New York 1822–1858: Partnerships without Kinship,” *The Journal of Economic History* 69, no. 3: 615–45.

Moscona, Jacob, Nathan Nunn, and James A. Robinson. 2020. “Segmentary Lineage Organization and Conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa,” *Econometrica* 88, no. 5.

Bau, N. and Fernández, R., 2021. *The family as a social institution* (No. w28918). National Bureau of Economic Research.

Chen, Zhiwu, Chicheng Ma and Andrew Sinclair. 2022. “Banking on the Confucian Clan: Why China Developed Financial Markets So Late”, *The Economic Journal*, 2022, 132(644), 1378-1413.

Shiue, Carol H. and Wolfgang Keller. 2022. “Marriage Matching over Five Centuries in China,” NBER WP 30625. DOI 10.3386/w30625

#### **4. Mortality**

**Student’s Presentation (2/7):** Almond, Douglas, 2006. “Is the 1918 influenza pandemic over? Long-term effects of *in utero* influenza exposure in the post-1940 U.S. population,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 114: 2006: 672-712.

O’Grada, Cormac, 2000. *Black ’47 and Beyond: The Great Irish Famine in History, Economy, and Memory*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

O’Grada, Cormac, 2005, “Markets and Famines in Pre-industrial Europe,” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 36(2).

Shiue, C. 2005. “The Political Economy of Famine Relief in China, 1740-1820,” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, Summer.

Weisdorf, Jacob and Marc Klemp. 2012. “The Lasting Damage to Mortality of Early-Life Adversity: Evidence from England's Famine of the Late 1720's” *European Review of Economic History*.

Şevket Pamuk. 2007. The Black Death and the origins of the ‘Great Divergence’ across Europe, 1300–1600, *European Review of Economic History*, Volume 11, Issue 3: 289–317.

Nico Voigtlander and Joachim Voth. 2013. “The Three Horsemen of Riches: Plague, War and Urbanization in Early Modern Europe,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 80(2): 774-811.

#### **IV. Demographic Transition**

***What explains the historical fertility decline? Gary Becker models demand for children in the framework of consumer theory. Can such a theory be applied to all periods? Was there conscious and strategic fertility control in the 18<sup>th</sup> century or before? What is the relationship between demographic transition and industrialization?***

**Student's Presentation (2/9):** Bleakley, Hoyt, and Fabian Lange. 2009. "Chronic Disease Burden and the Interaction of Education, Fertility, and Growth." *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 91(1): 52–65.

Wrigley, Edward and Roger Schofield, 1981. *The Population History of England 1541–1871: A Reconstruction*, Harvard University Press.

Lee, Ronald, 2003. "The Demographic Transition: Three Centuries of Fundamental Change," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 17(4) pp. 167-190.

Becker, Gary S., Kevin M. Murphy and Robert Tamura, 1990. "Human Capital, Fertility, and Economic Growth." *Journal of Political Economy*, 98(5): s12-s37.

Galor, Oded, and David N. Weil. 2000. "Population, Technology, and Growth: From Malthusian Stagnation to the Demographic Transition and Beyond." *American Economic Review*, 90(4): 806-828.

Guinnane, Timothy, 2011. "The Historical Fertility Transition, Guide For Economists," *Journal of Economic Literature*, 49:3, 589–614.

Nico Voigtlander and Joachim Voth. 2013. "How the West Invented Fertility Restriction," *American Economic Review*, 103(6): 2227-2264.

Shiue, Carol H. 2017. "Human Capital and Fertility in Chinese Clans," *Journal of Economic Growth*.

## **V. Modern Growth and the Transition between Regimes: Proximate Explanations**

*Modern growth theory begins with the Solow model, which provides a framework for development accounting and growth accounting, and a basis for understanding proximate and fundamental factors of growth. How did the Malthusian economy transition into the Solow economy? How might the different theories for why sustained growth emerged be categorized?*

Mokyr, Joel, 1990. *The Lever of Riches: Technological Creativity and Economic Progress*, Oxford University Press.

Hall, Robert and Charles I. Jones 1999. "Why Do Some Countries Produce So Much More Output per Worker Than Others?" *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 114: 83-116.

Lucas, Robert E. 2002. *Lectures on Economic Growth*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Helpman, Elhanan, 2004. *The Mystery of Economic Growth*, Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press.

Galor, Oded, 2005. "The Transition from Stagnation to Growth: Unified Growth Theory" in Durlauf, S., Aghion, P. (Eds), *Handbook of Economic Growth*. North Holland, Amsterdam.

Acemoglu, Daron, 2009. *Introduction to Modern Economic Growth*.

## 1. Productivity from Medieval to Early Modern

*What was the nature of the advances made in medieval times? How were improvements in agricultural productivity from the Middle Ages to the 19<sup>th</sup> century accomplished? How much does agricultural change explain urban growth and population increases? How did British society change in terms of the hours worked and total factor productivity of the economy?*

**Student's Presentation (2/14):** Davide Cantoni and Noam Yuchtman, 2014, "Medieval Universities, Legal Institutions, and the Commercial Revolution" *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 129(2).

Joel Mokyr, 1974. "The Industrial Revolution in the Low Countries in the First Half of the Nineteenth Century: A Comparative Case Study," *The Journal of Economic History*, 34(2), 1974:365-391.

Allen, Robert, 1988. "The Growth of Labor Productivity in Early Modern English Agriculture" *Explorations in Economic History*, April, 1988:117-46.

Matsuyama, Kiminori, 1992. "Agricultural Productivity, Comparative Advantage and Economic Growth" *Journal of Economic Theory*, 58: 317-322.

DeVries, Jan, 1994. "The Industrial Revolution and the Industrious Revolution," *Journal of Economic History*, 54(2), pp. 249-270

Joachim-Voth, Hans, 1998. "Time and Work in Eighteenth century London" *Journal of Economic History*, 58(1) March.

## 2. Changing Institutions: Political Foundations, Laws, and Property Rights

### a. Political Foundations of Public Finance

*The history of Britain provides a story of how growth followed upon civil warfare in which an exploitative monarchy was turned into a constitutional state where absolute monopoly on power was replaced by checks and balances by Parliament. How can this hypothesis be tested? Does the model of predatory power apply to other regions of the world?*

**Student Presentation (2/16):** Saumitra Jha. 2015. "Financial Asset Holdings and Political Attitudes: Evidence from Revolutionary England," *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 130(3): 1485–1545.

North, Douglass C., and B. R. Weingast. 1989. "Constitutions and Commitment: Evolution of Institutions Governing Public Choice." *Journal of Economic History* XLIX, 803-32.

Clark, Gregory. 1996. "The Political Foundations of Modern Economic Growth: England, 1540-1800." *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, XXVI: (4) 563-588.

Shiue, Carol H. 2004. "Local Granaries and Central Government Disaster Relief: Moral Hazard and Intergovernmental Finance in 18th and 19th Century China," *The Journal of Economic History*, 64(1), pp. 101-125.

Sussman, Nathan and Yishay Yafeh. 2006. "Institutional Reforms, Financial Development and Sovereign Debt: Britain 1690–1790." *Journal of Economic History* 66, 4: 906-935

Karaman, Kivanc and Sevkett Pamuk, 2010. "Ottoman State Finances in European Perspective (1500-1914)," *Journal of Economic History* 70 (3). pp. 593-629.



Steven Pincus and J. Robinson, 2014. "What Really Happened During the Glorious Revolution?" in *Institutions, Property Rights and Growth: The Legacy of Douglass North*, New York: Cambridge University Press.

Sng, Tuan-Hwee, Moriguchi, Chiaki. 2014. "Asia's little divergence: state capacity in China and Japan before 1850." *J Econ Growth* 19, 439–470.

Johnson, N. D., and Koyama, M. 2017. States and economic growth: Capacity and constraints. *Explorations in Economic History*, 64, 1-20.

### **b. Law and Legal Origin**

**Student's Presentation (2/21):** Anderson, Siwan. 2018. "Legal Origins and Female HIV." *American Economic Review*, 108 (6): 1407-39.

Rafeal La Porta, Forencio Lopez-de-Silanes, Andrei Schleifer, and Robert A. Vishny 1998. "Law and Finance," *Journal of Political Economy*, vol 106, no. 6: 1113-1155.

Musacchio, Aldo, 2008. "Can Civil Law Countries Get Good Institutions? Lessons from the History of Creditor Rights and Bond Markets in Brazil," *Journal of Economic History*, vol 68, no. 1, pp. 80-108.

Rafeal La Porta, Forencio Lopez-de-Silanes, and Andrei Schleifer, 2008. "The Economic Consequences of Legal Origins", *Journal of Economic Literature*, 46(2): 285-332.

Daniel M. Klorman, Paul G. Mahoney, Holger Spamann, Mark I. Weinstein. 2011. "Legal Origin or Colonial History?" *Journal of Legal Analysis*, Volume 3, Issue 2: 379–409.

### **3. Openness, Commerce, and Development**

***How might trade have affected growth? What are the channels through which trade affects growth? What is the institutional basis of long-distance trade and how are these different across different societies? What impact does transport costs have and what kinds of historical data can be used to estimate the impact of differences in these costs? How does international trade impact domestic trade?***

**Student's Presentation (2/23):** Juhasz, Reka. 2018. "Temporary Protection and Technology Adoption: Evidence from the Napoleonic Blockade," *American Economic Review* 108(11).

Frankel, Jeffrey, A., and David H. Romer. 1999. "Does Trade Cause Growth?" *American Economic Review*, 89 (3): 379-399.

Shiue, Carol H., 2002. "Transport Costs and the Geography of Arbitrage in Eighteenth Century China," *The American Economic Review*, 92(5):1406-1419.

Shiue, Carol H. 2005. "From Political Fragmentation towards a Custom Union: Border Effects of the German Zollverein, 1815-1855," *European Review of Economic History*, August, 9(2): 129-162.

Keller, Wolfgang, Javier Andres Santiago, Carol Shiue, 2017. "China's Domestic Trade During the Treaty Port Era" *Explorations in Economic History*, 63.

Pascali, Luigi. 2017. "The Wind of Change: Maritime Technology, Trade, and Economic Development." *American Economic Review*, 107 (9): 2821-54.

Donaldson, Dave, 2018. "Railroads and the Raj: Estimating the Impact of Transportation Infrastructure", *American Economic Review*.

Steinwender, Claudia. 2018. "Real Effects of Information Frictions: When the States and the Kingdom became United," *American Economic Review* 108(3):657-696.

Keller, W., Markus Lampe and Carol Shiue. 2021. "Real International Transactions". In *Cambridge Economic History of the Modern World*, edited by Stephen Broadberry and Kyoji Fukao, Cambridge University Press.

Keller, Wolfgang and Carol Shiue. 2022. "Foreign Trade and Investment". In *Cambridge Economic History of China*, edited by Debin Ma and Richard von Glahn, Cambridge University Press.

#### **4. Transmission of Knowledge and Techniques**

***Why were new technologies invented and adopted in Britain but not elsewhere? Was human capital an important condition for technological leadership? Were guilds important for blocking new innovations? What types of situations and data sets allow the testing of assumptions about conditions that may lead to more knowledge production?***

**Student's presentation (2/28):** Giorcelli, Michela. 2019. "The Long-Term Effects of Management and Technology Transfers." *American Economic Review*, 109 (1): 121-52.

Easterly, Richard A. 1981. "Why isn't the Whole World Developed?" *Journal of Economic History* 56(1): 1-19.

Moser, Petra. 2003. "How Do Patent Laws Influence Innovations? Evidence from Nineteenth- Century World Fairs" *American Economic Review*.

Mokyr, Joel, 2005. "The Intellectual Origins of Modern Economic Growth," *Journal of Economic History*, 65, pp. 285-351.

Squicciarini, Mara P. and Nico Voigtländer, 2015. Human Capital and Industrialization: Evidence from the Age of Enlightenment. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 130(4): 1825-1883.

De La Croix, David, Mathias Doepke, and Joel Mokyr. 2018. "Clans, Guilds, and Markets: Apprenticeship Institutions and Growth in the Pre-Industrial Economy," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*.

#### **5. Property rights: Open fields vs. enclosure (fencing)**

**Student's presentation (3/2):** Hornbeck, Richard. 2010. "Barbed Wire: Property Rights and Agricultural Development," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 125(2)767-810, May 2010.

Fenoaltea, Stefano, 1976. "Risk, Transactions Costs, and the Organization of Medieval Agriculture," *Explorations in Economic History*, 13(2), pp. 129-152; and the exchange between McCloskey and Fenoaltea in the October 1977 *EEH*.

McCloskey, Donald, 1976. "English Open Fields as Behavior Toward Risk," *Research in Economic History*, 1, pp. 124-170.

McCloskey Donald, 1991. "The Prudent Peasant: New Findings on Open Fields," *Journal of Economic History*, 51(2), pp. 343-355.

Allen, Robert, 1992. *Enclosures and the Yeoman: The Agricultural Development of the South Midlands, 1450-1850*, Oxford University Press, pp. 171-187.

Clark, Gregory, 1998. "Commons Sense: Property Rights, Efficiency and Institutional Change," *Journal of Economic History*, 58(1), pp. 73-102.

Richardson, Gary, 2005. "The Prudent Village: Risk Pooling Institutions in Medieval English Agriculture," *Journal of Economic History*, 65(2), pp. 386-413.

## **VI. Comparative Approaches: The Role of History**

### **1. China and Europe**

*Why did growth begin in the 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> centuries and not before? Was Britain more productive than China early on? Why did growth start in Britain and not China or somewhere else? What are sources of difference between Britain and other regions and when did they emerge? What kinds of evidence can be used to show that these differences mattered to economic performance?*

**Student presentation (3/7):** Greif, A., & Tabellini, G. 2017. "The clan and the corporation: Sustaining cooperation in China and Europe," *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 45(1), 1-35.

Crafts, N.F.R. 1977. "Industrial Revolution in England and France: Some Thoughts on the Question, "Why was England First?" *Economic History Review* 30(3): 429-41.

Robert Allen, 2009. "Agricultural productivity and rural incomes in England and the Yangtze Delta, c.1620–c.1820", *The Economic History Review* 62 (3).

Shiue, Carol H. and Wolfgang Keller. 2007. "Markets in China and Europe on the Eve of the Industrial Revolution," *American Economic Review*.

Kenneth Pomeranz, 2001. *The Great Divergence: China, Europe, and the Making of the Modern World Economy*. Princeton University Press.

Jorge Baten et al. 2010. "Evolution of living standards and human capital in China in the 18-20th centuries: Evidences from real wages, age-heaping, and anthropometrics," *Explorations in Economic History*, 47(3).

Keller, W., C. Shiue, and X. Wang. 2021. "Capital Markets in China and England in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries: Evidence from Grain Prices," *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 13(3): 31-64.

### **2. Intergenerational mobility and inequality; migration and assimilation**

*What does the comparison of intergenerational mobility in Britain and the United States reveal about trends in the two countries in inequality? What explains the persistence of inequality over time? There has also been a renewed interest in mobility, thanks to linking of census records:*  
<https://usa.ipums.org/usa/>

**Student Presentation (3/9):** Perez, Santiago, 2017. "The (South) American Dream: Mobility and Economic Outcomes of First and Second Generation Immigrants in Nineteenth Century Argentina," *Journal of Economic History*, 77(4).

Black, Sandra and Paul Devereaux, 2010. "Recent Developments in Intergenerational Mobility", NBER Working Paper 15889.

Corak, Miles. 2013. "Income Inequality, Equality of Opportunity, and Intergenerational Mobility." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 27 (3).

Long, J. and Ferrie, J. 2013. "Intergenerational Occupational Mobility in Great Britain and the United States since 1850." *American Economic Review*, 103(4): 1109-37.

Xie, Y., and Killewald, A. 2013. Intergenerational Occupational Mobility in Great Britain and the United States Since 1850: Comment. *The American Economic Review*, 103(5), 2003-2020.

Chetty, Raj, Nathaniel Hendren, Patrick Kline, and Emmanuel Saez, 2014. "Where is the land of Opportunity? The Geography of Intergenerational Mobility in the United States" *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 129(4).

Piketty, Thomas and Emmanuel Saez, 2014. "Inequality in the Long Run," *Science*, 344(6186).

Alexander, R., & Ward, Z. 2018. Age at Arrival and Assimilation During the Age of Mass Migration. *The Journal of Economic History*, 78(3), 904-937.

Solon, Gary, 2018. "What Do We Know So Far about Multigenerational Mobility?," *The Economic Journal*, 128(612): F340-F352.

Shiue, C. 2019. 'Social Mobility in the Long Run: A Temporal Analysis of China from 1300 to 1900'. London, Centre for Economic Policy Research WP 13589.

Bailey, Martha J., Connor Cole, Morgan Henderson, and Catherine Massey. 2020. "How Well Do Automated Linking Methods Perform? Lessons from US Historical Data." *Journal of Economic Literature*, 58 (4): 997-1044.

Abramitzky, Ran, Leah Boustan, Katherine Eriksson, James Feigenbaum, and Santiago Pérez. 2021. "Automated Linking of Historical Data." *Journal of Economic Literature*, 59 (3): 865-918.

Price, J., Buckles, K., Van Leeuwen, J., & Riley, I. 2021. Combining family history and machine learning to link historical records: The Census Tree data set. *Explorations in Economic History*, 80.

## **VII. Modern Economic Growth—Fundamental Explanations**

*Why are some countries so rich and others so poor? Are there ultimate factors (geography, institutions, and culture) that have significant effects on cross-country performance today? Is there a hierarchy of growth factors, from proximate to deeper, and how might they be related? What are the separate contributions of these factors? What are the mechanisms through which fundamental explanations eventually impact on growth? How do cultural beliefs about gender, religion, honor, and trust shape economic growth?*

### **1. Geography, Climate, and Ecological Impacts**

**Student Presentation (4/4):** Buggle, Johannes C., Ruben Durante. 2021. “Climate Risk, Cooperation and the Co-Evolution of Culture and Institutions,” *The Economic Journal*, 131 (637): 1947–1987.

Diamond, Jared, 1997. *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies*, pp. 53-92, W. W. Norton and Company.

Engerman, Stanley and Kenneth Sokoloff, 2002, "Factor Endowments, Institutions and Differential Paths of Development Among New World Economies" NBER WP 9259.

Melissa Dell, 2010. “The Persistent Effects of Peru’s Mining Mita,” *Econometrica*, 78(6): 1863-1903.

Dell Melissa, Ben Jones, and Ben Olken. 2014. “What Do We Learn from the Weather? The New Climate-Economy Literature,” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 52(3).

## **2. Institutions**

**Student Presentation (4/6):** Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson, and James A. Robinson, 2002. “Reversal of Fortune: Geography and Institutions in the Making of the Modern World Income Distribution,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 117: pp. 1231-1294.

North, Douglass C. 1990. *Institutions, Institutional Change and Economic Performance*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson, and James A. Robinson. 2001. "The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation." *American Economic Review*, 91 (5): 1369-1401.

Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson, and James Robinson, 2005. “The Rise of Europe: Atlantic Trade, Institutional Change, and Economic Growth,” *American Economic Review*, 95(3).

Greif, Avner, 2006. *Institutions and the Path to the Modern Economy: Lessons from Medieval Trade*, Cambridge University Press, Chapter. 2, pp. 29-55.

Albouy, David. 2011. "The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation: Comment." *American Economic Review*, 102(6), 3059-76.

Acemoglu, Daron, Davide Cantoni, Simon Johnson, and James A. Robinson, 2011. “The Consequences of Radical Reform: The French Revolution.” *American Economic Review* 101 (December): 3286-3307.

Li, Ben, Wolfgang Keller and Carol H. Shiue, 2011, “China’s Foreign Trade, Perspectives from the Last 150 Years” *The World Economy* 34(6), pp. 853-892.

Li, Ben, Wolfgang Keller and Carol H. Shiue, 2013, ”Shanghai’s Trade, China’s Growth: Continuity, Recovery, and Change since the Opium War,” *IMF Economic Review*, 61(2): 336-378.

Keller, Wolfgang and Carol H. Shiue. 2022. “The Economic Consequences of the Opium War” NBER WP 29404. DOI 10.3386/w29404

## **3. Corruption, Mistrust**

**Student presentation (4/11):** Nunn, Nathan and Leonard Wantchekon, 2011. “The Slave Trade and the Origins of Mistrust in Africa,” *American Economic Review* 107(7): 3221-52.

Nathan Nunn, 2008. “The Long-Term Effects of Africa’s Slave Trades”, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*.

Eltis, David, and Stanley L. Engerman. 2000. “The Importance of Slavery and the Slave Trade to Industrializing Britain.” *The Journal of Economic History* 60, no. 1: 123–44.

#### **4. Culture, Beliefs, Norms**

**Student Presentation (4/13)**: Fernandez Raquel and Alessandra Fogli, 2009. “Culture: An empirical investigation of beliefs, work, and fertility,” *American Economic Journal: Macro* 1(1): 146-177.

**Student presentation (4/18)**: Yuyu Chen, David Yang, 2019. “The Impact of Media Censorship: 1984 of Brave New World?” *American Economic Review*.

Fisman, Ray and Edward Miguel, 2007. Corruption, norms, and legal enforcement: Evidence from diplomatic parking tickets,” *Journal of Political Economy* 115(6): 1020-1048.

Alesina, Alberto, Paola Guiliano, and Nathan Nunn, 2013. “On the Origins of Gender Roles: Women and the Plough,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 128(2): 469-530.

Yuriy Gorodnichenko, Gerard Roland; Culture, Institutions, and the Wealth of Nations. 2017. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 99 (3): 402–416.

Nathan Nunn, James A Robinson, and Jonathan L Weigel. 2017. “The Evolution of Culture and Institutions: Evidence from the Kuba Kingdom,” *Econometrica*, 85 (4), 1065–1091.

#### **5. Political Economy, Conflict, Power**

**Student presentation (4/20)**: Ying Bai, Ruixue Jia, Jiaojiao Yang. 2022. “Web of Power: How Elite Networks Shaped War and Politics in China,” *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2022

Iyigun Murat, Nathan Nunn and Nancy Qian. 2017. “The Long-Run Effects of Agricultural Productivity on Conflict, 1400-1900,” <http://www.nber.org/papers/w24066>

Guiliano, Paola and Marco Tabellini. 2022. “The Seeds of Ideology: Historical Immigration and Political Preference in the United States,” NBER WP 27238.