

Economics 4514 : Economic History of Europe

Fall 2020 • REC B210 • Tuesday · Thursday · 11:10-12:25pm

Instructor: Taylor Jaworski • Email: taylor.jaworski@colorado.edu

Office: Economics 14C • Office Hours: Friday, 9:00-10:30am (via Zoom)

Description

The European continent was the first place to experience modern economic growth. The resulting transformation—covering the period from 1000 to the present—began one of the most important and ongoing processes in world history, and one with far-reaching impacts for economic development and political union. The first part of this course focuses on the preconditions for growth—including the institutional and technological determinants of Europe’s divergence from the rest of the world. The second part examines Europe’s role in the integration of the global economy starting with the Industrial Revolution and ending with the First World War I. The final part considers the forces behind the economic and political catastrophes of the 1930s and 1940s, political and economic integration during the postwar period, and more recent changes in the European Union.

Grading

Participation (15%): Students are required to attend class and actively participate in discussion of the course material. If you cannot attend class, you can contribute to discussion of course material via the discussion board on [Canvas](#). To fulfill this requirement you must post a response (500 word minimum) to the reading for that week by Friday at 5pm.

Midterm Exams (25% × 2): There will be two take-home midterm exams due on **10/8** and **11/24**. The first midterm exam will cover material from week 1 to week 6 and the second midterm will cover material from week 8 to week 13 on the **Course Outline** below.

Final Exam (35%): There will be a take-home final exam due in the final exam period. Students will be required to analyze data and answer questions based on reading and lecture material from the entire course.

Data Assignments: There will be three ungraded data assignments requiring the use of R. Complete answers will be provided for each assignment and assignments provide practice for the final take-home exam.

Course Materials

The required readings are marked with a “★” and optional readings are marked with a “†” on the **Course Outline** below. All reading and additional course materials—including lectures slides and assignments—will be made available on [Canvas](#).

Course Policies

Requirements for COVID-19: As a matter of public health and safety due to the pandemic, all members of the CU Boulder community and all visitors to campus must follow university, department and building requirements, and public health orders in place to reduce the risk of spreading infectious disease. Required safety measures at CU Boulder relevant to the classroom setting include:

- maintain 6-foot distancing when possible,
- wear a face covering in public indoor spaces and outdoors while on campus consistent with state and county health orders,
- clean local work area,
- practice hand hygiene,
- follow public health orders, and
- if sick and you live off campus, do not come onto campus (unless instructed by a CU Healthcare professional), or if you live on-campus, please alert [CU Boulder Medical Services](#).

Students who fail to adhere to these requirements will be asked to leave class, and students who do not leave class when asked or who refuse to comply with these requirements will be referred to [Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution](#). For more information, see the policies on [COVID-19 Health and Safety](#) and [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#). If you require accommodation because a disability prevents you from fulfilling these safety measures, please see the “Accommodation for Disabilities” statement on this syllabus.

Before returning to campus, all students must complete the [COVID-19 Student Health and Expectations Course](#). Before coming on to campus each day, all students are required to complete a [Daily Health Form](#).

Students who have tested positive for COVID-19, have symptoms of COVID-19, or have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for or had symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home and complete the [Health Questionnaire and Illness Reporting Form](#) remotely.

Accommodation for Disabilities: If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](#). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) under the Students tab on the Disability Services website.

Religious Holidays: Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, please review the course schedule at the beginning of the semester and see me regarding any anticipated conflicts due to religious observances. See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.

Classroom Behavior: Both students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote or online. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation: The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering a positive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (including sexual assault, exploitation, harassment, dating or domestic violence, and stalking), discrimination, and harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or cureport@colorado.edu. Information about the OIEC, university policies, [anonymous reporting](#), and the campus resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Honor Code: All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code (honor@colorado.edu; 303-492-5550). Students who are found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](#).

Course Outline

1. Introduction to the Course

*Eichengreen, “Mainsprings of Growth”

†Mokyr, “Long-Term Economic Growth and the History of Technology”

†Clark, “The Logic of the Malthusian Economy”

Introduction to R ([download](#)) and [Our World in Data](#)

2. Two Crises Before Modern Economic Growth

*Temin, “The Economy of the Early Roman Empire”

†Cantoni & Yuchtman, “Medieval Universities, Legal Institutions, and the CR”

3. The Reformation and the Printing Press

*Becker, Pfaff, & Rubin, “Causes and Consequences of the Protestant Reformation”

†Dittmar & Seabold, “New Media and Competition”

†Becker & Ludger Woessmann, “Was Weber Wrong?”

4. The Great Divergence

*Brandt, Ma, & Rawski, “From Divergence to Convergence”

†Blades & Chaney, “Political Economy Legacy of Institutions”

†Clark, “Why England? Why Not China, India, or Japan?”

5. The Discovery of the New World

*O’Rourke & Williamson, “After Columbus”

†Nunn & Qian, “The Columbian Exchange”

6. Foundations of Economic Growth

*North & Weingast, “Constitutions and Commitment”

†Clark, “Fertility”

7. Midterm

Take-home midterm exam due on **10/8 at 6pm**

8. The Industrial Revolution

*Steinsson, “How Did Growth Begin?”

†Hanlon, “The Rise of the Engineer”

9. The Standard of Living in the Nineteenth Century

*Hanlon, “Coal Smoke, City Growth, and the Costs of the Industrial Revolution”

†Feinstein, “Pessimism Perpetuated”

10. The First Globalization

*Estevadeordal, Frantz, & Taylor, “The Rise and Fall of World Trade”

†Williamson, “Globalization, Labor Markets and Policy Backlash in the Past”

11. World War and Great Depression

*Iaria, Schwarz, & Waldinger, “Frontier Knowledge and Scientific Production”

†Eichengreen & Irwin, “The Slide to Protectionism in the Great Depression”

12. Postwar Europe

*Eichengreen, “Postwar Situation”

*Eichengreen, “Dawn of the Golden Age”

†Eichengreen, “Eastern Europe and the Planned Economy”

13. European Union

*Eichengreen, “The Integration of Western Europe”

*Eichengreen, “The Apex of the Golden Age”

†Eichengreen, “Mounting Payments Problems”

14. Midterm

Take-home midterm exam due on **11/24 at 6pm**

15. The Future of Europe (12/1, 12/3)

*Eichengreen, “Europe at the Turn of the 21st Century”

*Eichengreen, “The Future of the European Model”

†Keynes, “Economic Possibilities for Our Grandchildren”