
History of Economic Growth—World Economics 8554

Fall 2024 Tue & Thurs 12:30 - 1:45 p.m.

Professor Carol H. Shiue, email shiue@colorado.edu
Office Hours: Tue & Thurs 1:50–2:50 p.m. and by appt.

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 historical experiences of specific countries or economies over time. The period covers the Middle Ages to the 20th century. 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. Knowledge of standard analytical tools and empirical techniques of first-year 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 papers on a specific research question, 5% of grade. Give a one-paragraph summary of each paper; 6-10 papers. Please send me your review by October 17.

A midterm 5-page (double-spaced) draft of your preliminary paper proposal and presentation, 15% of grade. The proposal should motivate an open question in economic history. Rewrite your literature review so that it shows how your proposed question informs and contributes to existing related research on the topic. The draft should be a minimum of 5 double-spaced pages. Please send me your draft 2 days before your presentation (mid-late Oct).

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. Include in your proposal data sources and how these data can be used to address your key questions; if the data needs to be collected, describe a feasible plan to collect that data; be as specific as you can about your eventual empirical strategy and approach. Final presentations will take place during the last weeks of the semester (early to mid Dec.). 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 December 16.

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.

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.

Bisin, Alberto and Giovanni Federico. 2021. *The Handbook of Historical Economics*.

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

What are some of the reasons why the magnitude of differences in living standards around the world today are so large? 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?

***Read for (9/3)**

*Abad, L.A. and Gary, K., 2024. A Window to the Past: Living Standards in Historical Perspective. In *Handbook of Cliometrics* (pp. 925-949). Cham: Springer International Publishing. Access CU library.

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, Richard H. 2009. "Heights and human welfare: Recent developments and new directions," *Explorations in Economic History* 46, 1.

*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.

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.

Jones, Charles I., and Peter J. Klenow. 2016. "Beyond GDP? Welfare across Countries and Time." *American Economic Review*, 106 (9): 2426-57.

*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).

*Broadberry, Stephen, Hanhui Guan, and David Daokui Li. 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 British Industrial Revolution

Student presentation (9/6): Cummins, Neil. 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.

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."

Allen, Robert C. 2015. "The high wage economy and the industrial revolution: a restatement," *Economic History Review* 68, 1: 1–22.

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

Voth, Hans-Joachim, Bruno Caprettini, Alex Trew. 2022. "Fighting for Growth: Labor Scarcity and Technological Progress During the British Industrial Revolution" Working Paper.

Heblich, Stephan and Redding, Stephen J. and Voth, Hans-Joachim. 2022. "Slavery and the British Industrial Revolution." NBER Working Paper No. w30451

Kelly, M., Mokyr, J., & Ó Gráda, C. 2023. "The Mechanics of the Industrial Revolution." *Journal of Political Economy*. <https://doi.org/10.1086/720890fig>

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? 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 Presentation (9/10): 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.

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

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.

Morgan Kelly and Cormac Ó Gráda, 2012. "The Preventative Check in Medieval and Preindustrial England," *Journal of Economic History* 72(4), December.

Eric Chaney, Richard Hornbeck. 2016. "Economic Dynamics in the Malthusian Era: Evidence from the 1609 Spanish Expulsion of the Moriscos," *The Economic Journal*, Volume 126, Issue 594, 1:1404–1440

Foreman-Peck, J. 2024. Economic-Demographic Interactions in European Long-Run Growth. In: Diebolt, C., Hauptert, M. (eds) *Handbook of Cliometrics*.

2. The European Marriage Pattern

Student Presentation (9/12): 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 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 Presentation (9/17): Arkadev Ghosh, Sam Il Myoung Hwang, Munir Squires, Economic Consequences of Kinship: Evidence From U.S. Bans on Cousin Marriage, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 138, Issue 4, November 2023, Pages 2559–2606

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

Alesina Alberto, Giuliano Paola, “Family Ties,” in *Handbook of Economic Growth*, vol. 2A, Philippe Aghion and Steven N. Durlauf, eds. (Amsterdam: Elsevier, 2014), 177–215.

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.

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

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 Presentation (9/19): 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, 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.

Beach, Brian, Karen Clay, and Martin Saavedra. 2022. "The 1918 Influenza Pandemic and Its Lessons for COVID-19." *Journal of Economic Literature*, 60 (1): 41–84.

Velde, F.R., 2022. What happened to the US economy during the 1918 influenza pandemic? A view through high-frequency data. *The Journal of Economic History*, 82(1), pp.284–326.

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 18th century or before? What is the relationship between demographic transition and industrialization?

Student Presentation (9/24): 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, A 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. Channels of Persistence

Student Presentation (9/26): Dell, Melissa. 2010. “The Persistent Effects of Peru's Mining Mita,” *Econometrica* 78.6

Valencia Caicedo, Felipe. 2018. “The Mission: Human Capital Transmission, Economic Persistence, and Culture in South America”, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 134, 1(10): 507–556

Ting Chen, James Kai-sing Kung, Chicheng Ma, 2020. “Long Live Keju! The Persistent Effects of China’s Civil Examination System,” *The Economic Journal*, 130 (631): 2030–2064.

VI. 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 19th 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 (10/1): 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.

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.

Baten, Joerg and Jan Luiten van Zanden. 2008. "Book production and the onset of modern economic growth," *Journal of Economic Growth*, 13: 217-235.

Davide Cantoni and Noam Yuchtman, 2014, "Medieval Universities, Legal Institutions, and the Commercial Revolution" *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 129(2).

David de la Croix, Frédéric Docquier, Alice Fabre, Robert Stelter, 2024. "The Academic Market and The Rise of Universities in Medieval and Early Modern Europe (1000–1800)," *Journal of the European Economic Association*, Volume 22, Issue 4, 1541–1589.

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

a. Political Institutions 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 (10/3): 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.

b. Law and Legal Origin

Student's Presentation (10/8): 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. Klerman, Paul G. Mahoney, Holger Spamann, Mark I. Weinstein. 2011. "Legal Origin or Colonial History?" *Journal of Legal Analysis*, Volume 3, Issue 2: 379–409.

Levine, Ross, Chen Lin, Chicheng MA, and Yuchen Xu. 2023. The Legal Origins of Financial Development: Evidence from the Shanghai Concessions. *The Journal of Finance*, 78(6), 3423-3464.

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 (10/10): Chenzi Xu, Reshaping Global Trade: The Immediate and Long-Run Effects of Bank Failures, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 137, Issue 4, November 2022, Pages 2107–2161, <https://doi.org/10.1093/qje/qjac016>

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*.

Juhasz, Reka. 2018. "Temporary Protection and Technology Adoption: Evidence from the Napoleonic Blockade," *American Economic Review* 108(11).

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 C. 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? What types of situations and data sets allow the testing of assumptions about conditions that may lead to more knowledge production?

Student presentation (10/15): Kelly, M., & Gráda, C. Ó. (2016). Adam Smith, Watch Prices, and the Industrial Revolution," *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 131(4), 1727–1752.
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/26372677>

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.

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*.

Ma Chicheng, 2021. Knowledge Diffusion and Intellectual Change: When Chinese Literati Met European Jesuits. *The Journal of Economic History*, 81(4):1052-1097. doi:10.1017/S0022050721000413

Kelly M, Ó Gráda C. 2022. Connecting the Scientific and Industrial Revolutions: The Role of Practical Mathematics. *The Journal of Economic History*, 82(3):841-873. doi:10.1017/S0022050722000250

5. Investments in Human Capital and Physical Capital

Student Presentation: Becker, Sascha O., Irena Grosfeld, Pauline Grosjean, Nico Voigtländer, and Ekaterina Zhuravskaya. 2020. "Forced Migration and Human Capital: Evidence from Post-WWII Population Transfers." *American Economic Review*, 110 (5): 1430–63.

Student's presentation: 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, D., 1976. "English Open Fields as Behavior Toward Risk," *Research in Economic History*, 1, pp. 124-170.

McCloskey D., 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.

VII. Comparative Approaches:

1. China and Europe

Why did growth begin in the 18th – 19th 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: Jesús Fernández-Villaverde, Mark Koyama, Youhong Lin, Tuan-Hwee Sng, The Fractured-Land Hypothesis, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 138, Issue 2, May 2023, Pages 1173–1231.

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.

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

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*.

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 18th and 19th Centuries: Evidence from Grain Prices," *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 13(3): 31-64.

2. State Capacity: States and economic growth

Student Presentation: Allen, Robert C., Mattia C. Bertazzini, and Leander Heldring. 2023. "The Economic Origins of Government." *American Economic Review*, 113 (10): 2507–45.

Student Presentation: Cantoni, Davide, Cathrin Mohr, Matthias Weigand, 2024. "The Rise of Fiscal Capacity: Administration and State Consolidation in the Holy Roman Empire"

Daron Acemoglu, James A. Robinson, Why Did the West Extend the Franchise? Democracy, Inequality, and Growth in Historical Perspective, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 115, Issue 4, November 2000, Pages 1167–1199

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.

3. Intergenerational mobility and inequality

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?

Student Presentation: Abramitzky, Ran, Leah Boustan, Elisa Jacome, and Santiago Perez. 2021. "Intergenerational Mobility of Immigrants in the United States over Two Centuries." *American Economic Review*, 111 (2): 580–608.

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

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.

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).

Chu, C. Y. Cyrus, Kamhon Kan, and Jou Chun Lin, 2019. “[Variations of wealth resemblance by family relationship types in modern Chinese families](#),” *PNAS*, 116 (14) 6548-6553

Ward, Zachary. 2023. "Intergenerational Mobility in American History: Accounting for Race and Measurement Error." *American Economic Review*, 113 (12): 3213–48.

Shiue, C. 2024. “Social Mobility in the Long Run: A Temporal Analysis of China from 1300 to 1900,” *Journal of Economic History*, forthcoming.

VIII. 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? When does culture stay the same and when (and how) does it change?

1. Geography, Climate, and Ecological Impacts

Student Presentation: 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.

Hoyt Bleakley, Jeffrey Lin, 2012. "Portage and Path Dependence," *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 127, Issue 2, Pages 587–644.

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: an examination of colonial origins

Student Presentation: 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.

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

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

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: Lowes, Sara, and Eduardo Montero. 2021. "The Legacy of Colonial Medicine in Central Africa." *American Economic Review*, 111 (4): 1284–1314.

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

Student presentation: Alberto F. Alesina & Marlon Seror & David Y. Yang & Yang You & Weihong Zeng, 2022. "Persistence Despite Revolutions," *NBER Working Papers* 27053, National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc.

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

Fernandez Raquel and Alessandra Fogli, 2009. "Culture: An empirical investigation of beliefs, work, and fertility," *American Economic Journal: Macro* 1(1): 146-177.

Alesina, Alberto, Paola Giuliano, 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.

Paola Giuliano, Nathan Nunn. 2021. Understanding Cultural Persistence and Change, *The Review of Economic Studies*, Volume 88, Issue 4, July, Pages 1541–1581.

5. Changing Norms: Social Movements and Mass Persuasion

Student presentation: Wang, Tianyi. 2021. "Media, Pulpit, and Populist Persuasion: Evidence from Father Coughlin." *American Economic Review*, 111 (9): 3064-92.

Olken, Benjamin, 2009. "Do TV and Radio Destroy Social Capital? Evidence from Indonesian Villages," *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 1, 1–33

Maja Adena, Ruben Enikolopov, Maria Petrova, Veronica Santarosa, Ekaterina Zhuravskaya, Radio and the Rise of The Nazis in Prewar Germany, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 130, Issue 4, November 2015, Pages 1885–1939

Dippel, Christian, and Stephan Heblich. 2021. "Leadership in Social Movements: Evidence from the "Forty-Eighters" in the Civil War." *American Economic Review*, 111 (2): 472-505.

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

Armand, A, P Atwell, J Gomes, G Musillo and Y Schenk. 2023. "Broadcasting Equality: Media Narratives and the Rise of Civil Rights," CEPR Discussion Paper No. 18207.
<https://cepr.org/publications/dp18207>

Davide Cantoni & Andrew Kao & David Y. Yang & Noam Yuchtman, 2024. "[Protests](#)," Annual Review of Economics, forthcoming.

6. Institutional Persistence and Institutional Change

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

Acemoglu, D., & Robinson, J. A. 2008. Persistence of Power, Elites, and Institutions. *The American Economic Review*, 98(1), 267–293. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/29729971>

Daron Acemoglu, Georgy Egorov, Konstantin Sonin, Social Mobility and Stability of Democracy: Reevaluating De Tocqueville, 2018. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 133, Issue 2, May 2018, Pages 1041–1105.

IX. Using Digitized Data for Historical Investigation

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.

Beach, Brian, W. Walker Hanlon, 2023. "[Historical newspaper data: A researcher's guide](#)," *Explorations in Economic History*.

Ferrara A, Ha JY, Walsh R. 2024. "Using Digitized Newspapers to Address Measurement Error in Historical Data," *The Journal of Economic History*. 84(1):271-306. doi:10.1017/S0022050723000530

Keller, W., S. Yan, and C.H. Shiue, 2024. "Mining Chinese Historical Sources at Scale: A Machine Learning Approach to State Capacity," Working Paper.