

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Department of History/Department of Economics

HISTORY HIUS 140/ECONOMICS 158A

Fall 2002

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Teaching Assistants

Mr. James Brennan
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ECONOMIC HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES I

Course Description:

The United States as a raw materials producer, as an agrarian society, and as an industrial nation. Emphasis on the logic of the growth process, the social and political tensions accompanying expansion, and nineteenth and early twentieth century transformations of American capitalism. There is no presumption that students have had previous training in either economics or statistics, although elements of both disciplines will be used in class and in some of the readings.

Course Readings:

The following books have been ordered at the University Bookstore in the Price Center:

Jeremy Atack, Peter Passell; A New Economic View of American History. (Second Edition)
Douglass C. North, The Economic Growth of the United States, 1790-1860.
Gary M. Walton, Hugh Rockoff; History of the American Economy. (Ninth Edition)

These works have also been placed on reserve at the Geisel Library (main circulation desk). With the exception of those books ordered at the University Bookstore, xeroxes of starred readings are available for purchase at Soft Reserves in the Student Center (Revelle College campus). Copies of the Soft Reserves booklets are also available on reserve at the Library.

Course Requirements:

There will be two lectures per week. Those readings starred (*) on the reading list are especially important. Optional readings are left to the student's discretion. A midterm and a final examination will be given during the specified examination periods. There will also be an additional writing assignment

that the student may waive by attending optional discussion sessions throughout the quarter. The exact weighting of the examinations and of the writing assignment (or discussion section participation) for grading purposes will be announced in class. Students must complete all the assignments for the quarter in order to receive credit for the course.

Policy on Grade Appeals and Make-Up Examinations:

Students who wish to appeal the grading of examinations and/or writing assignments may do so in writing within two weeks of the return of an examination or assignment. Those students seeking a reconsideration of a grade should submit a memorandum to the instructor outlining the specific reasons why the appeal is being made. Make-up examinations will not be offered except under extraordinary circumstances involving medical difficulties or family emergencies. Such circumstances will need to be documented appropriately by a physician.

Course Themes and Lecture Topics

- I. Introduction and Analytical Overview
- 1) Economic History and Historical Economics
 - 2) Economic Development in Long-Run Perspective
- II. Colonial Economy
- 3) British Mercantilism and Colonial Settlement
 - 4) The Export Economy of the Seaboard: New England
 - 5) The Export Economy of the Seaboard: Middle Atlantic and Southern Colonies
 - 6) Colonial Class Structure and Economic Function: The Revolution
- III. Regional Economy
- 7) The Constitution, Private Property, and the State
 - 8) Federal and State Mercantilism
 - 9) Trade and Regional Growth
 - 10) Sectoral Shift and Economic Development
 - 11) The Regional Economies: The Northeast
 - 12) The Regional Economies: The South
 - 13) The Regional Economies: The West
 - 14) Economic Aspects of Sectionalism and Civil War

IV. National Economy

- 15) Reconstruction and Economic Integration
- 16) The Growth of Modern Industry: Technology, Organization, and Regulation
- 17) The Growth of Modern Industry: Labor and Organized Labor Movements
- 18) The Politics of Accumulation: Republicanism
- 19) The Politics of Accumulation: Democracy and Dissent
- 20) Economic Development, Politics, and Ideology at the Turn of the Century

Reading List

The following abbreviations are used in the reading list:

WR: Walton and Rockoff text
 AP: Attack and Passell text
 N: North text

- 1) Economic History and Historical Economics
 - *WR: Chapter 1.
- 2) Economic Development in Long-Run Perspective
 - *Maurice Dobb, Studies in the Development of Capitalism, ch. 1.
 - *AP: Introduction and Chapter 1.
 - D.P. Levine, "The Theory of the Growth of the Capitalist Economy," Economic Development and Cultural Change, 1975.
 - Alexander Gerschenkron, Economic Backwardness in Historical Perspective, chs. 1-2.
- 3) British Mercantilism and Colonial Settlement
 - *WR: Chapters 2-3.
 - *AP: Chapter 2.
 - C. Nettles, "British Mercantilism and the Development of the Thirteen Colonies," Journal of Economic History, 1952.
 - R.P. Thomas, "A Quantitative Approach to the Study of the Effects of British Imperial Policy on Colonial Welfare," Journal of Economic History, 1965.

4) The Export Economy of the Seaboard: New England

*WR: Chapter 4.

K. Lockridge, "Land, Population, and the Evolution of New England Society," Past and Present, 1968.

J. Henretta, "Economic Development and Social Structure in Colonial Boston," William and Mary Quarterly, 1965.

5) The Export Economy of the Seaboard: Middle Atlantic and Southern Colonies

*WR: Chapter 5.

J. Price, "Economic Growth of the Chesapeake and the European Market," Journal of Economic History, 1964.

G. Walton, "Evidence on Colonial Commerce," Journal of Economic History, 1968.

6) Colonial Class Structure and Economic Function: The Revolution

*WR: Chapter 6.

*AP: Chapter 3.

M. Egnal, J. Ernst; "An Economic Interpretation of the American Revolution," William and Mary Quarterly, 1972.

L. Harper, "Mercantilism and the American Revolution," Canadian Historical Review, 1942.

7) The Constitution, Private Property, and the State

*WR: Chapter 7.

*Morton Horwitz, The Transformation of American Law, ch. 2.

*Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, James Madison; The Federalist, number 10.

Charles Beard, An Economic Interpretation of the Constitution, ch. VI.

8) Federal and State Mercantilism

*WR: Chapter 8.

*AP: Chapter 6.

*George Taylor, The Transportation Revolution, chs. II-III.

John Miller, The Federalist Era, chs. 3-6.

Alexander Hamilton, letters to James Duane and Robert Morris, in The Papers of Alexander Hamilton, vol. II; 400-18, 604-35.

9) Trade and Regional Growth

*WR: Chapter 9.

*N: Chapter IX.

L. Schmidt, "Internal Commerce and the Development of National Economy before 1860," Journal of Political Economy, 1939.R. Ransom, "Interregional Canals and Economic Specialization in the Antebellum United States," Explorations in Economic History, 1967.

10) Sectoral Shift and Economic Development

*P.W. Bidwell, "The Agricultural Revolution in New England," American Historical Review, 1921.*C. Clark, "Household Economy, Market Exchange and the Rise of Capitalism in the Connecticut Valley, 1800-1860," Journal of Social History, 1979.

*AP: Chapter 7.

J. Henretta, "Farms and Families: Mentalite' in Pre-Industrial America," William and Mary Quarterly, 1978.W.B. Rothenberg, "The Market and Massachusetts Farmers, 1750-1855," Journal of Economic History, 1981.

11) The Regional Economies: The Northeast

*WR: Chapter 10-12.

*N: Chapters XII.

George Taylor, The Transportation Revolution, chs. X-XI, XIII.H.J. Habakkuk, "The Economic Effects of Labour Scarcity," in (S.B. Saul, ed.), Technological Change: The United States and Britain in the Nineteenth Century.

12) The Regional Economies: The South

*WR: Chapter 13.

*N: Chapter X.

*Eugene Genovese, The Political Economy of Slavery, parts 1 and 4.*R. Fogel, S. Engerman; "The Economics of Slavery," in (R. Fogel, S. Engerman; eds.), The Reinterpretation of American Economic History.

AP: Chapters 11-12.

R. Russel, "General Effects of Slavery upon Southern Economic Progress," Journal of Southern History, 1938.

MIDTERM EXAMINATION: Thursday; November 7, 2002

13) The Regional Economies: The West

*N: Chapters XI, XIII-XV.

*AP: Chapter 7.

Lance Davis, et al., American Economic Growth, ch. 11.

W. Parker, "From Northwest to Midwest," in (D. Klingaman, R. Vedder; eds.), Essays in 19th Century Economic History.

F. Turner, "The Significance of the Frontier in American History," in (R. Billington, ed.), Frontier and Section.

14) Economic Aspects of Sectionalism and Civil War

*WR: Chapter 14.

*AP: Chapter 13.

*Barrington Moore, Jr.; Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy, ch. III.

Charles Beard, Mary Beard; The Rise of American Civilization, chs. XVII-XVIII.

T. Cochran, "Did the Civil War Retard Industrialization?," Mississippi Valley Historical Review, 1961.

S. Salsbury, "The Effect of the Civil War on American Industrial Development," in (R. Andreano, ed.), The Economic Impact of the American Civil War.

15) Reconstruction and Economic Integration

*WR: Chapter 15.

*AP: Chapter 14.

*Gavin Wright, Old South New South, ch. 1.

W. Parker, "The South in the National Economy, 1865-1970," Southern Economic Journal, 1980.

D. Dowd, "A Comparative Analysis of Economic Development in the American West and South," Journal of Economic History, 1956.

16) The Growth of Modern Industry: Technology, Organization, and Regulation

*WR: Chapters 16-17.

*AP: Chapters 16-17.

Lance Davis, et al., American Economic Growth, chs. 7, 17.

Gabriel Kolko, The Triumph of Conservatism, introduction and chapters 1-2, 10, and conclusion.

Alfred D. Chandler, Jr.; The Visible Hand, part IV.

17) The Growth of Modern Industry: Labor and Organized Labor Movements

*WR: Chapter 18.

*David Brody, Steelworkers in America, chs. 1-7.

*AP: Chapter 19.

David Montgomery, Workers' Control in America, ch. 1.

Norman Ware, The Labor Movement in the United States: 1865-1890, ch. XII.

John R. Commons, A History of Labor in the United States, vol. I: 3-21, 335-56, 575-623; and vol. II: 156-91, 356-94, 521-37.

Herbert Gutman, "Work, Culture and Society in Industrializing America, 1815-1919," in his Work, Culture and Society in Industrializing America.

18) The Politics of Accumulation: Republicanism

*AP: Chapter 18.

George Mowry, The Era of Theodore Roosevelt, chs. 5-7.

Eric Foner, Free Soil, Free Labor, Free Men; ch. 1.

Andrew Carnegie, "The Gospel of Wealth," and "The Advantages of Poverty," in his The Gospel of Wealth and Other Essays.

19) The Politics of Accumulation: Democracy and Dissent

*WR: Chapter 19.

*Richard Hofstadter, The Age of Reform, ch. I.

Douglass North, Growth and Welfare in the American Past, ch. 11.

John Hicks, The Populist Revolt, chs. II-III, IX.

20) Economic Development, Politics, and Ideology at the Turn of the Century

*WR: Chapter 20.

*Robert Wiebe, The Search for Order: 1870-1920, ch. 2.

Alan Trachtenberg, The Incorporation of America, chs. 1-3.

William Williams, The Contours of American History, 343-412.

FINAL EXAMINATION: Tuesday; December 10, 2002; 11:30am-2:30pm
119 Center Hall