

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Department of History/Department of Economics

HISTORY HIUS 141/ECONOMICS 158B

Spring 2003

Professor Michael A. Bernstein
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Teaching Assistants

Mr. Volker Janssen (History)
Mr. Jun Ye (Economics)

ECONOMIC HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES II

Course Description:

The second part of a two-quarter course sequence. The United States as a modern industrial nation. Emphasis on the logic of the growth process, the social and political tensions accompanying expansion, and 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:

- Michael A. Bernstein, David Adler (eds.); Understanding American Economic Decline
- Gary M. Walton, Hugh Rockoff; History of the American Economy (9th edition).

These works have also been placed on reserve in the Social Sciences and Humanities Library Reserve Unit. Other starred readings are on reserve at that library. With the exception of those books ordered at the Bookstore, xeroxes of starred readings are available for purchase at Soft Reserves in the Student Center (Revelle College campus).

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 --

- 19) Contemporary Political Economy I: Supply-Side Economics, the "Reagan Revolution," and the End of the "American Century"
- 20) Contemporary Political Economy II: "Sophisters, Economists, and Calculators"

Reading List

- 1) Growth and Accumulation: Theory
No reading assignment.
- 2) Growth and Accumulation: Evidence, Institutions, and Ideology
*Joseph A. Schumpeter, Capitalism, Socialism and Democracy, 61-120.
Robert A. Gordon, Economic Instability and Growth, preface, ch.1.
S. Kuznets, "Notes on the Pattern of U.S. Economic Growth," in (R. Fogel, S. Engerman; eds.), The Reinterpretation of American Economic History, 17-24.
William G. Sumner, Social Darwinism, ch. IX.
- 3) Labor Force Migration and Economic Growth
*Walton and Rockoff, ch. 18.
H. Gutman, "Work, Culture and Society in Industrializing America, 1815-1919," American Historical Review, 1973.
F. Thistlethwaite, "Migration from Europe Overseas," in (S. Katz, S. Kutler; eds.), New Perspectives on the American Past.
R.A. Easterlin, "Influences in European Overseas Emigration Before World War I," in The Reinterpretation of American Economic History, 384-95.
- 4) Capital Expansion and External Markets
*Walton and Rockoff, chs. 19-20.
William A. Williams, The Contours of American History, 343-71.
R. Sylla, "Federal Policy, Banking Market Structure, and

- 10) Statist Economic Intervention: The New Deal
- *Walton and Rockoff, ch. 24.
 - Frances Piven, Richard Cloward; Regulating the Poor, chs. 2-3.
 - Broadus Mitchell, Depression Decade, chs. VI-IX.
 - Herbert Stein, The Fiscal Revolution in America, chs. 3-7.
 - E.C. Brown, "Fiscal Policy in the Thirties," American Economic Review, 1956.

[MIDTERM EXAMINATION: IN CLASS, WEEK 6]

- 11) War and Economic Dominion II
- *Walton and Rockoff, ch. 25.
 - *Robert A. Gordon, Economic Instability and Growth, ch. 4.
 - Broadus Mitchell, Depression Decade, ch. XI.
 - Seymour Harris, The Economics of America at War, pp. 51-136.
- 12) International Reconstruction and Post-War Prosperity
- Robert A. Gordon, Economic Instability and Growth, ch. 5.
 - Herbert Stein, The Fiscal Revolution in America, chs. 8-9.
 - Alan Milward, The Reconstruction of Western Europe, chs. II-III.
 - W.W. Rostow, "The Dynamics of American Society," in (R. Freeman, ed.), Postwar Economic Trends in the United States.
- 13) The Corporate Commonwealth and Foreign Investment
- *Harry Magdoff, The Age of Imperialism, ch. 5.
 - Herbert Stein, The Fiscal Revolution in America, chs. 11-14.
 - S. Miller, et al., "Does the U.S. Economy Require Imperialism?," Social Policy, 1970.
 - R. Griffith, "Dwight D. Eisenhower and the Corporate Commonwealth," American Historical Review, 1982.
- 14) Military-Industrial Complexes
- *Seymour Melman, Pentagon Capitalism, chs. 1-2, 8.
 - Paul Baran, Paul Sweezy; Monopoly Capital, ch. 7.
 - Dwight D. Eisenhower, "Memorandum for Directors and Chiefs of War Department" (1946)
 - "Farewell to the Nation" (1961)

19) Contemporary Political Economy I: Supply-Side Economics, the "Reagan Revolution," and the End of the "American Century"

*Walton and Rockoff, ch. 31.

*Bernstein and Adler, chs. 1-2, 7-8.

Robert Reich, The Next American Frontier, chs. XI-XIII.

E. Rothschild, "Reagan and the Real America," New York Review of Books, (5 February, 1982).

Barry Bluestone, Bennett Harrison; The Deindustrialization of America, ch. 6.

Susan Tolchin, Martin Tolchin; Dismantling America, chs. 3, 7.

20) Contemporary Political Economy II: "Sophisters, Economists, and Calculators"

*Bernstein and Adler, chs. 10-11.

*John Maynard Keynes, The General Theory, ch. 24.

*Friedrich A. von Hayek, The Road to Serfdom, chs. III, VII.

Tibor Scitovsky, The Joyless Economy, chs. 6-7.

Marshall Sahlins, Stone Age Economics, ch. 1.

T. Veblen, "Why is Economics Not an Evolutionary Science?," Quarterly Journal of Economics, 1898.

**[FINAL EXAMINATION: TUESDAY, 10 JUNE 2003, 11:30AM-2:30PM]
(In Class)**

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[Spring Quarter 2003]

Instructor Office Hours and Contact Information

Instructor-in-Charge

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Teaching Assistants

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Discussion Sections

Monday	3:00-3:50pm	HSS 1305	Mr. Janssen
Tuesday	11:00-11:50am	HSS 2152	Mr. Janssen
Wednesday	9:00-9:50am	CSB 004	Mr. Ye
Thursday	9:00-9:50am	Solis 111	Mr. Ye