

Course Proposal: Economic History in the West 1500-1800: Hanlon

HIST 2064.03/ECON 2064.03 Economic History of the Early Modern West 1500-1800 Gregory Hanlon

**Course Description:**

**The course provides a detached overview – neither pro nor anti-capitalist - of Europe's growing economic power - agriculture, manufacturing, commerce, consumption and taxation - in the centuries between the first overseas exploration and the onset of the Industrial Revolution. Along with the lectures, students are introduced to a variety of period sources, transcribed and translated.**

**Note: This course cannot count as part of the Science course credit for BA students.**

**Place & Time:** Monday, Wednesday & Friday 8:30 – 9:30, Dunn Bldg. 135

**Evaluation**

Short paper 10%

Main Essay 30%

Final Exam 30%

Participation 30%

Textbook: Robert Duplessis, Transitions to capitalism in Early Modern Europe, Cambridge University Press, 1997

**Learning Outcomes:** Broad knowledge of economic systems in the pre-industrial past, introduction to primary sources in economic history (and their limitations), focused analytical writing in formal prose, basic skills in research from published literature, ability to assess and discuss studies in a tutorial setting.

Conversion of numerical grades to Final Letter Grades follows the Dalhousie Common Grade Scale

A+ (90-100) A (85-89) A- (80-84) B+ (77-79) B (73-76) B- (70-72) C+ (65-69) C (60-64) C- (55-59) D (50-54) F (<50)

**Course Lectures:**

**Sixteenth Century**

- 1) Medieval Economy to 1500
- 2) Rural Economy and Demography
- 3) Textile industries in the 16<sup>th</sup> century
- 4) The Italian economic world
- 5) The Iberian economic world
- 6) North European economies
- 7) Balkan Europe and Istanbul
- 8) Downturn: The conjuncture after 1590

**Seventeenth Century**

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- 9) Farm life in the 17<sup>th</sup> century
- 10) The Dutch Economic miracle
- 11) Mediterranean decline in the 17<sup>th</sup> century
- 12) Warfare and the economy in the 17<sup>th</sup> century
- 13) The Business of War
- 14) Mercantilism and international competition
- 15) Protoindustrial Revolution

### **Eighteenth Century**

- 16) Population growth in the 18<sup>th</sup> century
- 17) Transformation of the European diet
- 18) Toward Free trade
- 19) The Consumer revolution in the 18<sup>th</sup> century
- 20) Infrastructure Revolution
- 21) Europe's Asian Trade
- 22) Europe's American Trade
- 23) Banking and Finance
- 24) The Industrial Revolution

### **Short Paper articles**

- 1) Ostrout & Snyder, The 'capitation': taxing commoners and nobles, Journal of European Economic History, 31, 2002, 367-390
- 2) Bonar, Debt and Taxes: Village relations and economic obligations in 17<sup>th</sup>-century Auvergne, French Historical Studies, 35/4, 2012, 661-689

### **Weekly readings (in order)**

- 1) Limburger, Economies of Agglomeration and the Golden Age of Antwerp, Urban Achievement in early modern Europe: Golden Ages in Antwerp, Amsterdam and London, P. O'Brien ed., 39-62
- 2) Goldthwaite, The Florentine wool industry in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century: a case study, Journal of European Economic History, 32, 2003, 527-554.
- 3) Ogilvie & Kupker, Household debt in early modern Germany: Evidence from personal inventories, Journal of Economic History, 2012, 134-167
- 4) Gelderblom, de Jong, Jonker, The formative years of the modern corporation: the VOC 1602-1623, Journal of Economic History, 2013, 1050-1076
- 5) Stryker, "Sharp practice" among merchants in 17<sup>th</sup>-century Amsterdam 1620-1632, Journal of European Economic History, 43/3, 2014, 131-162
- 6) Rapp, The Unmaking of the Mediterranean Trade Hegemony, Journal of Economic History, 1975, pp. 499-525
- 7) Dodgson, Gregory King and the economic structure of early modern England (1688), Economic History Review, 66, 2013, 993-1016
- 8) Klein & Ogilvie, Occupational structure of Czech lands under the second serfdom, Economic History Review, 69, 2016, 493-521

## Course Proposal: Economic History in the West 1500-1800: Hanlon

9) Grafe & Irigoien, A Stakeholder empire: the political economy of Spanish Imperial rule in America, Economic History Review, 65/2, 2012, 609-651

10) Sewell, The Empire of Fashion and the rise of capitalism in eighteenth-century France, Past and Present, n.206, 2010, 81-120

11) Maw, Yorkshire and Lancashire ascendant: England's textile exports to New York and Philadelphia 1750-1805, Economic History Review, 63, 2010, 734-768

12) Baten, Climate, grain production and nutritional status in southern Germany in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Journal of European Economic History, 30, 2001, 9-47

**ACCOMMODATION POLICY FOR STUDENTS** Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic protected under Canadian Human Rights legislation. The full text of Dalhousie's Student Accommodation Policy can be accessed here:

[http://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/academic/student-accommodation-policy-wef-sep--1--2014.html](http://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/student-accommodation-policy-wef-sep--1--2014.html). Students who require accommodation for classroom participation or the writing of tests and exams should make their request to the Advising and Access Services Centre (AASC) prior to or at the outset of the regular academic year. More information and the Request for Accommodation form are available at [www.dal.ca/access](http://www.dal.ca/access).

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY** Academic integrity, with its embodied values, is seen as a foundation of Dalhousie University. It is the responsibility of all students to be familiar with behaviours and practices associated with academic integrity. Instructors are required to forward any suspected cases of plagiarism or other forms of academic cheating to the Academic Integrity Officer for their Faculty. The Academic Integrity website (<http://academicintegrity.dal.ca>) provides students and faculty with information on plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty, and has resources to help students succeed honestly. The full text of Dalhousie's Policy on Intellectual Honesty and Faculty Discipline Procedures is available here:

[http://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/academic-integrity/academic-policies.html](http://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity/academic-policies.html)

**STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT** Dalhousie University has a student code of conduct, and it is expected that students will adhere to the code during their participation in lectures and other activities associated with this course. In general:

"The University treats students as adults free to organize their own personal lives, behaviour and associations subject only to the law, and to University regulations that are necessary to protect

\* the integrity and proper functioning of the academic and non – academic programs and activities of the University or its faculties, schools or departments;

\* the peaceful and safe enjoyment of University facilities by other members of the University and the public;

\* the freedom of members of the University to participate reasonably in the programs of the University and in activities on the University's premises;

\* the property of the University or its members."

The full text of the code can be found here: [http://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html](http://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html)