

## The European Economy Since 1900 Syllabus

### Department of *Economics*

#### ECON 2239 Fall 2024-25

*Dalhousie University acknowledges that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People and pays respect to the Indigenous knowledges held by the Mi'kmaq People, and to the wisdom of their Elders past and present. The Mi'kmaq People signed Peace and Friendship Treaties with the Crown, and section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights. We are all Treaty people.*

*Dalhousie University also acknowledges the histories, contributions, and legacies of African Nova Scotians, who have been here for over 400 years.*

#### Course Instructor(s)

Name	Email	Office Hours
Jean-Philippe Bourgeois	jp.bourgeois@dal.ca	M - W 16:00 -16:30 Hrs. Economics Dep. Room A13 (by appointment)
TA -TBD		

#### Course Description

This course applies economic theories to interpret quantitative economic changes in major European countries during the turbulent 20th century. Issues addressed include sources of growth and unevenly improved welfare, war, inflation, depression; Nazi economy; Communism's nature, success, and ultimate failure; reparations and the transfer 'problem'; and the 'transition.' It concludes with the evolution of the European economy as countries have some together to form a new kind of political economy on the continent.

#### *Course Prerequisites*

Economics 1101.2 and Economics 1102.3

#### Student Resources

##### Additional readings

Berend, I.T.

An Economic History of Twentieth Century Europe

Clavin, P.	The Great Depression in Europe
Crouzet, F.	A History of the European Economy, 1000 – 2000
Kindleberger, C.	A Financial History of Western Europe
Nove, A.	An Economic History of the USSR: 1917 - 1991

(some may be difficult to find online – I would not spend money on them if you can't find it for free)

## Course Structure

### **Course Delivery**

Material will be uploaded to OneNote on a weekly basis. The material presented is to guide students in their readings. THIS CLASS IS READING intensive, which **YOU** will need to do. (expect to read about +400 pages this term).

### **Lectures**

M/W, 14h35 -15h55, McCain 2170

## Course Materials

### **Recommended books:**

1. Aldcroft, D.H., Morewood, Stephen, The European Economy Since 1914, 5<sup>th</sup> Ed., London and NYC, Rutledge, 2001.

[https://dal.novanet.ca/permalink/01NOVA\\_DAL/ev10a8/cdi\\_proquest\\_miscellaneous\\_2135662708](https://dal.novanet.ca/permalink/01NOVA_DAL/ev10a8/cdi_proquest_miscellaneous_2135662708)

2. Eichengreen, The European Economy Since 1945, Princeton, NJ, Princeton University Press, 2007

[https://dal.novanet.ca/permalink/01NOVA\\_DAL/ev10a8/cdi\\_proquest\\_miscellaneous\\_36561898](https://dal.novanet.ca/permalink/01NOVA_DAL/ev10a8/cdi_proquest_miscellaneous_36561898)

The latter is available for purchase at the bookstore.

(both are available for free from dal if you don't want to purchase them – the former one is more formal; the latter is easier to read)

### **OneNote**

The course notes to help guide you in your readings are provided in OneNote – simply follow the link on Brightspace.

## Assessment

Assessment	Weight (% of final grade)	Date
quizzes (5% each)	30%	See schedule below
Presentation/or poster	20%	See schedule below
Final	50%	TBD

### *By-weekly Quizzes*

- *Expect x6, 30 minutes quizzes, testing material in class and readings. Similar to the final questions.*

### *Presentation/poster*

- *Format depends on class size and students' preferences*
- *Rubric will be provided in due course*
- *The goal of the presentation/poster is for students to explore a non-discussed topic but still relevant to the class and gain experience sharing this knowledge.*

### *Final exam*

- Final exam will take place during the final examination schedule.
- The exam is in person.
- 2-hour exam
- The exam will be a mix of short answer questions based on class material and essay questions.
- Material covered will be readings and class notes. The more you participate in class the more you will be prepared.

### *Other course requirements*

- Class participation/attendance is a must.
- Reading is a must.

Conversion of numerical grades to final letter grades follows the

[Dalhousie Grade Scale](#)

A+ (90-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (65-69)	D (50-54)
A (85-89)	B (73-76)	C (60-64)	F (0-49)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (55-59)	

## Course Policies on Missed or Late Academic Requirements

### Course Policies related to Academic Integrity

**Quizzes:** no makeup will be provided; weight will be transferred to the final.

**Final:** no makeup will be provided.

**Presentation/Poster:** no alternative dates will be provided. Grade of zero will be attributed if missed.

## **Learning Objectives**

This course offers an opportunity to reflect upon the evolution of the European economy over the course of the turbulent political, social, economic and military eras of the twentieth century and its rapid pace of technological developments.

By the end of the course, your learning outcomes will include:

- A broad knowledge of the uneven but dramatic economic growth that occurred across Europe throughout the century.
- An understanding of the effects of war, inflation, trade, technologies and demands for an increasingly knowledge-based workforce that have created new shifts and trends in economic activity.
- An assessment of the prevalence of dirigisme (i.e., efforts of governments to control their economies) across the continent; and
- An exploration of the economic transition of Eastern Europe and the evolution of the European Union experiment both internally and in the context of a more globalized economy.

## Course Content

\*Tentative - It is possible that we discuss topics longer given class Interest.

Week	Date	Lesson Topic(s)	Reading	Quiz / presentation
1	4 Sept	<b>Introduction and Overview</b>	Crouzet, F., pp. 99 - 170	
2	9, 11 Sept	<b>The Pre-War Years</b>	Berend, Ch. 1, pp. 10 – 41 Crouzet, pp. 155 - 169	
3	16, 18 Sept	<b>World War I and Its Consequences</b>	Aldcroft, Ch.2, pp. 44 - 75 Kindleberger, Ch. 16, pp. 283 - 300	18 Sept – Quiz
4	23, 25 Sept	<b>Soviet Russia’s transformation</b>	Nove (from OneNote)	
5	30 Sept	<b>No class</b>		
	2 Oct	<b>Depression and the Rise of Fascism</b>	Clavin, Ch. 5, pp. 110 – 146	2 Oct - Quiz
6	7,9 Oct		Berend, Ch. 3, pp. 92 - 132	
7	14 Oct	<b>No class</b>		
	16 Oct	<b>Visions and Realities of the post-WWII Economy</b>	Aldcroft, Ch. 6, pp. 154 – 183 Eichengreen, Ch. 3, pp. 52 - 85	16 Oct - Quiz
8	21, 23 Oct	<b>Recovery in Western Europe</b>	Kindleberger, Ch. 22 – 23, pp. 393 – 435 Eichengreen, Ch. 4, 5 pp. 86 – 162	23 Oct - Quiz
9	28, 30 Oct	<b>Towards a European Union</b>	Aldcroft Ch. 12, pp. 319 - 343	
10	4 Nov		Eichengreen, Ch. 6, 163 – 197	
	6 Nov	<b>The Golden Age and Inflation</b>	Eichengreen, Ch. 7, pp. 198 – 224 Berend, Ch. 8, pp. 190 - 262	6 Nov - Quiz
11	11, 13 Nov	<b>BREAK</b>		

<b>12</b>	18, 20 Nov	<b>Inflation and its Aftermath</b>	Eichengreen, Ch. 10, pp. 294 – 334 Eichengreen, Ch 11, pp. 335 - 378	20 Nov - Quiz
13	25, 27 Nov	<b>Europe in a Globalized Economy</b>	Berend, Ch. 6, pp. 263 – 326 Eichengreen, Ch. 12, pp. 379 - 413	
<b>14</b>	<b>2, 3, 4 Dec</b>	<b>Presentations (or poster*)</b>		
	TBD	<b>FINAL</b>		

\* poster /or presentation depends on class size.