

Faculty of Science Course Syllabus
Department of Economics, Fall 2025
European Economic History Since 1900 – Econ 2239



Dalhousie University operates in the unceded territories of the Mi'kmaw, Wolastoqey, and Peskotomuhkati Peoples. These sovereign nations hold inherent rights as the original peoples of these lands, and we each carry collective obligations under the Peace and Friendship Treaties. Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights in Canada.

We recognize that African Nova Scotians are a distinct people whose histories, legacies, and contributions have enriched the part of Mi'kma'ki known as Nova Scotia for over 400 years.

Instructor: Talan İscan, tiscan@dal.ca
Office Hours: Wednesday 15:00–17:30, Economics B23
Lectures: In-person. Wednesday, Friday 11:35–12:55, McCain 1102

Description

This course examines the contrasting development patterns of various industrialized European countries during and after their respective industrial revolutions, their association to the European colonial expansion taking place at the same time, and the economic impact on the rest of the world with reference to the turbulent 20th century.

Prerequisites

ECON 1101, ECON 1102 with minimum grades of C

Course exclusion

None.

Course materials

- ★ *Lecture presentations* (available at Brightspace)
- ★ *The European Economy Since 1914*, Derek H. Aldcroft and Steven Morewood (electronic copy available through Dalhousie Libraries)
- ‡ *Growth of the International Economy, 1820-2015*, Michael Graff, A. G. Kenwood, and A. L. Loughheed (electronic copy available through Dalhousie Libraries)

(★ means required; ‡ means highly recommended)

There may be additional required readings and materials made available during the semester, depending on the level of interest and background preparation.

Assessment

There will be in-class reflections that are meant to infuse intentionality and purpose to the lectures. There will be assignments to develop ideas using a specific context. Assignments will be posted on the course web page and will be submitted through the Brightspace page. Exams will be used to reinforce learning and give everyone ample opportunity to test their understanding of the core economic concepts and principles. The final exam will be cumulative. (I will not distribute practice exams).

- In-class reflections: 20% of final grade
- Assignments (4): 20% of final grade
- Exam 1, in class: 15 October, 20% of final grade
- Exam 2, in class: 07 November, 20% of final grade
- Final exam, TBD: 20% of final grade

The conversion of numerical grades to Final Letter Grades follows the Dalhousie Common Grade Scale.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Letter</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Letter</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Letter</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Letter</u>
90–100	A+	75–79.9	B+	62–64.9	C+	50–54.9	D
85–89.9	A	70–74.9	B	58–61.9	C	< 50	F
80–84.9	A–	65–69.9	B–	55–57.9	C–		

To pass the course at least a D letter grade average on the exams is required.

Requirements

Attendance to lectures and participation in lecture discussions are requirements. Lectures will include data and material that are not included in the required readings. At the same time, not all required readings will be covered in the lectures.

Assignments will have a significant research component. Research requires engagement. Your understanding of and competency over the material will be evaluated based on your knowledge, comprehension, application, and analysis of the material learned in this course (exams), and as reflected in your research (assignments).

Your total mark in your assignments will depend on the writing style, structure and logic, as well as content (research and analysis).

Policies

In addition to the University Policies and Statements on Academic Integrity the following policies will be enforced.

Electronic devices. Only accessibility related not-taking devices are permitted. Mobile phones and laptop computers will have to be turned off and stowed away during class time.

Large language models. Research and writing are important processes that should not be delegated to other during a university education. While it is practically impossible for me to prevent you from using large language models (LLM, e.g., ChatGPT) in your assignments, I ask you not to use them when writing your assignments. Search engines allow you to dismantle their embedded software by using the tag “-AI” at the end of your keyword search. These searches often give you wrong answers. More importantly, LLM teach you how to unthink.

Plagiarism. All assignments must reflect your individual effort and work. While discussions with your peers is encouraged, collaboration in the final write-up of your assignments is not permitted. You cannot use or paraphrase sources without citing them. Violations of this policy will be considered an academic integrity offence. I reserve the right to use plagiarism software.

Cancellations. In the case of a cancelled class due to illness or university closure, all the course content, including a scheduled midterm exam, for that class will be automatically postponed to the next scheduled one. University closures will not affect assignment due dates.

In-class reflections. For marking purposes there is allowance for one missed reflection without advance notice, and one with advance notice. You can submit in-class submissions, and I would be happy to read and comment on them.

Late assignments. Late assignments will be marked down by 10 percent per day up to a total penalty of 50 percent. I will continue to accept late assignments until the final exam date.

Make-up exam. Inform the instructor in advance if you will be missing a midterm exam due to illness. The weight of a missed midterm exam will be reallocated to the other two exams. If you miss the final exam due to illness or a significant circumstance extraneous to this course, there will be a make-up exam.

Other. University Policies and Statements are available on the course web page (under syllabus) and form part of this syllabus.

Student Resources and Support

There are many resources and supports on campus, including but not limited to the Writing Centre at the Killam Library. A list of these resources are available on the course web page (under syllabus) and form part of this syllabus.

Learning objectives

1. Studying history to appreciate how to engage with humanity's past experiences, including failures and achievements.
2. Understanding core economic themes such as monetary, fiscal and social policies that affect a society's overall well-being.
3. Application core economic concepts to situations that are different from those presented in class, and ability to identify key aspects of a social and economic system.
4. Critical thinking and appraising whether what appears to be evidence for a certain approach is really so; evaluating the quality of an argument; disentangling cause from effect when appropriate; and identifying the strengths, shortcomings, and pitfalls of a particular argument in relevant contexts.
5. Effective communication, writing concise essays, and making a clear point.

Content

1. Introduction
2. Gilded Economics
3. Economics of Fascism
4. Welfare States
5. Neo-liberal Economics