

# Economic History

Fudan University

Department: the School of Economics

Date: 2019-03-01

<b>Course Code</b>			
<b>Course Title</b>	Economic History		
<b>Credit</b>	4	<b>Credit Hours</b>	72
<b>Course Nature</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Specific General Education Courses <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Core Courses <input type="checkbox"/> General Education Elective Courses <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Courses in General Discipline <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Compulsory Courses <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Elective Courses <input type="checkbox"/> Others		
<b>Course Objectives</b>	After you finish the course, you are supposed to <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Have a general understanding of the world history</li><li>● Be aware of how economists analyze history</li><li>● Have a deeper understanding of human civilization and economic development</li></ul>		
<b>Course Description</b>	This course provides a general introduction to economic history. The objectives of this course is not only to provide an opportunity to know the economic development of world in long-run, from the origin of civilization to present, but also to show how theoretical approaches and quantitative methods can be applied to explain important historical events which happened in world, for example, the origin of civilization, religion reform, Industrial Revolution, Columbian Exchange, Black Death, the Great Depression, and so on.		
<b>Course Requirements:</b>			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> Microeconomics & Macroeconomics (Introductory-level); Econometrics I			

**Teaching Methods:**

Lecture, presentation, group discussion

**Instructor's Academic Background:**

Prof. Li Dan received her PhD from Boston University in 2008. Her research fields include Economic History, Development Economics, and Urban Economics & Regional Science. She has published in the top journals in the related fields including Economic History Review, Journal of International Money and Finance, World Development, the Review of Development Economics and etc. Her current research interests focus on the bond market development in Pre-war China (1912-1937) and the unbalanced regional development in today's China.

**Members of Teaching Team**

Name	Gender	Professional Title	Department	Responsibility
Li Dan	Female	Professor	School of Economics	Main instructor
Li Nan	Male	Professor	School of Economics	Co-developer of the course
Chen Shuo	Male	Professor	School of Economics	Co-developer of the course

**Course Schedule****Module 1: Introduction to the Economic History**

- Class 1: Introduction: Is History Important for Economic Development?
- \* Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press, chapter 1.
- \* Nunn, Nathan. 2009. "The Importance of History for Economic Development," *Annual Review of Economics*, 1(1): 65-92.
- \* McCloskey, Donald N., 1976. "Does the Past Have Useful Economics?" *Journal of Economic Literature* 14 (2): 434-61.

**Module 2: From Neolithic Age to the Rise of Ancient Empires**

- Class 2: The Neolithic Revolution and the Rise of Agriculture
- \* Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press, chapter

2.

- \* Oded Galor & Omer Ozak, 2019. "The Agricultural Origins of Time Preference," *American Economic Review* (forthcoming)
- \* Matranga, Andrea. 2019. "The Ant and the Grasshopper: Seasonality and the Invention of Agriculture." Chapman University, *Working paper*.
- Classes 3 & 4: The Rise of Ancient Empires
- \* Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press, chapter 2.
- \* Bossuyt, Audrey, Laurence Broze and Victor Ginsburgh. 2001. "On Invisible Trade Relations between Mesopotamian Cities during the Third Millennium B. C." *The Professional Geographer*, 53 (3): 374-83.
- \* Bentzen, Jeanet Sinding, Nicolai Kaarsen and Asger Moll Wingender. 2017. "Irrigation and Autocracy." *Journal of the European Economic Association*, Vol.15 (1): 1-53.

*Discussion 1 to be held.*

### **Module 3: Early Modern Growth**

- Classes 5&6: Economic Development in Medieval Eurasia
- \* Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press, chapters 3&4.
- \* Koyama, Mark, Chiu Yu Ko and Tuan-Hwee Sng 2018. "Unified China; Divided Europe" *International Economic Review*, Vol. 59(1): 285-327.
- Class 7: Political Economics of Religion
- \* Becker and Woessmann. 2009. "Was Weber Wrong? A Human Capital Theory of Protestant Economic History". *Quarterly Journal of Economics* (5): 531-596.
- \* Rubin, Jared. 2014. "Printing and Protestants: An Empirical Test of the Role of Printing in the Reformation." *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 96(2): 270-286.
- (B) Weber, Max. (1930). *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*. London: Routledge.

*Discussion 2 to be held.*

### **Module 4: Trade & Migration**

- Classes 8&9: Discovery of the Rest of the World and the Atlantic Trade
- \* Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the*

*World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press, chapter 5.

Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson, and James Robinson, 2005. "The Rise of Europe: Atlantic Trade, Institutional Change, and Economic Growth." *American Economic Review*, Vol. 95 (3): 546-579.

- Class10: Columbian Exchange

- \* Nunn, Nathan, and Nancy Qian. 2010. "The Columbian Exchange: A History of Disease, Food, and Ideas." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 24 (2): 163-88.

- \* Nunn, Nathan and Nancy Qian. 2011. "The Potatoe's Contribution to Population and Urbanization: Evidence from A Historical Experiment." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*: 1-58.

Alfred W. Crosby and John Robert McNeill, 2003. *The Columbian Exchange: Biological and Cultural Consequences of 1492*, Praeger.

- Class 11: Slavery Trade and Impact on Africa

- \* Nunn, Nathan. 2008. "The Long Term Effect of Africa's Slave Trades." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 123 (1): 139-176.

Nunn, Nathan and Diego Puga. 2012 "Ruggedness: The Blessing of Bad Geography in Africa." *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 94(1), 20-36.

Nunn, Nathan and Leonard Wantchekon. 2011. "The Slave Trade and the Origins of Mistrust in Africa." *American Economic Review*, 101(12): 3221-3252.

- Class 12: Migration: From "Out of Africa" to the Westward Movement

- \* Ashraf Quamrul and Oded Galor. 2013. "The Out of African Hypothesis, Human Genetic Diversity and Comparative Development." *American Economic Review*, 103 (1): 1-46.

- \* Putterman, Louis and David N. Weil. 2010. "Post-1500 Population Flows and The Long-run Determinants of Economic Growth and Inequality." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 125 (4): 1627-1682.

Hornung, Erik. 2014. "Immigration and the Diffusion of Technology: The Huguenot Diaspora in Prussia." *American Economic Review*, 104 (1): 84-122.

*Discussion 3 to be held.*

### **Class 13: Midterm**

#### **Module 5: The Rise of Modern Industry and the Great Divergence**

- Class 14: Finance and Banking

- \* Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press, chapter

9 and 11.

- Class 15: The Dawn of Modern Industry

\* Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press, chapter 7.

- Class 16&17: The Industrial Revolution in U.K. and its Spread

\* Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Chapters 7, 8 & 10, University Press.

Peter Temin. 1997. "Two Views of the British Industrial Revolution." *Journal of Economic History* 57 (March): 63–82.

- Class 18: Rise of Western Europe

Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press, chapter 14.

- Class 19: The Great Divergence

Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press.

- Class 20: The Needham Puzzle: Why China Fell Behind?

\* Landes, S. David. (2006). "Why Europe and the West? Why Not China?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*. 20 (2): 3–22

Carol H. Shiue, Wolfgang Keller, 2007. "Markets in China and Europe on the Eve of the Industrial Revolution," *American Economic Review*, Vol. 97(4):1189-1216.  
Lin, Justin Yifu. 1995. "The Needham Puzzle: Why the Industrial Revolution Did Not Originate in China." *Economic Development and Cultural Change*. 43(2): 269–92.

*Discussion 4 to be held.*

### **Module 6: Crises**

- Class 21: Great Depression and Economic Crisis in History

Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press.

- Class 22: War, Conflict and Economic Development in Historical Perspective

\* Bai, Ying and James Kung. 2011. "Climate Shocks and Sino-nomadic Conflict." *Review of Economics and Statistics*, vol. 93(3): 970-981.

\* Cemal Eren Arbatlı, Quamrul H. Ashraf, Oded Galor, Marc Klemp, 2018. "Diversity and Conflict", NBER Working Paper No. 21079.

Kung, Kai-sing James, and Chicheng Ma, 2014. "Autarky and the Rise and Fall of Piracy in Ming China." *Journal of Economic History*, 74(2): 509-534.

Oster, Emily. 2004. "Witchcraft, Weather and Economic Growth in Renaissance Europe." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 18 (1): 215-28.

- Class 23: Infectious Diseases that Changed History

- \* Acemoglu, Daron, James Robinson, and Simon Johnson. 2003. "Disease and Development in Historical Perspective." *Journal of the European Economic Association* 1 (2-3): 397-405.

Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson. 2007. "Disease and Development: The Effect of Life Expectancy on Economic Growth." *Journal of Political Economy*, 115: 925-985.

Almond, Douglas. (2006). "Is the 1918 Influenza Pandemic Over? Long-Term Effects of in Utero Influenza Exposure in the Post-1940 U.S. Population." *Journal of Political Economy* 114(4): 672–712.

McNeill, William Hardy. 1976. *Plagues and Peoples*. Garden City, NY: Anchor Press/Doubleday.

Diamond, J., 1997. *Guns, Germs, and Steel: the fates of human societies*. N. Y., New York: W.W. Norton.

*Discussion 5 to be held.*

### **Module 7: Rebuilding the World**

- Class 24: Rebuilding the World Economy

Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press.

- Class 25: The Economics of Decolonization

- \* Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press, chapter 15.

- \* Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson and James A. Robinson. 2001. "The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation," *American Economic Review*, v91 (5), 1369-1401.

La Porta, Rafael, Florencio Lopez-de-Silanes, Andrei Shleifer and Robert W. Vishny. 1998. "Law and Finance," *Journal of Political Economy*, 106, 1113-55.

La Porta, Rafael, Florencio Lopez-de-Silanes, Andrei Shleifer and Robert W. Vishny. 1999. "The Quality of Government," *Journal of Law, Economics and Organization*, 15, 222-279.

- Class 26: Plan or Market: Rise and Fall of Soviet Bloc

- \* Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press, chapter

14, 15 and 16.

- Class 27&28: Rise of Newly Industrializing Countries (including China)

\* Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press.

\* Krugman, Paul, 1994. "The Myth of Asia's Miracle". *Foreign Affairs*, 73

\* Naughton, Barry, *The Chinese Economy: Adaptation and Growth*, 2nd Edition, MIT Press, 2018, Chapter 1.

*Discussion 6 to be held.*

### **Module 8: What We Learn and the Future**

- Class 29: What we Learn?

\* Rondo Cameron and Larry Neal, 2015. *A Concise Economic History of the World: From Paleolithic Times to the Present*, Oxford University Press, chapter 16.

- Class 30: The Future

Harari, Y. N. (2016). *Homo Deus: A brief history of tomorrow*. Random House.

*Discussion 7 to be held.*

### **Individual essay due**

### **Classes 31 & 32: Reviews for Final**

### **Class 33: Final Exam**

**Note:** Starred (\*) articles are required reading.

### **The design of class discussion or exercise, practice, experience and so on:**

For the end of each module, there will be a discussion held to discuss all the materials that we have studied in the previous classes. The discussion will be held by the group which is willing to hold for a specific module and led by the instructor. Discussions on the materials will provide a good opportunity to students to review the materials and put their own thoughts onto the issue. The group members will be assigned in the beginning of the semester and they will pick to module which they wish to hold the discussion.

I encourage students to attend my tutorial hours to discuss questions either on class material, problems on exams or related subject matter. This class requires a lot of work. Please, speak with me if you are having difficulties meeting the requirements for this course. Together we will work out a solution.

**If you need a TA, please indicate the assignment of assistant:**

Yes, a TA is needed and will help the lecturer with the attendency, organization of group discussion.

If you have special needs because of a learning problem or other condition that requires special arrangements for tests or meeting assignments, please let TA know as soon as possible.

**Grading & Evaluation (Provide a final grade that reflects the formative evaluation process):**

**Grading:**

Attendance: 5%

Group discussion: 10%

Class Performance: 10%

Individual essay: 20%

Midterm exam: 20%

Final exam: 35%

Passing grade: 60, below 60 = fail

**Note:** Every student is required to read the background readings and papers before going to class. Papers listed in “Materials” are available in the e-learning system under the column of “Resources”.

**Teaching Materials & References (Including Author, Title, Publisher and Publishing time):**

Listed in the section on the course schedule.