

## COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

**Academic School / Department:** Richmond Business School

**Programme:** Economics  
International History

**FHEQ Level:** 4

**Course Title:** Modern Economic History

**Course Code:** ECN 4115

**Student Engagement Hours:** 120

Lectures: 30

Seminar / Tutorials: 15

Independent / Guided Learning: 75

**Credits:** 12 UK CATS credits  
6 ECTS credits  
3 US credits

### **Course Description**

This Course covers the development of the world economy since 1750, examining the process, causes and factors favouring industrialization, and later deindustrialization, in the major countries involved. Differences and similarities between countries are analyzed, along with institutional factors and government policies.

**Prerequisites:** None

### **Aims and Objectives:**

To enable students to:

1. Understand the main factors that either favour or impede economic development.
2. Understand the role of institutional factors in economic development.
3. Understand the role of government policies in aiding or hindering development.

## **Programme Outcomes**

Economics: A1, A3, A5 B1, B2, C2, C3, C4, C5, C7, C8, D  
International History: A4i, A4ii, B4ii

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

## **Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course, a successful student should be able to

### **Subject knowledge and understanding**

- Demonstrate a knowledge regarding the historical development of the world economy.
- Explain the process of economic development and its diffusion.
- Develop an understanding of the factors that affect economic development and the ways in which these have differed between various countries.
- Discuss the interaction of social, political, technological and financial factors that affect development.

### **Subject-specific skills**

- Use graphical analysis and interpret graphs relating to historical phenomena.
- Explain the difference between proximate and ultimate causes and the relationship between them.

### **Other skills**

- Discuss causes and effects of economic phenomena over substantial periods of time, i.e., decades and centuries.
- Demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills in a range of media.
- Develop strong analytical skills through listening and reflecting.

## Indicative Content:

- Nature, scope and methods
- Origins of economic societies
- Pre-industrial societies
- The industrial revolution
- Empire and the balance of power
- WW1, recovery, and crisis
- WW2, growth, and prosperity
- Stagflation
- Globalization and integration
- The Great Divergence

## Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and are located at <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

## Teaching Methodology:

The course is taught using a variety of methods including lectures, question sessions, film clips, directed and undirected reading, case studies, group work, and discussions.

## Bibliography:

Aldcroft, D., 2012. *The European Economy since 1914*. Abingdon: Routledge.

**Clark, G., 2009. *A Farewell to Alms*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.**

Diamond, J., 2005. *Guns, Germs and Steel*. London: Vintage.

Findlay, R. and O'Rourke, K.H., 2009. *Power and Plenty*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Harari, Y., 2015. *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind*. London: Vintage.

Kindleberger, C., 1996. *World Economic Primacy 1500-1990*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Mathias, P., 2001. *The First Industrial Nation*. Abingdon: Routledge.

Mokyr, J., 2018. *A Culture of Growth: The Origins of the Modern Economy*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Landes, D., 1998. *The Wealth and Poverty of Nations*. London: Abacus.

## Journals

Journal of Economic History

## Web Sites

The Economist ([www.economist.com](http://www.economist.com))

*Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus*

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Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body(School or AB)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Revision – annual update	May 2023	

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