SYLLABUS

The assigned reading should be completed before the date noted on the syllabus. Class discussion will be more productive and enjoyable if you have done the reading. There will be a short final exam in the last scheduled class period and a term paper that is due at the end of IAP, that is, on January 28, 2005.

We will endeavor to teach you about three things in the course of this fall:

1. Economic History, in particular, processes like industrialization and demographic change that took a long time, and policies that affected them.
2. Applied Economics, emphasizing the great variety of approaches that have been used to formulate and test hypotheses.
3. Paper Writing, by examining critically the economic-history literature and giving you an opportunity to practice writing a paper suitable for a professional journal (as some term papers, after revision, have been).

The term paper is the most important part of the written requirement for this subject. Extensions will be given only for unanticipatable events. Late papers will receive lowered grades on a gradient that makes passing this course problematical with a paper that is more than a few days late. Plan accordingly.

A reading packet is available from Graphic Arts, E52-045, for the rather high price that results from paying for reproduction rights. It contains all the readings except the short books by Ashton (Topic 1F) and Temin (Topics 4A, 4B), which are available at the Coop. All readings also are on reserve at Dewey Library.

1. AGRARIAN ECONOMIES AND THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

A. Overview (9/9)

Peter Temin, “Evolutionary History,” Journal of Interdisciplinary History, 28:
B. European Expansion (9/14)


C. Malthusian Demography (9/16)


D. The Demographic Transition (9/21)


N. F. R. Crafts, “Some Dimensions of the ‘Quality of Life’ during the British

E. English Institutions (9/23)


F. The Industrial Revolution: Description (9/28)


G. The Industrial Revolution: Analysis (9/30)


David Eltis and Stanley L. Engerman, “The Importance of the Slave Trade to

2. THE SPREAD OF INDUSTRIALIZATION

A. The United States (10/5)


B. Northern Europe (10/7)


C. Southern Europe (10/12)


D. Latin America (10/14)


Russia (10/19)


Japan and China (10/21)


4. THE UNITED STATES

Labor and Capital in the North (10/26)


**B. The South and Slavery (10/28)**


**C. The Aftermath of Slavery (11/2)**


**D. Labor Participation (11/4)**


E. The Modern Corporation (11/9)


F. The Gold Standard (11/16)


4. THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

A. The Great Depression (11/18)


B. Recovery (11/23)


C. **The Economics of Wars (11/30)**


D. **Assessing US Growth (12/2)**


E. **Inequality in the Long Run (12/7)**


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5. FINAL EXAM (12/9)