COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is intended for graduate students. A familiarity with some basic concepts of international trade and finance will be useful. The course aims to provide an understanding of the evolution of the world economy since about 1800—a period which, more than any other, saw a rapid growth in the size and scope of trade, finance, migration and other forms of market integration on a global scale, and, as such, shaped the world economy as we know it today. A knowledge of the history of the world economy over this period helps us better understand today’s world economy—debates, controversies, tensions, income distribution, patterns of trade and finance, and sources of growth and instability. The course is organized chronologically, dealing with three major epochs in international economic relations: the “long nineteenth century” up to 1913, the interwar period, and the post-World War II period.Crudely, these may be classified as periods of integration, disintegration and reintegration, respectively. In each period we examine major developments in trade and commercial policy, payments and monetary systems, capital movements and labor migration, and relate these to the record of economic development.

INFORMATION

Readings Readings marked * should be read prior to the lecture to facilitate a lively and productive discussion. Indeed, you may be asked to summarize said readings in class. The reading list is long, and you are not expected to read every part of every single element. However, reading broadly is desirable. Learn to skim readings for their pertinent findings (examine introductions and conclusions for pointers to the discussion) and significant empirical contributions (examine tables and figures) until you know what argument is being made. BOTTOM LINE: Can you replicate the argument?

Presentations A presentation consists of one student being asked to present, explain, and critique some of the readings in about 20 minutes, followed by class discussion. Usually, we will have two presentations in each class.

Grading Paper 75%, Presentations 25%

Paper As regards layout, the main text should be 20—25 pages in length, set in 12 point and double
spaced with standard margins (one inch), with notes and bibliography using proper annotation and attribution. Consult a style manual if necessary (say, The Chicago Style Manual). A major element will be finding a suitable topic. You should consult with the instructor. To ensure that you are making progress towards finding a paper topic, a one-page proposal summarizing your topic is due by May 1. But please meet with me frequently before and after May 1 for advice and feedback.

**Access to readings** Most articles are available online (via the search engines) at:

- University Library (ejournals) [http://www.lib.ucdavis.edu/ul/research/ejournals/](http://www.lib.ucdavis.edu/ul/research/ejournals/)
- National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) [http://papers.nber.org/papers.html](http://papers.nber.org/papers.html)

Access to some sites is restricted, but is available from the UC Davis domain. Some other articles have a specific URL and are open-access. Remaining articles marked * will be placed on reserve at the department. Not all books will be placed on reserve.

**SYLLABUS**

**Schedule** We will meet Monday/Wednesday as per the class schedule, except that there will be no class on Wednesday, April 21. I propose to hold a makeup class later at a convenient time, probably Friday, June 4 (dead day).

**Readings** You should do all the assigned reading for the course, and readings marked * should be read prior to the lecture to facilitate a lively and productive discussion. Indeed, you may be asked to summarize said readings in class.

1 **Introduction: where are we coming from?**


2 1820-1913: growth, trends and fluctuations


3 1820-1913: technology


1820-1913: international payments and the rise of the gold standard


1820-1913: capital movements


*Clemens, Michael A. & Jeffrey G. Williamson, 2004. “Wealth bias in the first global capital...
market boom, 1870-1913,” *Economic Journal*, vol. 114(495), pages 304-337, 04. [ejournals](https://doi.org/10.1086/586339)


6 1820-1913: migration


Foreman-Peck, James. “A Political Economy of International Migration, 1815-1914.” *Manchester School of Economic and Social Studies* 60 (December 1992): 359-76. [ejournals](https://doi.org/10.1080/00258729200000183)


7 1820-1913: commercial policy and trade

I Heckscher-Ohlin Approaches

*O’Rourke, Kevin H., and Jeffrey G. Williamson. 2002. “When did globalisation begin?,” *European Review of Economic History*, vol. 6(01), pages 23-50, March. [ejournals](https://doi.org/10.1080/13602360220126298)


8 1820-1913: commercial policy and trade

II Gravity Approaches


9 1820-1913: the core and the periphery

I Win-Lose from Colonialism and Empire?


http://www.nyu.edu/fas/institute/dri/DRIWP/DRIWP02.pdf


http://www.nber.org/papers/h0066


10 1820-1913: the core and the periphery

II Win-Lose from Globalization?


http://www.economics.harvard.edu/faculty/jwilliam/papers/DeIndEHW1204.pdf


11 The Interwar Period: war’s aftermath; growth, trends and fluctuations in the 1920s


12 The Interwar Period: trade and capital flows in the 1920s


13 The Interwar Period: the world in depression.


14 The Interwar Period: the legacy of the world depression


15 1945 to the present: growth, technology and human capital


16 1945 to the present: openness and growth


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17 1945 to the present: international finance


Kapur, Sandeep, and Luis Catão. 2004. “Missing Link: Volatility and the Debt Intolerance...

18 1945 to the present: trade and inequality


19 Miscellaneous Topics and Ongoing Debates


http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/10174


*Mayda, Anna Maria & Rodrik, Dani, 2005. “Why are some people (and countries) more protectionist than others?” *European Economic Review*, vol. 49(6), pages 1393-1430, August. [eJournals](https://www.jstor.org/stable/3356690)


