

Eco. 4701 -- The World Economy -- Dr. Mira Wilkins -- Fall 2009

The goal of this course is to provide a broad overview of the history of the world economy. There are two examinations: a mid-term (that will cover the period to 1914) and a final examination. Students will be graded based on their performance on the examinations as well as on class participation. Class attendance is required. Dr. Wilkins has office hours Tuesday 3-4 and Thursday 2-3 pm and by appointment. Her office is DM 319C; her phone number is 305-348-3352; her e-mail is wilkinsm@fiu.edu.

Required Books:

Hammond Historical Atlas of the World, latest edition (this is in paperback)
Douglass C. North, Understanding the Process of Economic Change
Peter N. Stearns, Interpreting the Industrial Revolution
A.G. Kenwood and A.L. Lougheed, The Growth of the International Economy (4th ed. 2000)--in paperback
Jeffrey D. Sachs, Common Wealth: Economics for a Crowded Planet (2008)

Course Outline:

I. The Setting, Background, and Industrial Revolution

Sachs, Common Wealth, 57-66

North, Understanding the Process of Economic Change, Preface and pp. 1-145

Stearns, Interpreting the Industrial Revolution, Chaps. 1-4

Kenwood and Lougheed, The Growth, Introduction

Optional Reading: Carlos M. Cipolla, Economic History of World Population; Janet L. Abu-Lughod, Before European Hegemony: The World Economic System AD 1250-1350; Fernand Braudel, Afterthoughts on Material Civilization

II. The Years between 1820 and 1914

Kenwood and Lougheed, The Growth, Chaps. 1-10

Stearns, Interpreting the Industrial Revolution, Chaps. 5-8

Midterm Examination

III. World War I, the Inter-war Years, World War II and its Immediate Aftermath (1914-1950)

Kenwood and Lougheed, The Growth, Chaps. 11-16

North, Understanding the Process of Economic Change, 146-149

IV. The World Economy since 1950

Kenwood and Lougheed, The Growth, Chap. 17-22

North, Understanding the Process of Economic Change, 149-170

Sachs, Common Wealth (entire book)

Optional Reading: Thomas L. Friedman, The World is Flat; Joseph Stiglitz, Globalization and its Discontents

The final examination is at the normally scheduled time for this course.