

**Econ 5470: Industrialization and Economic Development: The American Case**

Spring 2001

FAMB 204

Tuesday 7:00–9:30 p.m.

Professor Maloney

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Office Hours: Wednesday 12:30–2:00, Thursday 9:00–10:30, and by appointment

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In this class, we will study growth and change in the US economy from the colonial period to the present. While this course is to a great degree a "survey," or a broad overview, of these issues, we will give particular emphasis to the study of labor markets, demography, the standard of living, and economic inequality.

The core of the lecture material will be organized around our **primary text, Atack and Passell, *A New Economic View of American History***. We will read and discuss most of this book. We will also read Annalee Saxenian's **Regional Advantage: Culture and Competition in Silicon Valley and Route 128**. We will discuss the Saxenian book during the last week of class. Both of these books are available in the bookstore. In addition, we will read a few journal articles and book chapters, which will be available through the reserve desk at the library. A few such articles are listed on the schedule below; others may be added depending on time and student interest. Because I will also present a considerable amount of material that is not specifically available in any of these books, it is important to attend class regularly and to take good notes.

In addition to our study of the lecture material, each student will choose one particular topic for detailed, individual study. Throughout the semester, each student will pursue their chosen topic through a series of assignments:

- identification of a general topic area and one particular piece (a journal article or book chapter) for which the student will turn in a critical review of about 5 to 7 pages (topic and cite due 1/30)
- turning in and discussing these reviews (review due 2/27)
- identification of a narrow topic to be pursued in a short (10 to 12 page) research paper, along with a list of likely sources (proposal due 3/20)
- turning in and discussing a rough draft of the final paper (rough draft due 4/10)
- turning in and discussing the final draft of the final paper (final draft due 4/17)

More detail on this set of assignments will be given in class. Announcements, due dates, and other information will occasionally be posted on the course web page. To get there, go to the department page ([www.econ.utah.edu](http://www.econ.utah.edu)), click on faculty and staff, click on my name, then click on the link for Econ 5470. You can also go directly to [www.econ.utah.edu/maloney/547home.html](http://www.econ.utah.edu/maloney/547home.html).

**Econ 3905–5 ("Modes of Learning"):**

Econ 3905–5 is a one-credit course which provides additional instruction in writing research papers and essays in economics. It is not necessary to register for Econ 3905–5 to fulfill the communication requirement (successful completion of Econ 5470 fulfills the requirement). Nonetheless, some students will find enrolling in Econ 3905–5 useful, both because it will

provide an additional hour of credit and because it will give you access to resources which will help you improve your writing and thereby improve your grade in Econ 5470 (and in other classes). Students in Econ 3905–5 will meet with the instructor (Allen Posewitz) for a lecture/workshop on research and writing; Allen will also read a rough draft of either your critical essay or your term paper and discuss methods for improving your paper. Our section of Econ 5470 is allocated just 10 slots in Econ 3905–5, so students who are interested in this resource should sign up right away. For more details, contact Allen Posewitz at [allen.posewitz@economics.utah.edu](mailto:allen.posewitz@economics.utah.edu).

### **Econ 6470 (Graduate Section):**

Students planning to use this course for graduate credit must register for Econ 6470 (rather than Econ 5470). Also, you must see me early in the semester to discuss additional work that will be required for graduate credit.

### **Assignments and Grading:**

#### 1. Exams:

There will be two mid–term exams and a final. All will be a mix of short answer and essay questions. The final will include some comprehensive material but will emphasize material from the final third of the semester. Exams will be based on the reading and our discussion in class. The mid–terms are each worth 20% of your grade and the final is worth 25%. **The first mid–term will be held on 2/6, during the second half of class. The second mid–term will be held on 3/6, during the second half of class. The final will be held on Tuesday, 5/1, from 8:20 to 10:20 pm.**

#### 2. Writing assignments:

There are two major writing assignments – the 5–7 page critical review, which is worth 10 percent of your grade (due on 2/27), and the final 10–12 page paper, which is worth 20 percent of your grade (due on 4/17). In addition, you will turn in a general topic area and a full citation for the piece that you will critically review on 1/30, a narrow topic and a list of potential sources on 3/20, and a rough draft of your paper on 4/10. 5 percent of your grade will be based on your turning in these three shorter assignments on time and participating in the discussion of all of these assignments. **YOU MUST BRING TWO COPIES OF THE ROUGH DRAFT ON 4/10.**

So the composition of your final grade looks like this:

- First mid–term: 20%
- Second mid–term: 20%
- Final exam: 25%
- Critical review: 10%
- Final paper: 20%
- "Class Participation" (based on turning in the other components of the research project and participating in discussions of the projects): 5%

The University of Utah Department of Economics seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodation in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the instructor and to the Center for Disability Services (<http://disability.utah.edu/>, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581–5020) to make arrangements for accommodations.

Topics and Schedule

The dates for specific readings and topics may change, but exam dates and due dates for assignments will not change.

T 1/9: Introduction

Overview of Technological Change and Growth in Great Britain and the US

T 1/16: Overview of US Growth, Continued

Colonial Economic History

READ Atask and Passell, Introduction, Chapter 1, and Chapter 2.

*Note: Wednesday, 1/17, is the last day to drop classes without record.*

T 1/23: Colonial Economic History, Continued

Early Industrialization in the US

READ Atask and Passell, Chapter 7

T 1/30: More on Early Industrialization in the US

**GENERAL TOPIC AREA AND ARTICLE CITATION FOR CRITICAL REVIEW  
DUE**

T 2/6: Demography and US Economic History, Part I: Fertility, Mortality, and Health

READ Atask and Passell, chapter 8, p. 212–228

**FIRST MID–TERM EXAM DURING SECOND HALF OF CLASS**

T 2/13: Demography, Part II: Immigration and Internal Migration

READ Atask and Passell, chapter 8, p. 229–245

T 2/20: Slavery and the South

READ Atask and Passell, chapters 11 and 12

T 2/27: Slavery and the South, Continued

The Post–Civil War South

READ Atask and Passell chapter 14

**CRITICAL REVIEW DUE**

*Note: Friday, 3/2, is the last day to withdraw from term–length classes (with record of "W").*

T 3/6: 19<sup>th</sup> Century Wealth Inequality

19<sup>th</sup> Century Capital Accumulation

**SECOND MID–TERM EXAM DURING SECOND HALF OF CLASS**

T 3/13: **NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK**

T 3/20: Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century Change in Industrial Structure

Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century Labor Markets

READ Atask and Passell, Chapter 17

READ Alexander Keyssar, Out of Work: The First Century of Unemployment in Massachusetts (1986), Chapter 2: "The Social Origins of Unemployment" (on reserve).

**RESEARCH PAPER TOPIC AND LIST OF POTENTIAL SOURCES DUE**

T 3/27: Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century Labor, Continued

Female Labor in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

Read Atask and Passell, Chapter 19

T 4/3: African American Labor in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

The Great Depression

READ Sundstrom, "The Color Line: Racial Norms and Discrimination in Urban Labor Markets, 1910–1950," *Journal of Economic History* 54:2 (June 1994), p. 382–396 (on reserve).

READ Atask and Passell, Chapter 21

T 4/10: The New Deal and the Rise of the Public Sector

READ Atask and Passell, Chapters 22 and 23

**ROUGH DRAFT OF FINAL PAPER DUE – BRING TWO COPIES**

T 4/17: US Relative Decline in the late 20<sup>th</sup> Century

READ Nelson and Wright, "The Rise and Fall of American Technological Leadership: The Postwar Era in Historical Perspective," *Journal of Economic Literature* 30:4 (December 1992), p. 1931–1964 (on reserve).

**FINAL DRAFT OF PAPER DUE**

T 4/24: Technological Change in the Computer Industry, Late 20<sup>th</sup> Century

READ Saxenian, Regional Advantage, by this date

T 5/1: **FINAL EXAM, 8:20–10:20 PM, FAMB 204**