**Growth and Development in Historical Perspective April 2018**

**John V.C. Nye**

This will be a week-long course on topics in economic history that summarize some of the most important ideas in all of economics. How and why did some nations develop early? What do we know about why China didn’t industrialize? What role did institutions play in development? What about trade and public finance? We will also try to understand how economic history fits into the study of economics today. Course readings will serve as background for the lecture and there will be a final exam on the last day.

Day 1. Malthus and early modern growth.

Peter Temin, “The Economic of the Early Roman Empire,” *The Journal of Economic Perspectives,* Vol. 20, No. 1 (Winter, 2006), pp. 133-151.

Greg Clark and Gillian Hamilton, “Survival of the Richest. The Malthusian Mechanism in Pre-Industrial England” *Journal of Economic History*, 66(3) (September, 2006): 707-36.

Nathan Nunn and Nancy Qian, “The Potato’s Contribution to Population and Urbanization: Evidence from a Historical Experiment,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2011

Stefano Fenoaltea, “Slavery and Supervision in Comparative Perspective: A Model” *Journal of Economic History,* Vol. 44, No. 3 (Sep., 1984), pp. 635-668.

Nils-Petter Lagerlöf, “Slavery and Other Property Rights.” *The Review of Economic Studies* Vol. 76, No. 1 (Jan., 2009), pp. 319-342

Day 2. Why Europe and Not China? Industrialization and Technology

Joel Mokyr, “Why Was the Industrial Revolution a European Phenomenon?” <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/719b/9f9483be5413cf802f25028da54bd0ca4a07.pdf>

Joel Mokyr, “Long Term Economic Growth and the History of Technology,” in Aghion and Durlauf, eds. *The Handbook of Economic Growth*.

Robert Allen, 2004. “Agricultural Productivity and Rural Incomes in England and the Yangtze Delta, c. 1620 to c. 1820.” *Economic History Review*, New Series, Vol. 62, No. 3 (Aug., 2009), pp. 525-550.

Carol H. Shiue and Wolfgang Keller, “Markets in China and Europe on the Eve of the Industrial Revolution” *American Economic Review*, Vol. 97, No. 4 (Sep., 2007), pp. 1189-1216.

Debin Ma, “Why Japan, Not China, Was the First to Develop in East Asia: Lessons from Sericulture 1850-1937,” *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, Vol. 52, No. 2 (January 2004), pp. 369-394.

Day 3. Mercantilism and Early Modern Rivalry

North, Douglass, “Sources of Productivity in Ocean Shipping, 1600-1850”. *Journal of Political Economy* Vol. 76, No. 5 (Sep. - Oct., 1968), pp. 953-970.

J.V.C. Nye, “The Myth of Free Trade Britain and Fortress France,” *The Journal of Economic History* Vol. 51, No. 1 (Mar., 1991), pp. 23-46.

P. K. O’Brien, 1988. “The Political Economy of British Taxation, 1660-1815,” *Economic History Review*. Vol. 41, No. 1 (Feb., 1988), pp. 1-32.

Markus Lampe, “Explaining Nineteenth-Century Bilateralism: Economic and Political Determinants of the Cobden-Chevalier Network” *Economic History Review*, Volume 64, Issue 2 May 2011, 644–668.

Day 4. Institutions, Property Rights, and Deep State Origins in Development.

Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson and James A. Robinson “The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation,” *The American Economic Review,*Vol. 91, No. 5 (Dec., 2001), pp. 1369-1401.

David Y. Albouy, “The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation: Comment,” *American Economic Review,* Vol. 102, No. 6 (OCTOBER 2012), pp. 3059-3076.

Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson and James A. Robinson “The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation: Reply” *The American Economic Review,* Vol. 102, No. 6 (OCTOBER 2012), pp. 3077-3110.

Enrico Spolaore and Romain Wacziarg, “How Deep Are the Roots of Economic Development?” *Journal of Economic Literature,* Vol. 51, No. 2 (June 2013), pp. 325-369.

Louis Putterman and David N. Weil “Post- 500 Economic Flows and the Long-Run Determinants of Economic Growth and Inequality,” Vol. 125, No. 4 (November 2010), pp. 1627-1682.

Day 5. History and Economics: Future Prospects.

Extended discussion and Final Exam.