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ECONOMICS 303Y1

The Economic History of Modern Europe to 1914

(The Industrialization of Modern Europe, 1750 - 1914)

SECOND TERM ESSAY TOPICS: January to April 2011

Updated: 18 August 2010

Essay Length:

Essays should be about 3,000 words long, or about 10 typewritten or word-processed pages, with double-spaced typing. The minimum length is 2,100 words (about 7 pages) and the normal maximum is 3,600 words (about 12 pages), which, with my permission, may be extended to 4,500 words (about 15 pages). I am more concerned about the length of essays that are under the limit than I am about those over the limit (within reason, of course).

Please have your essays prepared on a typewriter or word-processor, if at all possible. Handwritten essays will be accepted, but only if they are neat and legible, and double-spaced.

Due date:

Second-term essays are due on Friday, 18 March 2011, except for those who have obtained legitimate extensions. Late penalties apply only from one week after the formal due date (i.e., from 25 March) – because the late penalty is applied by the week, not the day.

Please refer to the **Course Outline**, for further information on submitting the term essays, deadlines, and late penalties. It is available on-line on my Home Page:

Be sure to read and carefully follow all the instructions provided after the A, B, and C lists of essay topics.

Please refer to the **Course Outline**, for further information on submitting the term essays and the deadlines. It is available on-line on my Home Page:

<http://www.economics.utoronto.ca/munro5/303out.pdf>

Be sure also to consult the handout entitled *Instructions on Writing Term Essays*, for instructions on and other information about preparing term essays. It is also available on-line, on my Home Page:

<http://www.economics.utoronto.ca/munro5/ESSINSTR.pdf>

See also Deirdre N. McCloskey, *Economical Writing*, 2nd edition (Waveland Press, Illinois, 2000).

Essay topics are to be drawn from ONE of the following three lists (A, B, C)

A. MOST RECOMMENDED TOPICS: from the Master List of Essay Topics

Topics drawn from the Master List of Topics: See this list on my Home Page, as follows:

<http://www.economics.utoronto.ca/munro5/303TUTOP.pdf>

The numbers in square brackets (after the title) refer to the topic numbers in the Master List

A - List Topics for the Second Term: January to April 2011

6. The Social Consequences of Urban Industrialization in Great Britain: The Standard of Living Debate, 1770-1850 [Topic no. 11]
7. Entrepreneurship and Business Organization in European Industrialization During the 19th Century: France and/or Germany (1815 - 1914) [Topic no. 16]
8. The Role of the National State in 19th-Century European Economic Development: Germany and/or Russia, 1815-1914 [Topic no. 15]
9. The 'Great Depression' of 1873-1896 in the European Economy: Myth or Reality? [Topic no. 17]
10. International Trade, Capital Flows, and Price Movements under a Gold Standard, ca. 1860 - 1914: What Role did Gold in the International Economy? [Topic. no. 19]

B. OTHER AVAILABLE TOPICS FROM THE MASTER LIST: for the second term, January to April 2011.

You may choose any one of these, instead of the topics given in the "A" List. But only the "A" list topics are guaranteed to be on the final examination. You are also expected to find your own readings for these topics; i.e., the readings provided in the bound collection of readings from Scholar House Productions are not (with a few exceptions) related to these topics. The numbers are those given on the Master List.

12. Impediments to Continental Industrialization: France, From the Revolution to World War I (1789 - 1914)
13. Impediments to Continental Industrialization: Germany, 1815-1914
14. Impediments to Continental Industrialization: Russia, 1815-1914
15. The Role of the National State in European Economic Development, 1789-1914: Great Britain and or France
16. Entrepreneurship and Business Organization in European Industrialization During the 19th Century: Great Britain, Germany, and/or Russia

18. Problems of the British Economy, 1870-1914: The 'Industrial Retardation' Debate
20. The 'New Imperialism' of 1870-1914 (the Era of 'Capitalist Imperialism'): Foreign Trade, Capital Exports, and the Overseas Colonial Empires of Britain, France, and Germany up to World War I

Notes on the A and B List topics:

- a) Please note carefully that all of the preceding topics, i.e., nos. 1 - 10, were and are strictly reserved for the first term. They may not, therefore, be submitted for a second-term essay topic; but they may be submitted for a third essay, if you choose to write one.
- b) For each of these topics, you can similarly find, on my Home Page (under 'Bibliographies'), both a short-format bibliography (one or two pages) listing the major readings and question; and a long-format bibliography, often very lengthy, with additional questions, statistical tables, graphs, maps, etc. They are available in both html and pdf formats; but again you are best advised to select the pdf format, especially for the statistical tables (long-format), which are sometimes unintelligible in the html format (which can eliminate columns or rows).
- c) Again, you should base your essay on some sub-topic, or narrow aspect, of the general topic that you have chosen; do not attempt to cover the entire debate topic. For sub-topics, refer to the full bibliography for the topic.
- d) There is no guarantee that the subject matter of these secondary (B category) topics will appear on the final examination.
- e) For a fuller explanation of the significance of these topics, refer again to the web document for the Master List of Essay Topics for Eco. 301Y:

<http://www.economics.utoronto.ca/munro5/303TUTOP.pdf>

C. OTHER ALTERNATIVE ESSAY TOPICS, for the second term: January to April 2011

You may instead choose or adapt any of the following essay topics; but please note that prepared bibliographies are *not* available for any of these topics, though some related bibliographies may be available. Thus check the Master List for possibly related bibliographies. I should note that very rarely indeed do students choose any of these topics (for obvious reasons); and I see no need to provide a new alternative set, since this one is very inclusive of the topics considered in this course. You must construct your own bibliography, for any of the following topics. If you wish to choose an alternative topic that is not from the following list (and not from the A or B lists) then you must obtain my approval for the topic.

Do not choose a topic that is related to either your first term essay or to the question selected for the mid-term test.

1. On Curing the Social Ills of the Industrial Revolution: British government legislation to protect the

working classes in the 19th century.

2. Capital Exports and The British Economy: the changing structure and role of foreign investments, 1815 - 1914: or, as two separate topics, (a) 1815 - 1860; (b) 1860 - 1914
3. From Mercantilism to 'Free Trade' in 19th Century Europe: The Economics and Politics of International Trade.
4. Business Cycles in the 19th Century British Economy: Causes and Consequences
5. The Bank of England: Progress and Retrogression in Central Banking, 1845 - 1914.
6. The Development of the British Steel Industry in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries: Technological Innovations, Industrial Location, and Industrial Scale.
7. A Comparison of the British Cotton and Woollen/Worsted Textile Industries in the 19th Century: Mechanization, Industrial Organization, and the Export Markets, 1820 - 1914.
8. British Fiscal and Monetary Policies: an analysis of their impact on British economic growth, 1860 - 1914.
9. The French Revolution and the Rule of Napoleon, 1797 - 1815: the impact of revolution and warfare on French and German economic development.
10. French Overseas Trade in the 18th and 19th Centuries: An Economic Comparison
11. The French Revolution and Land Reform, 1789 - 1914: the impact on the French Economy and French Society
12. Demographic and Agrarian Changes in 19th Century France: Their Impact on French Industrialization, 1789 - 1914.
13. The State and the Railroad: a comparison of government economic policies in railway development in 19th-century France and/or Germany, and/or Russia.
14. The Role of Prussia and the Prussian Government in German Industrialization, 1815 - 1914.
15. Peasant Emancipation, Land Reform, and Agrarian Changes in Germany, 1800 - 1914.
16. The Problem of Serfdom in the Economies of Prussia, Poland, and Russia, 1815 - 1914: a comparison.
17. Government Fiscal Policies and State Finance in 19th-century France, Germany, or Russia.
18. Investment banking and industrialization in continental Europe, 1830 - 1914.
19. Science and Agriculture: the Impact of Chemistry and Technological Change on European Agriculture, 1850 - 1914.
20. German Industrial Leadership: How did the Germans acquire European leadership in the steel, chemicals, and electrical industries, 1880 - 1914?

21. Cartels and Modern Industrialization: a comparative analysis of cartels in French, German, and Russian industry from ca. 1880 to 1914.
22. The role of Science and Education in the Economic Growth of Britain, France, and/or Germany in the 19th century.
23. The economic and social-welfare policies of Bismarck in Germany, 1871-90.
24. The role of Gosbank in Russian Industrialization, ca. 1860 - 1914.
25. The Economic Policies of Count Sergei Witte in Russia, 1892 - 1905: Success or Failure?
26. The 'Agrarian Depression' of 1873 - 1896, and After: a comparative analysis of agrarian change in France, Germany, and/or Russia, up to World War I.
27. The Second Industrial Revolution: The Rise of the Electrical, Chemical, and Petroleum-based Industries, 1860 - 1914. Or: you may do a study of any one of them in European industrialization from the 1860s to World War I.
28. The Evolution of the Modern Corporation in Great Britain and the Continent: 1850 - 1914.
29. Labour Conditions, Labour Unions, and Real Wages in British Industry, 1850 - 1914: did labour institutions matter?
30. Anglo-German Economic Competition and the Origins of World War I: 1890 - 1914.
31. European Imperialism in Africa and/or Asia: conquest and colonization, 1860 - 1914.
32. The Evolution of the International Gold Standard, 1860 - 1914.
33. The 'Consumer Goods Revolution': the development of modern merchandising, advertising, and mass-production of consumer goods in Western Europe, 1860 - 1914.
34. Cartels and Modern Industrialization: a comparative analysis of cartels in French, German, and Russian industry from ca. 1880 to 1914.
35. British Foreign Trade, Banking, and Shipping, 1870 - 1914: the Economic Interrelationships.
36. Anglo-German Economic Competition and the Origins of World War I: 1890 - 1914.
37. European Imperialism in Africa and/or Asia: conquest and colonization, 1850 - 1914.
38. The Economy of the Netherlands and the Role of the Dutch Overseas Empire, 1815 - 1914.
39. The Impact of Petroleum and the New Petroleum Industries on the European Economy, 1880 - 1914.
40. The Impact of the Automotive Industries on the European and American Economies, 1870 - 1914: an economic comparison.
41. The Origins and Application of the Diesel Engine in European transport and industry.
42. Innovations in Military Technology and their Impact on the European Economy, 1840 - 1918.

43. International Competition in Naval Technology and the Construction of War-ships: their impact on the European Economy, 1860 - 1918.
44. European Capital Investments in the Canadian Economy: Their Role in Canadian Economic Development, 1867 - 1914.
45. The Importance of Latin America for European Economic Development, 1800 - 1914.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Your essay must meet the following requirements, or else it will be rejected, unread and ungraded.

1. **Your essay must be based upon one of the following topics, chosen from the three following lists:**
 - A. **The Five Most Recommended Essay Topics:** with prepared bibliographies (long and short versions), which topics will appear, in some form, on the final examination.
 - B. **Other Topics from the Master List of Discussion Topics:** also with prepared bibliographies (long and short versions)
 - C. **Alternative Topics:** If you select a topic from this C list, you should seek my advice and approval for the bibliography; but you must find your own bibliography first.

2. **Your essay must contain footnotes *with pagination* (or endnotes, or citations within the text, similarly with page numbers); and an annotated bibliography, prepared according to the instructions in *Instructions on Writing Term Essays*.** If you submit a second term essay that is lacking in either proper footnotes, etc. and/or an annotated bibliography, you will receive a failing grade for the essay, unless you submit the essay to me personally first, for approval; and if you do so, submitting an improper or incomplete essay, I will give the opportunity to revise it accordingly. Footnotes are preferable to endnotes, which in turn are preferable to in-text citations; but your grade will not be affected by the choice.

3. **Your essay must not be under the minimum or over the maximum word limits, i.e.,** between about 2100 and 4500 words, without my written and signed permission; but I will almost certainly accept legitimate essays of 15 pages or more (i.e., within reason), if its extra length is the result of considerable research. If you use a word processor, use the word-count function and put the number of words on the title page of your essay.

4. **Your essay must be based upon a *minimum* of five published academic sources,** with the following stipulations to be carefully observed. Failure to observe these conditions may result in a failing grade; or at least, in the requirement that you revise and resubmit your essay.
 - a) i.e., journal articles, monographs, book-collection of essays, etc. Obviously, the five (or more) articles and/or essays provided in the package of readings (to be obtained from Scholar House Productions) constitute a valid part (or entirety) of the five required sources. You are not, however, required to use all or even any of the readings in the package, if the choice of you're a or B topic does not pertain to these readings. You should, however, clearly explain in your bibliography, perhaps in the annotation, why you did not use the package of readings for the topic selected.
 - b) Excluded from this minimum of five sources are the following: textbooks, encyclopaedias, dictionaries, my lecture notes, CD-ROM collections, unpublished documents taken from the internet – including my Working Papers (as well as those of other scholars). You may, of course, use and cite these sources, but only *in addition to the five published academic sources*. In your bibliography, these sources should be listed separately, after the others, as *Supplementary Sources*.
 - c) Journal articles found on-line (e.g., by JSTOR) may be included within the minimum number of five sources, *provided that* these articles have already been published – i.e., are now in

print.

- d) If you use only the minimum number of five such sources, no more than two may be the same author. If you use more than five such published sources, you may, of course, cite other sources by the same author.
 - e) Please remember that the term *primary* sources refers to published documents or calendars of documents (i.e., lists of documents, often with a précis of the document) and published collections of statistical data; and the term *secondary* sources refers to published articles, essays, monographs, etc. in which historians and/or economists interpret documents and data. Do not, therefore, use these terms unless you have employed published documents and/or statistics.
 - f) You do not need to annotate citations of my lecture notes, web documents, or even textbooks. The *annotation rule* applies only to the sources listed in (a) above.
 - g) If you cite my lecture notes, provide both the exact title and the date of the lecture (and, ideally as well, the URL for the lecture notes).
 - h) Before using and citing my Working Papers, check to see whether a published version of that paper exists. Obviously, it is much preferable to use the finally published version.
5. **You may not and must not use in your essay any table, graph, map or illustration that I have given you as a hand-out (including those contained within the published lectures);** nor may you include photo-copies of tables or graphs from secondary sources, not without my express permission. You may, however, include photocopies of maps and illustrations, etc. without such permission.
 6. **If you do not submit your essay prepared on a word processor or typewriter,** you must write or hand-print the essay neatly, with double-spacing, writing on one side of the page only.
 7. **Please append a title page to your essay, which must contain the following:**
 - Your full name (SURNAME in capitals) and your university registration number
 - Your e-mail address, mailing address, and phone number: **most important!** I may need the mailing address to return late essays, after the final examination
 - The course number and title of the course
 - The title of the essay and the topic number (in terms of the A, B, and C lists)
 8. Otherwise your essay must conform with the other regulations set out in the *Instructions on Writing Term Essays*.
 9. **Other Notes and Explanations:**
 - (a) The numbers in square brackets refer to those on the Master List of topics. **Please refer to them for fuller information on the nature and scope of these debate topics, and why they should be interesting to both economists and historians (and indeed political scientists as well).**
 - (b) For each of these topics there is a one-page handout with listings of the more important readings, chiefly recent periodical articles, and major questions. The more important readings are marked by asterisks: * or **. These short-form bibliographies are posted on my Home Page (web site): <http://www.economics.utoronto.ca/munro5/>

- (c) For each of these topics, and indeed for any of the topics in the Master List of 20 topics, I have supplied a complete and usually very lengthy bibliography, organized by sub-topics within this debate; and most of these bibliography sets also contain statistical tables. They are also available on my Home page, both in html (without graphs, etc.) and pdf formats. You are best advised to select the pdf format, especially for the statistical tables (long-format), which are sometimes unintelligible in the html format (which can eliminate columns or rows).
- (d) A set of readings, consisting of two articles for each of these five topics, will be available for sale, in early January 2011, from:

Scholar House Productions
 100 Harbord Street (west of Spadina, north side of the street)
 Toronto, Ontario M5S 1G6
 phone: (416) 977 - 9641
 fax: (416) 977 - 0147
 e-mail: lynds@scholar-house.on.ca or sales@scholar-house.on.ca

- (e) These five lists contain the primary recommended readings for the course this term; and thus you are advised to read one or two of the readings from each of these lists, in addition to or in place of the textbooks.
- (f) **In some form or other, virtually all of these topics will appear on the final examination.** Hence the strong emphasis on doing at least some readings for each topic.
- (g) **In writing your essay, please do not try to cover the entire topic, since these are all 'debate' topics that cover wide-ranging issues, usually involving lengthy time-periods for a wide geographic range.** You should base your essay on one specific sub-topic, or narrow aspect, of the general topic that you have chosen; and you should normally try to confine yourself to one or two regions or countries; and, if possible, in a more restricted time-framework than that covered by the debate topic. But at least be sure that the essay is restricted to one specific and relatively narrow sub-topic, which may be more easily found in the following.

10. **The marking scheme for essays in my undergraduate economic history courses**

- a) **allocation of marks: out of 100% for the essay**
- i) quality of the research (including number and relevance of the sources): 30%
- ii) quality of the analysis: economic and historical: 45%
- iii) quality of the written exposition: clarity, cogency, literary style, grammar, syntax, punctuation, spelling, etc.: 25%
- b) **Refer to my on-line document on:** *How to Get an "A" grade on term essays and the mid-year test (without bribes):*

<http://www.economics.utoronto.ca/munro5/GRADExa.pdf>

My TA (who marks all the term essays) has been instructed not to end up with numerical marks ending in 9: i.e., 49, 59, 69, 79, 89. The TA has also been asked to review this web-

document and decide, on that basis, whether – for the sum of its parts – the essays deserves to receive a B- or C+ grade, an A- or B+ grade, etc.

c) **The focus of the essay: economics or history?**

Whether the focus of your essay is economic analysis or historical analysis is up to you. Economic history belongs equally to Economics and to History. Follow your own comparative advantage and your own approach to economic history in doing so. Nevertheless, since this is an Economics course, the essay must be relevant to the subject matter of Economics: to economic history, rather to other forms of history. But you need not feel that you must employ economic theory (micro- or macro) or econometrics. Doing so, however, might well enhance the quality of your essay.

11. **Late-Penalties:** except for those with valid medical certificates, or those with documented family difficulties (for which no penalty will be imposed).

- a) Until the last day of classes: on 11 April 2008: 3% (out of 100% for the essay) for each full week of lateness. The penalty is not imposed, each week, until the full week has passed. Thus essays submitted by 5:00 on a Friday will not incur an extra penalty; but those submitted on the Monday will receive the extra week's penalty.
- b) Essays submitted after the last official day of classes, up to 5:00 pm on the following Friday (18 April 2008) – i.e., during the week before final examinations commence – will be subjected to a penalty of 25% (i.e., the mark awarded will be reduced by 25%).
- c) Essays submitted thereafter, and up to the day of the final examination for the course, will be subjected to a 50% penalty (i.e., the student will be credited with only half of the mark awarded).
- d) Any essays submitted after the final examination will be not received; and the mark recorded for the essay will be zero.
- e) **Note the regulations on term work in the Faculty of Arts and Science Calendar (St. George Campus): now online as a PDF file.**

http://www.artsandscience.utoronto.ca/ofr/calendar/10_11_Calendar_web.pdf

All term work must be submitted on or before the last day of classes in the course concerned, unless an earlier date is specified by the instructor. Students who for reasons beyond their control are unable to submit an assignment by its deadline must obtain approval from their instructor for an extension of the deadline. This extension may be for no longer than the end of the Final Examination period.

Consequently, my late-penalty provisions are really far more generous than are indicated by these regulations: note the words 'must be submitted on or before the last day of classes'.

And note also that exceptions are supposed to be granted only to those students whose inability to meet the deadline is beyond their control – and as noted if that is the reason for late submission, no penalties will be imposed.

I have, however, received permission from the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Studies to

permit these more liberal provisions for lateness for those who have no valid excuse for not submitting the essay on time (and having to meet other deadlines, or having employment obligations are not valid excuses for lateness.)