Economics 303Y1

THE ECONOMIC HISTORY OF MODERN EUROPE TO 1914

(Former Title: The Industrialization of Modern Europe, 1750 to 1914)

A BIBLIOGRAPHIC GUIDE TO SOME READINGS

for the academic year 2012 - 13

These bibliographic references are entirely optional and intended only to provide more general references for term essays; or they may be used as supplemental, voluntary readings and references to supplement the lectures (or better explain them).

The books (no articles) are listed in approximate chronological order of the course material (i.e. between 1750 and 1914), with topical sub-groupings, beginning with more general economic history surveys.

Library catalogue numbers have been provided for the more important books.

Most economic history books are catalogued with the prefix HC 240; those in British economic history, with HC 253, HC 254.5.

I begin with one book that does not fit into any of the following categories, but one that most students (who are not expert writers) are well advised to acquire for guidance in writing both essays and examinations in economics, as well as in economic history:


I. THE ECONOMIC HISTORY OF MODERN EUROPE

** For a general compendium of world economic history, see:


This work is now on-line, as an electronic version at this website, accessible to members of the academic community of the University of Toronto. For off-campus use, you must supply your U of
T library barcode and pin number. Here is the URL:

http://www.oxford-economichistory.com/?&authstatuscode=202

A. BASIC TEXTBOOKS recommended for the course: but optional


   A very well written, well argued, and comprehensive survey, with often penetrating analyses, updated about a decade ago. Somewhat economics-oriented, but it is still written more from the viewpoint of an historian. Note that more than half of this course is on Great Britain, thus justifying a book solely on Great Britain, as the ‘homeland’ of modern urban industrialization.

2. David Landes, The Unbound Prometheus: Technological Change and Industrial Development in Western Europe from 1750 to the Present (London and Toronto: Cambridge University Press, 1969); 2nd revised edn, Cambridge University Press, 2003). In paperback, CAM 418: 566 pp., of which pp. 1-358 pertain to this course, up to 1914. HC 240 L35

   This is indeed a most excellent, very readable, indeed often entertaining book; but from the point of view of this course, there are certain defects to be noted:

   (a) much research has been done on many of the topics covered since it was written, before 1969; (b) commissioned originally by the Cambridge Economic History of Europe, for Vol. VI: part I, chapter 5 (1965), it is devoted to the relationship between technology and industrial development, and therefore has little to say about agriculture, trade, transport, money and banking, etc; (c) it omits Russia; and (d) it is written from the historian's point of view. The first chapter, however, is worth the price of the book; and will be very useful for the first term.

   In many respects, however, it has been updated in his most recent book (maintaining many of the themes advanced in The Unbound Prometheus):


   Vol. I: 1700 - 1870

   Vol. II: 1870 to the Present

   Just published (summer of 2010, this is certainly the most up-to-date and impressive collection of studies, by various renowned economic historians, on modern European economic history. The obvious problems are two-fold: (1) being a set in two volumes, it is rather expensive (about $40.00 per volume); and (2) the second volume ends at the present day, while this course ends in 1914. Those students who are taking ECO 342Y, however,
might find volume II particularly relevant to that course (starting in 1914).

The approach of this new *Cambridge Economic History of Modern Europe* is thematic, dealing with various sectors of the economy across the European continent. While I myself used to adopt this approach, I have since decided that the national approach – organizing the course by the nation states of Great Britain, France, Germany, and Russia – works better, because of the greatly enhanced role of the state and national economic policies after the French Revolution.


This collection of essays follows the same approach. Since it is in one volume, and ends in 1914, many students may find it a preferable alternative, and certainly a cheaper alternative. But it was published eighteen years ago.


This book, which used to be a recommended text for this course, has long been out of print; and thus it is accessible only in the Library.


and its companion volume:


These two books (nos. 6 and 7) are together obviously much too long and too expensive to be recommended as textbooks, though certainly they are worth consulting in the library. They do provide very full coverage; and like the Trebilcock, they proceed chiefly country by country, though with a few topical chapters (technology, population, trade). They also include various other European countries not considered in this course. Like the Trebilcock, their viewpoint is also that of economics-oriented economic historians; but, in my view, these books are not as well written as the Trebilcock.

Another possible alternative to Trebilcock’s *The Industrialization of the Continental Powers, 1780 - 1914*


The most recent survey of British economic history in the Industrial Revolution era, by an outstanding economic historian; but it goes up only to the mid-19th century.


A recent collection of essays on the Industrial Revolution, with an introduction by the editor, Joel Mokyr.


Again, together these books are also much too long and too expensive to be recommended as textbooks. Furthermore, some of the essays are rather difficult for third year students (and might thus discourage you from studying economic history); and not all are of good quality. But others are of very high quality indeed, and most are strongly ‘economics’-oriented, with often very provocative analyses. All of the essays are very up to date; and this collection certainly should not be overlooked. But again, this third edition does not necessarily supersede or replace those in the first two editions.


This book is also quite up to date in its coverage, and provides an excellent even-handed survey from an economist’s point of view. Only half of the book, however (chapters 1 to 7, pp. 1 - 141), concerns this course, i.e. for the period 1700 - 1914; the second half covers the twentieth century, from 1914 to the 1980s.

Another good if less recent collection of essays on the Industrial Revolution (the prime editor being the author of the number one recommended textbook).


A very good to excellent survey, with penetrating economic analyses, by one of the leading ‘economist’ economic historians of this generation, by no means outdated.


B. ECONOMIC HISTORY SURVEYS and GENERAL STUDIES


   Vol. III: *The Industrial Revolution* (1973)


The Cambridge Economic History of Europe, in 8 vols.  HC 240 C3.


2000).


C. SOME USEFUL COLLECTIONS OF ESSAYS IN ECONOMIC HISTORY


18. L. A. Clarkson (formerly T.C. Smout, and M.W. Flinn), general editor, *Studies in Economic and Social History*, prepared for the Economic History Studies, published by MacMillan Education Ltd. (London, England), including the following titles relevant to this course, listed alphabetically by author's surname. Each is about 50 - 60 pp. in length, with bibliographies:

   Michael Anderson, *Approaches to the History of the Western Family, 1500-1914*

   P. J. Cain, *Economic Foundations of British Overseas Expansion, 1815 - 1914*

   S.D. Chapman, *The Cotton Industry in the Industrial Revolution*

   Neil Charlesworth, *British Rule and the Indian Economy, 1800 - 1914*

   J.A. Chartres, *Internal Trade in England, 1500 - 1700*

   R.A. Church, *The Great Victorian Boom, 1850 - 1873*

   L.A. Clarkson, *Proto-Industrialization: The First Phase of Industrialization?*

   P.L. Cottrell, *British Overseas Investment in the Nineteenth Century*

   Ian Drummond, *The Gold Standard and the International Monetary System, 1900 - 1939*

   M.E. Falkus, *The Industrialization of Russia, 1700 - 1914*
M. W. Flinn, *British Population Growth, 1700 - 1850*


Robert Gray, *The Aristocracy of Labour in Nineteenth-Century Britain, ca. 1850 - 1900*


E.L. Jones, *The Development of English Agriculture, 1815 - 1873*

John Lovell, *British Trade Unions, 1875 - 1933*


Hugh McLeod, *Religion and the Working Class in Nineteenth-Century Britain*

J.D. Marshall, *The Old Poor Law*

G.E. Mingay, *Enclosure and the Small Farmer in the Age of the Industrial Revolution*

Rosalind Mitchison, *British Population Change Since 1860*

R.J. Morris, *Class and Class Consciousness in the Industrial Revolution, 1780 - 1850*

J. Forbes Munro, *Britain in Tropical Africa, 1880 - 1960*

A.E. Musson, *British Trade Unions, 1880 - 1975*

P.L. Payne, *British Entrepreneurship in the Nineteenth Century*

Roy Porter, *Disease, Medicine, and Society in England, 1550 - 1860*

M.E. Rose, *The Relief of Poverty, 1834 - 1914*


A.J. Taylor, *Laissez-faire and State Intervention in Nineteenth-Century Britain*

Michael Turner, *Enclosures in Britain, 1750 - 1830*


D. **THE NETHERLANDS (THE DUTCH REPUBLIC), 1660 - 1914:**


11. Herman Van der Wee and Eddy Van Cauwenberghe, eds., Productivity of Land and Agricultural Innovation in the Low Countries, 1250 - 1800 (Leuven 1978). S 494.5 I5P75


26. Aksel Christensen, Dutch Trade to the Baltic About 1600: Studies in the Sound Toll Registers and Dutch Shipping Records (Copenhagen, 1941)


E. **GREAT BRITAIN: General Surveys on Modern Britain and on the Industrial Revolution Era:**


**F. GREAT BRITAIN IN THE 19TH CENTURY: 1815 - 1914**

   - Vol. II: *Free Trade and Steel*, 1850 - 1866 (1932)


G. **CONTINENTAL INDUSTRIALIZATION TO 1914: GENERAL**


**H. FRANCE, 1750 - 1914:**


4. Roger Price, *An Economic History of Modern France, 1730 - 1914* (1980); previously published as


   Vol. II: 1660 - 1789
   Vol. III: 1789 - années 1880
   Vol. IV: Dès années 1880 - à nos jours


I. GERMANY, 1750 - 1914


**J. RUSSIA, 1750 - 1914**


K. INTERNATIONAL TRADE, FINANCE, AND THE ‘NEW IMPERIALISM’


II.  ECONOMIC THEORY AND ECONOMIC HISTORY

Economic Theory and Econometrics in Economic History Literature

Most of the textbooks listed above involve only minimal economic theory; and the few exceptions, such as Floud & McCloskey, and Lee, do not involve any mentally taxing theory, and very little econometrics. Most students, I suspect, will find this relative absence of complex theory, calculus, and econometrics to be more of an advantage than a disadvantage, since most undergraduates do not handle theoretical problems well in economic history, and are often perplexed on encountering econometrics. At this point let me reassure the majority of students that you are not required to employ either theory or econometrics in any essay or examination. To be sure, employing them correctly and cogently will undoubtedly enhance the quality of your work; but do not use these theoretical tools unless you are absolutely certain of them.

Those who would welcome more theory and econometrics will not, however, be disappointed. You will encounter as much as you want in the current journal articles that are assigned in the readings/essays lists for each term. Let me repeat that the prime reading obligations for this course are journal articles for tutorial topics, and not the textbooks, while reiterating my promise that you are not responsible for complex theory or econometrics.

I fully realize that the reactions of many students in encountering econometrics (and calculus) and complex theoretical propositions in this journal literature is often a mixture of dismay and terror. In such cases, my advice is as follows: (a) read around the econometrics, etc., which are chiefly designed to provide numerate, mathematical support for literary claims that are written in perfectly intelligible English; and/or (b) consult one or more of the following guides.
A. Econometrics and Quantitative Methods in Economic History


   This is a very short, highly readable, and most valuable introduction to the very subject.


   For the novice in the field.


9. Jon Stewart, *Understanding Econometrics* (London, 1976). A good, short introduction to the subject for those who have not yet had a course in econometrics. For more advanced textbooks, consult the following two:


B. Theories of Economic Growth and Economic Development as applied to European Economic History


C. Some Economic Theories of Money and Their Relevance to Economic History:

(a) In Textbooks of Recent Vintage


(b) Essays and Monographs: Recent and Classic

1. Robert J. Gordon, ed., Milton Friedman's Monetary Framework: A Debate with his Critics (Chicago, 1977), especially:
   


18. Knut Wicksell, Interest and Prices (1898), and Lectures, Vol. II (1906).

(c) On the History of Monetary Doctrines and Theories


7. Don Pantinkin, *Money, Interest, and Prices*, 2nd edn. (1965) and *Studies in Monetary Economics* (1972). Combines historical studies with original economic analysis and criticism, so that these works belong in the previous section as well.