

Economic History of the Pacific Rim [CRN 14796]

Course Outline and Reading List

[I] Introduction

This is a course dealing with the economic history of the Pacific Rim. In the course we give special emphasis to the period 1450-1940, although we touch on the pre-1450 era as well. The principal topics to be covered are: the ecological hypothesis; population growth and population dynamics; Eurasia and the impact of Eurasian expansion for the New World and for countries of settlement (the Americas and Australasia); the Industrial Revolution, the Kondratieff waves, and their implications for the International Economic Order; and Imperialism and Globalization.

Countries and/or regions of the globe touched on in this class include: Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom; China, Japan, and the Philippines; Australia and New Zealand; Central America, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru and Chile.

My office hours are 10:00 am to 11:15 am on Mondays and Thursdays. My office is 378 Business and Economics Building, on the third floor. I will meet students outside of these hours but only by appointment (please see me at the end of lecture for an appointment.) Because I find to answer questions via e-mail, I discourage students from making enquiries or asking informational questions through e-mail. Moreover, I do not guarantee that I will respond to e-mail.

A copy of this course outline is available on my personal homepage. The homepage address is: <http://web.uvic.ca/~mosk/mosk-hp.html>.

[II] Administrative Matters

It should be stressed that performance in this course depends upon your ability to read and write. For this reason, you should complete Economics 225 (Writing for Economists) before you enroll in this course.

Grading is based upon numerical scores on a midterm and on a final. The midterm score is weighted by .4, and the final score is weighted by .6, the two scores added together to yield a total numerical score out of 100.

There will be two midterms, the first scheduled for **October 5 (Monday)** and the second

for **November 2 (Monday)**. The numerical score for the semester's midterm performance will be obtained by taking the higher of the two midterm scores, that for October 1 and that for October 29.

In grading I use the following method: I calculate the total numerical score on the midterm and on the final (there are 100 points possible on each examination); I multiply the score on the midterm by .4 and the score on the final by .6; I add these weighted scores to secure a mark out of 100. I assign letter grades based on the total numerical score out of 100. The numerical ranges for the grades are as follows:

90 and up: A+	85-89: A	80-84: A-
75-79: B+	70-74: B	65-69: B-
60-64: C+	55-59: C	50-54: D
0-49: E or F		

Regarding the procedure of "rounding off" non-integer values of the total numerical score for the course I proceed as follows:

If "x.y" is a non-integer (e.g. 56.7 with x = 56 and y = 7), I proceed as follows: I round up when y is 5 or greater than 5. Thus taking into account non-integer values, the "cut-offs" are as follows: 49.5 to 49.9 becomes 50, earning a D; 54.5 to 54.9 becomes 55, earning a C; 59.5 to 59.9 becomes 60, earning a C+; 69.5 to 69.9 becomes 70, earning a B; 74.5 to 74.9 becomes 75, earning a B+; 79.5 to 79.9 becomes 80, earning a A-; 84.5 to 84.9 becomes 85, earning an A; 89.5 to 89.9 becomes 90, earning an A+.

This is the sole basis for determining grades in this course (for procedures regarding recognized medical absences on midterms, see the reading list for the course.) Midterm examinations will be returned in class, once grading is complete; final examinations are available for viewing at University Centre after grading is completed (students should check with University Centre regarding procedures to see their final examinations.)

I do not report grades through e-mail, nor do I do not discuss my grading procedures through e-mail.

Students should make note of the following policy adopted by the Department of Economics:

Plagiarism and Cheating: The standards and reputation of a University are the shared responsibility of its faculty and students. Students are expected to observe the same standards of scholarly integrity as their academic and professional counterparts. Plagiarism and cheating are considered to be serious breach of academic integrity and shall be dealt with as such by the Department of Economics.

Please see the University Calendar for examples of plagiarism.

Students should also be aware of the following University policy:

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

Students are advised not to make travel plans until after the examination timetable has been finalized. Students who wish to finalize their travel plans at an earlier date should book flights that depart after the examination period (see the University Calendar.) There will be no special accommodation if travel plans conflict with the examination.

[III] Readings

The required readings are drawn from four sources: three books available for purchase at the University Bookstore; and a **Coursepack/Reader** that is available for purchase at the University Bookstore. The **Coursepack/Reader** contains copies of many of the overheads that I will be displaying in class.

The three books to be purchased are as follows:

Jared Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company) [paperback]

Gregory Clark, *A Farewell to Alms: A Brief Economic History of the World* (Princeton: Princeton University Press)

Carl Mosk, *Japanese Economic Development: Markets, Norms, Structures* (New York: Routledge) [paperback]

The **Coursepack/reader** consists of the following items:

I. Overheads Displayed in Class

II. Readings

[A] Angus Maddison, *Chinese Economic Performance in the Long Run*, pp. 19-46.

[B] Enrique Cárdenas, José Antonio Ocampo, and Rosemary Thorp, "Introduction: The Export Age: The Latin American Economies in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries, pp. 1-31 of *An Economic History of Twentieth-Century Latin America. Volume 1. The Export Age*.

In the course outline that follows I refer to the reading required in each section by the author(s)

names.

In the course of the lectures we will be making reference to the historical geography of the Pacific Rim on a number of occasions. Students interested in consulting atlases that contain maps that make prove informative are asked to consult the following atlases in the Reference/Atlas Cases of the Main University Library: /

Patrick K. O'Brien [ed], *Atlas of World History* [G1030 A878 1999 in Case B]

Geoffrey Barraclough [ed], *The Times Atlas of World History* [G1030 T54 1993 in Case B]

John Hemming [Royal Geographic Society], *Atlas of Exploration* [G1036 A85 1997 in Case B].

[IV] Outline of the Topics Covered in the Course

I The Ecological Hypothesis

The ecological hypothesis contrasted with the theory of eugenics. Topics include historical estimates of the Biological Standard of Living and the Human Development Index.

Readings: Diamond, Chapters 1-10.

II Population Growth and Dynamics

Estimates of population size and population growth discussed in terms of Malthusian theory (the theory of homeostasis and high and low pressure equilibrium systems) and the theory of Boserup that views technological change as the result of population growth and critical levels of population density and/or population size. In addition, urbanization will be discussed.

Readings: Clark, Part I (Chapters 1-9); Diamond, Chapter 11.

III Eurasia, 1450-1750

In this section the economic and demographic development of the Pacific Rim in the era of European oceanic exploration, commercial expansion and colonialism is discussed. Topics include pre-1400 intra-regional and interregional trade within Eurasia and between Eurasia and the remainder of the Pacific Rim; the transportation revolution, technological advances in ship construction and navigation, mercantilism and the balance of power within Europe; the slave trade; and Asia under isolationism.

Readings: Diamond, Chapters 12-14; Mosk, Part I (Chapters 1-2); Maddison in Coursepack.

IV The Industrial Revolution and Its Aftermath

This section takes up the Industrial Revolution and the Kondratieff waves and interprets them in terms of theories of innovation. Additional topics include the opening up of Asia to trade and to emigration, and the early industrialization of Japan.

Readings: Clark, Part II (Chapters 10-14); Mosk, Chapters 3-4.

V Imperialism and Globalization

In this section the British Empire and the Dominions are discussed. Additional topics include the theory of hegemonic cycles, the rise and demise of the Japanese Empire; and globalization and de-globalization between 1850 and 1940.

Readings: Clark, Part II (Chapters 15-18); Mosk, Chapters 5-6; Cárdenas, Ocampo, and Thorp in Coursepack.

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