

COURSE DETAIL

ECONOMIC HISTORY

Country

Italy

Host Institution

University of Commerce Luigi Bocconi

Program(s)

Bocconi University

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

History Economics

UCEAP Course Number

119

UCEAP Course Suffix

A

UCEAP Official Title

ECONOMIC HISTORY

UCEAP Transcript Title

ECONOMIC HISTORY

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

Course Description

Why are some countries rich while others are poor? Since the publication of the WEALTH OF NATIONS by Adam Smith, the sources of global inequality have been a key subject in economics. As Robert Lucas has famously claimed, once we start thinking about them, "it is hard to think about anything else." This makes the study of economic growth and development over the long run relevant for economics and the social sciences alike. Economic history introduces tools and methods of describing and analyzing growth and development and it develops critical thinking by demonstrating both the potential and limitations of economic theory in explaining economic change in the real world. The course consists of an overview of Western economic development from the early modern period, ca. 1500, to the present. The course focuses on the drivers of industrialization and of increased prosperity in the Western world and on the historical origins of the disparity in the wealth of nations today. The course is organized in two parts. The first part discusses the drivers of long-run development: the commercial, agricultural, and industrial revolutions, the role of institutions, and the origins of globalization. The second part illustrates the impact of major shocks on economic development in the 20th century: the World Wars, the Great Depression, and the challenges of the new globalization since the 1970s.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

30067

Host Institution Course Title

ECONOMIC HISTORY

Host Institution Campus

Bocconi University

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Social and Political Sciences

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