

History 349: History of Business and Economics in North America

Course Description:

A survey of the history of business and economics in North America (The US, Canada, Mexico, and Central America) from the colonial period to the present, with an emphasis on the business and economics of the region in the 20th century.

Learning Objectives:

- 1) To read and write explanations of American economic growth and development
- 2) To demonstrate critical thinking skills in writing and presenting historical economic analysis
- 3) To demonstrate analytical skills in synthesizing and comparing the economic models of Canada, the US, and Mexico, and in explaining the significance of the continental economy of North America
- 4) To establish a learning community through participations in activities of group-project discussions, preparations, and oral/written/electronic presentations.

Texts: Required

- Seavoy, Ronald. *An Economic History of the United States, From 1607 to the Present*. Routledge Press, 2006; **ISBN: 0415979811**
- Camp, Roderic. *Entrepreneurs and Politics in Twentieth-Century Mexico*. Oxford University Press, 1989 (**ereserve**); **ISBN: 0804725861**
- Taylor, Graham and Peter Baskerville. *A Concise History of Business in Canada*. Oxford University Press, 1994; **ISBN-10: 0195409787**
- Mihm, Stephen. *A Nation of Counterfeiters: Capitalists, Con Men, and the Making of the United States*. Harvard University Press, 2009; **ISBN: 0674032446**

Texts: Recommended

- Smith, Adam. *The Wealth of Nations*. Penguin Classics, 1982 (eReserve)
- Marx, Karl. *Value, Price, and Profit*. (eReserve)
- Keynes, John M. *The General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money*. (eReserve)
- Monks, Robert A. *Corpocracy: How CEOs and the Business Roundtable Hijacked the World's Greatest Wealth Machine*. Wiley Publishers, 2007; **ISBN-10: 0470145099**
- Haber, Stephen. *Industry and Underdevelopment: the Industrialization of Mexico, 1890-1940*. Stanford University Press, 1989.

Grading:

Quizzes, midterm, paper, final, class participation and attendance will be the basis of your final grade. Students are expected to attend class, take notes, do the assigned readings, and participate in class discussions. Below is a composite of the final grade:

Quizzes	20%
Midterm	20%
Paper	30%
Final exam	20%
Participation and Attendance	10%
Total	100%

Grading Scale:

Assignments are given a numeric grade based on the following scale: 93-100=A; 90-92=A-; 87-89=B+; 83-86=B; 80-82=B-; 77-79=C+; 73-76=C; 70-72=C-; 67-69=D+; 63-66=D; 60-62=D-; 59 and below=F

Quizzes:

Four quizzes will be given, and their dates are listed below. Quizzes are ten multiple choice questions and will be based on the readings, films, and the lectures. All quizzes will be in class and students should bring a blank, 4 ¼ x11, scantron sheet to class the day of the quiz.

Midterm and final:

Both the midterm and final will be based on the lectures, films, and assigned readings, and will consist of identifications and essays. The midterm and final will be in class and students can have a single 8 ½ x 11 note sheet (both sides) for use during the exams. Students should also bring a blank 8 ½ x 11 bluebook (or greenbook) to class for exam days. **Until instructed, do not write your name or anything else on or in the bluebook before the exam.**

Paper:

The paper is a 3-5 page double-spaced subjective essay based on a scholarly article selected by the student and found in one of the journals listed in a separate handout. The handout is posted on Blackboard and includes details on the paper assignment.

Class Discussion and Attendance:

Students should do the assigned readings, attend class, take notes, and be prepared to participate in class discussion. Attendance will be taken at the beginning and end of class, and students must be present at both in order to get credit for attending. Attendance and participation in class discussions makes up ten percent of the grade and will be especially important if the student is between two grades (for example, between an "A" and an "B").

Extra Credit:

Extra credit consists of writing a 3-5 page paper based on a scholarly article of the students choosing

Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities who need accommodations should contact the Disability Accommodation Services and discuss any disability issues with the professor.

Late Assignments:

No late assignments will be accepted without written authorization from a doctor or school administrator.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students should consult the university catalogue for a detailed description of plagiarism and academic dishonesty.