



ECON 1740

Economic History of the U.S. (AI)

Course Syllabus

Fall 2024

Classroom: [REDACTED]
Schedule: [REDACTED]

Instructor: [REDACTED]
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Office Hours: [REDACTED]

Course Description

This course explores the historical foundations of American economic growth and development from colonial times to the present. The study of economic history provides scholars the opportunity to understand and analyze, from a historical perspective, the impact of institutional and structural changes within the American economy.

Credit Hours: 3

General Education Designation: American Institutions - AI

Required Materials

Textbook:

1. *History of the American Economy* by Gary M. Walton and Hugh Rockoff, 12th Edition. Cengage Learning. ISBN: 9781111822927.

Supplemental Resources:

2. *The NYSTROM Atlas of United States History* (ISBN: 9780782524758) for visual and map-based content.
3. *The U.S. Constitution and Fascinating Facts About It* for historical and constitutional context (ISBN: 9781891743153).

Videos and Online Materials:

A selection of historical video documentaries and articles from Canvas, covering topics such as Colonial Economics, Westward Expansion, the Industrial Revolution, and post-World War II economic policies.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze the sources of economic growth in the U.S., including natural resource endowments, innovation and technological change, institutional change, and intra- and international trade (including innovations in communication and transportation).
2. Describe the chronology of major issues, events, and themes that played a role in the creation of the United States and the development and evolution of U.S. and its institutions.
3. Describe the effects of economic growth on the U.S. population as a whole and for sub-populations, including the evolution of living standards, changes in the nature of work, and the increasing role of markets in people's lives.
4. Discuss the evolution of U.S. government policy as it relates to the economy, including the growth of the public sector over time, the regulation of the labor market (including the use of slaves and abolition of slavery and the regulation of immigration), and the use of fiscal and monetary policy.
5. Analyze and contextualize the U.S. historical and economic events within a wider global perspective.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the meaning and implications of participatory democracy.
7. Create appropriate citations for various types of resources with a focus on primary source documents within a body of work for the class.
8. Work with others in collaborative projects and/or discussions to engage a diversity of viewpoints in a constructive fashion.
9. Explain how economic terms and theories are used to explain many of modern society's socio-economic outcomes.
10. Create an artifact that demonstrates how historical and/or economic events or concepts are relevant today.
11. Demonstrate computer and information literacy skills by using Canvas LMS, Microsoft Word, Google Docs (or similar) and various other applications and programs to complete class assignments & assessments.
12. Define fundamental economic principles and theories.
13. Analyze and interpret graphs, charts and tables of economic data from various economic sources.

Course Requirements

1. Discussions & Participation

Weekly discussions include prompts on economic topics from each unit, allowing students to explore historical contexts and economic theories actively. Participation points are awarded for initial posts and meaningful responses to classmates.

2. Weekly Quizzes

Quizzes assess comprehension of chapter material. Each quiz is multiple-choice or short-answer format, covering specific chapters, and available on Canvas.

3. Cumulative Assignments

These assignments consist of thematic essays and analyses where students synthesize historical and economic concepts across multiple units, including comparative studies and personal reflections on the material.

4. Unit Projects

Projects are comprehensive assignments that replace exams and provide an in-depth study of topics such as colonial trade or the Great Depression. Projects can be individual or group-based and may include presentations, essays, or creative analysis using historical documents.

5. Signature Assignment/ePortfolio

The final assignment requires students to produce a significant piece of work demonstrating course knowledge and includes a reflective component. The project is uploaded to the student's ePortfolio and showcases historical research and analysis (

Grading Breakdown

Component	Weight (%)
Discussions & Participation	15%
Weekly Quizzes	20%
Cumulative Assignments	25%
Unit Projects	20%
Signature Assignment/ePortfolio	20%

Final Grade Distribution

A	A-	B+	B
100 to 94	<94 to 90	<90 to 87	<87 to 84
B-	C+	C	C-
<84 to 80	<80 to 77	<77 to 74	<74 to 70
D+	D	D-	E
<70 to 67	<67 to 64	<64 to 60	<60 to 0

Important Dates

Student Academic Calendar:

The “Student Academic Calendar” contains important dates including registration, tuition payments, holidays, and significant deadlines. Refer to the webpage for the most up-to-date information. [website link: <https://www.slcc.edu/academiccalendar/index.aspx>]

Final Exam Schedule:

The “Final Exam Schedule” lists information about when each course section will hold its final exam period. Refer to the webpage for the most up-to-date information. [website link: <https://www.slcc.edu/schedule/final-exam-schedule.aspx>]

Institutional Statements and Policies

General Education at SLCC:

This course fulfills the social sciences requirement of the General Education Program at Salt Lake Community College. It is designed to teach you the core knowledge and skills of the discipline while also developing essential professional competencies and strategies for lifelong learning. General Education courses broaden your foundational skills and expand your understanding across diverse subjects. By integrating insights from various disciplines, you will learn to apply knowledge meaningfully, enrich your life, develop broader perspectives, deepen your understanding of the world, and challenge your assumptions.

E-Portfolios:

All General Education courses include a “Signature Assignment” that comprises part of each student’s e-Portfolio. For more information, see the statement about e-portfolios in Simple Syllabus.

Institutional Syllabus:

The “Institutional Syllabus” on Canvas includes important statements and information on a range of institutional policies, learning support and tutoring services, and student support resources. These sections provide guidance on student rights and responsibilities, grading policies, and various support services available to assist with academic advising, counseling, accessibility, student engagement, and more. For detailed information, please refer to the “Institutional Syllabus” on Canvas.

Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Assignments
1	Introduction to U.S. Economic History	Syllabus Quiz, Introductory Discussion
2	Colonial Foundations of the Economy	Quiz on Chapters 1-2, Project Start
3	The Role of Natural Resources and Trade	Quiz, Reflection on Early Trade Networks
4	Revolutionary Economy and Independence	Discussion on Colonial Economics, Quiz on Chapters 3-4
5	Early Industrialization	Project on Market Growth, Quiz
6	Transportation and Market Expansion	Chapter Quiz, Discussion on Transportation
7	The Civil War and Economic Change	Midterm Exam, Cumulative Assignment on Slavery and Economy
8	Post-War Reconstruction	Reflection on Reconstruction Policies, Quiz
9	The Rise of Big Business	Discussion, Quiz on Industrial Expansion
10	The Great Depression and New Deal	Unit Project on Economic Policies, Quiz
11	WWII Economy and Postwar Growth	Reflection on War Economy, Quiz
12	The Cold War and Technological Growth	Discussion, Analysis on Tech Impact
13	Modern Economic Challenges	Signature Assignment Draft, Quiz
14	Globalization and Trade	Final Project Submission, Class Discussion
15	Course Wrap-Up and Reflections	ePortfolio Submission, Final Quiz
16	Final Exam	Comprehensive Exam on Units 4-5