

# **U.S. Economic History**

Econ 1740-002

Economics Department, 3 Credit hour

Mon, Wed 10:45 – 12:05

Instructor: Jason Flurer [u00650743@utah.edu](mailto:u00650743@utah.edu)

Office Hours: by appointment only, Econ. Department cubicle 3

## *Course Description:*

This class uses an economic framework to address the historical development of the United States from its colonial beginnings to the present. The economy is a system that harnesses human effort and other resources to provide material things for people. The course helps students better appreciate economic forces for historical change and better understand the economic consequences of historical events to the modern U.S. economic system.

## *Course Objectives:*

By completion of this course the student will:

Gain a more detailed knowledge of US history identifying important people, events, and developments

Understand and explain the functioning of the modern U.S. economic system from an analysis of its past

## *Required text:*

- *The Economic Transformation of America: 1600 to the Present* by Robert Heilbroner and Aaron Singer, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, ISBN: 9780155055308

## *Requirements and Grading:*

### Exams

There will be four exams. Midterm exams will each be worth 25% of your grade. I will drop your lowest exam score, but only if you take every exam. Failure to take an exam will result in a zero for that exam. The best grade you could get from the class if you miss one exam is a C. All exams will consist of a mix of “multiple choice” and possibly short essay questions. In very rare cases of extreme, unavoidable, and documented scheduling conflicts, individual students may arrange to take exams early, and these arrangements must be made well in advance of the scheduled exam time. Late exams

may be given in cases of documented medical or other emergency. Otherwise, failure to take an exam at the scheduled time will result in a 0 for the exam.

**Weighting of exams and assignments:**

Exams each worth 25%

*Class Policies:*

Students should speak with instructor *in advance* to request special consideration in the case of some extenuating circumstance that prevents their taking an exam or submitting an assignment at the scheduled time. Exams may only be taken the day indicated in the course schedule.

<b>University of Utah Grading Scale</b>		
	<i>Score</i>	<i>GPA</i>
<b>A</b>	: 93-100	4.0
<b>A-</b>	: 90-92	3.7
<b>B+</b>	: 87-89	3.3
<b>B</b>	: 83-86	3.0
<b>B-</b>	: 80-82	2.7
<b>C+</b>	: 77-79	2.3
<b>C</b>	: 73-76	2.0
<b>C-</b>	: 70-72	1.7
<b>D+</b>	: 67-69	1.3
<b>D</b>	: 63-66	1.0
<b>D-</b>	: 60-62	0.7
<b>E</b>	: 0-59	0.0

**No extra credit is given in this class;** students already have sufficient opportunities for learning and for demonstrating their knowledge of the subject and their effort and commitment in the class.

As a courtesy to everyone present, please arrive on time to class. Consistent attendance is recommended, but attendance is not taken.

**This syllabus is not a binding legal contract. The instructor may modify it when the student is given reasonable notice of the modification.**

*Disabilities:*

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

*Instructor Responsibilities:*

The instructor will convene class at the scheduled time, ensure that the environment is conducive to learning, enforce the student code, grade and return assignments and exams in a timely manner, and inform students at the beginning of class of course content, requirements, evaluation methods, grading scale, schedule, and due dates. Please contact the instructor soon with any concerns regarding the way he facilitates learning this term.

Should the instructor be late for class or unable to arrive due to weather, sickness, or other reasons, the department will be notified and its representative will inform students of the situation. Students may inquire by calling the economics department at 581-7481.

In the event of an absence by the instructor or any other circumstance that prevents class meetings, messages via WebCT and email will inform students of out-of-class online readings, discussions, and writing assignments that will substitute for in-class learning.

*Some Important Dates:*

**Fall 2011**

Wednesday, Aug 31st	Last day to drop classes
Wednesday, Sept 14th	First Midterm Exam
Wednesday, Oct 12th	Second Midterm Exam
Wednesday, Nov 9th	Third Midterm Exam
Wednesday, Nov 30th	Fourth Midterm Exam
Wednesday, Nov 30th	Last Day of Class

**Tentative Course Schedule**

Pre-colonization, Europe	(Lecture 1-2)
Colonization, Pre-Revolutionary War	(Lectures 3-6)
Antebellum Era, Pre-Civil war	(Lectures 7-12)
American Industrial revolution, post-antebellum period, reunification	(Lectures 15-18)
Roaring 20's	(Lecture 19-20)
Great Depression, the New Deal/WWII	(Lectures 21-24)
Big government Capitalism, Rise of Neo-Liberalism	(Lectures 25-28)