

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Department of History
Semester I, 1986-87

History 465

The American Economy to 1865

Professor Lindstrom

Required Texts:

Thomas Dublin, Women at Work
Susan Previat Lee and Peter Passell, A New Economic View of American History
Gary Walton and James Shepherd, The Economic Rise of Early America
Articles on reserve at the State Historical Society

Recommended Texts:

Students are urged to select and read one of the following survey textbooks:

Brownlee, Dynamics of Ascent
Scheiber, Vatter and Faulkner, American Economic History
Ratner, Soltow, and Sylla, The Evolution of the American Economy

*Lecture will incorporate discussion

Course Calendar:

Sept. 3: Introduction to American Economic History
5: The Impulse to Colonize*

Readings: Walton and Shepherd, pp. 1-63; and Lee and Passell, pp. 1-14.

Sept. 8: The Northern Colonies in the Seventeenth Century
10: The Southern Colonies in the Seventeenth Century*
12: Colonial Development, 1685-1775

Readings: Russell Menard, "The Tobacco Industry in the Chesapeake Colonies, 1617-1730: An Interpretation," in Paul Uselding (ed.), Research in Economic History, V (1980), pp. 109-77.

Sept. 15: Colonial Technology and Industry
17: Currency Issues: Specie and Paper Money
19: Colonial Commerce*

Readings: Walton and Shepherd, pp. 64-137; and Lee and Passell, pp. 15-27.

Sept. 22: Population and Labor
24: Colonial Income and Wealth*
26: British Mercantilism and the American Revolution*

Readings: Walton and Shepherd, pp. 138-77; and Lee and Passell, pp. 28-51.

Nov. 24: Labor in the Antebellum Era
26: Cities in Transition

Dec. 1: The Origins of the Civil War*
3: No Class
5: The Civil War*
Readings: Lee and Passell, pp. 208-40.

Dec. 8: Civil War: II
10: Growth, Income and Wealth*
12: Review
Readings: Lee Soltow, Men and Wealth, pp. 174-83.

Sept. 29: The American Economy, 1776-1790*

Oct. 1: Exam

3: Land, Law and Economic Development*

Readings: Walton and Shepherd, pp. 178-201; Lee and Passell, 63-71; and James Willard Hurst, Law and the Conditions of Freedom, pp. 3-32.

Oct. 6: Early National Economic Policy

8: The American Economy, 1790-1815

10: The Origins of Long Term Growth*

Readings: Lee and Passell, pp. 52-62; and Lindstrom, "Macroeconomic Growth: The United States in the Nineteenth Century," Journal of Interdisciplinary History (Spring, 1983), pp. 679-705.

Oct. 13: Transportation Revolution: I

15: Transportation Revolution: II*

17: The Industrial Revolution

Readings: Erik Haites, James Mak, and Gary Walton, Western River Transportation, pp. 59-87.

Oct. 20: The Textile Industry*

22: Textile Workers*

24: Financing American Enterprise

Readings: Dublin, pp. 1-107; and Lee and Passell, pp. 63-93.

Oct. 27: Early American Banking

29: Government and the Economy*

31: Government and the Economy II*

Readings: Lee and Passell, pp. 108-29; Andrew Jackson, "Veto Message"; and Hurst, Law and the Conditions of Freedom, pp. 33-70; Edwin Perkins and Gary Walton, A Prosperous People, pp. 59-66.

Nov. 3: Western Agriculture*

5: Southern Agriculture

7: Slavery and the Southern Economy*

Readings: Lee and Passell, pp. 130-86.

Nov. 10: Slavery and Society*

12: Exam

14: Railroads

Readings: Lee and Passell, pp. 187-207.

Nov. 17: The Industrial Revolution: The Second Stage

19: Technology and Factor Prices*

21: The Industrial Worker*

Readings: Lee and Passell, pp. 93-107; and Dublin, pp. 87-207.