

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
Department of History  
Semester I, 1987-88

History 465      The American Economy to the Civil War Era      Professor Lindstrom

Required Texts:

W. Elliot Brownlee, Dynamics of Ascent  
Thomas Dublin, Women at Work  
J. Willard Hurst, Law and the Conditions of Freedom  
Susan Lee and Peter Passell, A New Economic View of American History  
Articles on reserve at the State Historical Society or available at Kinkos

\*Lecture will incorporate discussion on week's assigned readings

Course Calendar

- Sept. 2: Introduction to American Economic History  
4: The Impulse to Colonize North America\*  
Readings: Brownlee, Dynamics, pp. 3-26;  
Lee and Passell, A New View, pp. 1-14.
- Sept. 7: No class  
9: The Southern Colonies in the Seventeenth Century\*  
11: The Northern Colonies in the Seventeenth Century  
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. 14: Colonial Development, 1685-1775\*  
16: Colonial Technology and Manufacturing  
18: No class  
Readings: Lee and Passell, pp. 15-27;  
John J. McCusker and Russell R. Menard, The Economy of British America, pp. 17-34 and 295-308;  
Brownlee, pp. 27-58.
- Sept. 21: Colonial Commerce\*  
23: Labor: Supply, Systems, and Skills  
25: Colonial Income and Wealth  
Readings: Gary Walton and James Shepherd, The Economic Rise of Early America, pp. 64-112.
- Sept. 28: British Mercantilism and the American Revolution\*  
30: The End of the Colonial Era, 1776-1783
- Oct. 2: Exam  
Readings: Lee and Passell, pp. 28-51;  
Brownlee, pp. 89-119
- Oct. 5: The 1780s: A Critical Decade?  
7: Land, Law and Economic Development\*  
9: The Constitution and Early National Economic Policy  
Readings: Hurst, Law and the Conditions of Freedom, pp. 3-32;  
Lee and Passell, pp. 63-71.

- Oct. 12: Modern Growth and the Structural Transformation\*  
14: Transportation Revolution: I  
16: Transportation Revolution: II  
Readings: Lindstrom, "Macroeconomic Growth: The United States in the  
Nineteenth Century, Journal of Interdisciplinary History (Spring, 1983), pp.  
679-705.;  
Passell and Lee, 52-62 and 71-82;  
Brownlee, pp. 121-92.
- Oct. 19: The First Industrial Surge  
21: The Textile Industry\*  
23: Textile Workers\*  
Readings: Lee and Passell, pp. 83-93;  
Dublin, Women at Work, pp. 1-107.
- Oct. 26: Financing American Enterprise  
28: Banking in the Antebellum Era  
30: Jackson and the Bank War\*  
Readings: Lee and Passell, pp. 108-29;  
Andrew Jackson, "Veto Message" and selected readings from the  
Wisconsin Constitutional Convention;  
Brownlee, pp. 193-240.
- Nov. 2: Government and the Antebellum Economy\*  
4: The Rise of Midwestern Agriculture  
6: Slavery and the Southern Economy\*  
Readings: Hurst, pp. 33-70  
Brownlee, pp. 241-51;  
Lee and Passell, pp. 130-86.
- Nov. 9: Slavery and Society\*  
11: Exam  
13: Railroads  
Readings: Lee and Passell, pp. 187-207.
- Nov. 16: The Second Industrial Surge  
18: Technology and Factor Prices\*  
20: The Textile Worker: Part II\*  
Readings: Lee and Passell, pp. 93-107;  
Dublin, pp. 87-207.
- Nov. 23: Migration, Immigration, and the American Worker  
25: Cities in Transition\*  
Readings: Lindstrom, "Economic Structure, Demographic Change and Income  
Inequality in Antebellum New York City."
- Nov. 30: Origins of the Civil War\*  
Dec. 2: The Civil War: I\*  
4: The Civil War: II  
Readings: Lee and Passell, pp. 208-40;  
Brownlee, pp. 251-65.
- Dec. 7: The Regional Perspective: Growth and Inequality  
9: Personal Income and Wealth Inequality  
11: The Dynamics of Capitalism
- Dec. 14: Review