

PSC/IR 257
The Origins of the Modern World
Fall 2019
4:50-7:30 PM Tuesdays

Alexander Lee

Instructor:

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Office Hours: Tuesdays, 2:45-4:45

Course Goals:

This course is designed to give students a background in the causes and consequences of the profound change in political, economic and social changes that have so profoundly altered the world over the past five centuries, and a basic knowledge of both classic and contemporary scholarly accounts of these changes. After describing political and economic conditions in the pre-modern world, it describes how a distinctively “modern” political economy emerged in Western Europe, how this political economy became pervasive over the rest of the world, and the long term and continuing consequences of these changes. The reading list mixes historical and social scientific accounts, and the mixture is designed to allow us to view events in light of wider theorizing, and to examine the historical context in which these theories are situated.

Grading:

Class Participation — 20%

12 Reading Comprehension Quizzes x 5%— 55% [Lowest Score dropped]

Take-Home Final — 25% (0% WI)

Final Paper —(25% WI)

Course Policies:

Unexcused late work will be penalized a whole letter grade, and an additional letter grade for every additional 24 hours of lateness. Plagiarism or cheating will be treated seriously and reported to the Board of Academic Honesty. Students will be able to make up one quiz by submitting a 750 word reading response. No other absences will be excused except by doctor’s note.

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Reading: Students will be graded on their attendance and participation in discussion classes, indicated in individual weeks.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be administered in the first thirty minutes of class, and will require students to identify and discuss key concepts from that week’s readings

Final: A final exam will ask students to write two short essays on themes covering the whole of the course material.

Writing Intensive Students: WI students must write a twenty five-page research paper on a topic related to the course material. The topic must be approved orally by the professor before the 8th week of class. The paper itself is due on the last day of class.

September 3rd: Introduction

“ * ” Indicates that the reading in the zip folder is greater than the amount assigned

September 10th: The starting point: The World in 1494

*Braudel, Fernand. *Civilization and Capitalism*. Volume I. Trans. Sian Reynolds. Berkeley: U of California Press, 1992 P. 51-92.

*Bloch, Marc Léopold Benjamin. *Feudal society*. Translated by L. A. Manyon. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1963, 1961. Ch. 4-5, 11-12, 18-19.

Kapuchinski, Ryszard. *The Emperor*. New York: Vintage, 1989. Part One.

Foucault, Michel. *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. New York: Vintage 1995 [1977.] P. 3-16.

Scott, James C. *The moral economy of the peasant: Rebellion and subsistence in Southeast Asia*. Yale University Press, 1977. Introduction.

McManners, John. *Church and Society in Eighteenth-Century France*.. Vol. 1. Clarendon Press, 1999. P. 122-140.

Thomas Malthus (1798), An Essay on the Principle of Population, Chap. 1-2, 4-5

<http://www.econlib.org/library/Malthus/malPop.html>

September 17th: Why did Western Europe develop faster than the rest of the world?

*Jones, Eric. *The European miracle: environments, economies and geopolitics in the history of Europe and Asia*. Cambridge University Press, 2003. Ch. 1, 12

Pomeranz, Kenneth. *The great divergence: China, Europe, and the making of the modern world economy*. Princeton University Press, 2009. P. 3-68

Diamond, Jared M. *Guns, germs and steel: a short history of everybody for the last 13,000 years*. Random House, 1998. Chapter 18.

Wallerstein, Immanuel. *The modern world-system: Capitalist agriculture and the origins of the European world-economy in the sixteenth century*. Academic Press, 1974. Ch.7

Brenner, Robert. "Agrarian class structure and economic development in pre-industrial Europe." *Past & present* 70.1 (1976): 30-75.

Mokyr, Joel. *The lever of riches: Technological creativity and economic progress*. Oxford University Press, 1992. Ch.1, 9

September 24th: Why did states form in Western Europe?

Tilly, Charles, *Coercion, capital, and European states, AD 990-1990*. Cambridge, MA : Blackwell, 1992. Chapters One and Two.

- Rokkan, Stein. "Dimensions of State Formation." In Tilly, Charles. (Ed.) *The Formation of National States in Western Europe*. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1975.
- Spruyt, Hendrik. "Institutional selection in international relations: state anarchy as order." *International Organization* 48.4 (1994): 527-557.
- Abramson, Scott F. "The economic origins of the territorial state." *International Organization* 71.1 (2017): 97-130.
- Strayer, Joseph Reese. *On the medieval origins of the modern state*. Princeton University Press, 1970. P. 3-45.
- Sahlins, Peter. *Boundaries: the making of France and Spain in the Pyrenees*. Univ of California Press, 1989. Ch.1.

October 1st: Why did England develop faster than other parts of Western Europe?

- *Allen, Robert C. *The British industrial revolution in global perspective*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009. Ch.1, 6
- *North, Douglas. *Structure and Change in Economic History*. New York: Norton, 1981. Ch. 1, 4, 11.
- Polanyi, Karl. *The Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Time*. Second Edition. Boston: Beacon Press, 2001 [1944.] Ch.3,6.
- *Elliot, J.H. *Imperial Spain 1469-1716*. Second Edition. London: Penguin, 2002. Ch. 8.
- Acemoglu, Daron & Simon Johnson & James Robinson. "The Rise of Europe: Atlantic Trade, Institutional Change, and Economic Growth," *American Economic Review*, American Economic Association, vol. 95(3), pages 546-579, June 2005.
- Mokyr, Joel. *The lever of riches: Technological creativity and economic progress*. Oxford University Press, 1992. Ch.10
- Weber, Max. "The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism." [Ch. 1-2]
- Marx, Karl, "The Poverty of Philosophy." Chapter 2, Part 2.
<https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1847/poverty-philosophy/ch02b.htm>

October 8th: Why did some European states have more effective state institutions?

- Anderson, Perry. *Lineages of the absolutist state*. London : N.L.B., c1974. Ch. I:1, 2:1.
- North, Douglass C. and Barry R. Weingast (1989). "Constitutions and Commitment: the Evolution of Institutions Governing Public Choice in Seventeenth-century England." *The Journal of Economic History*, 49(4): 803-32.
- Brewer, John. *The Sinews of Power: War, Money and the English State, 1688-1783*. London: Unwin Hyman, 1989. Ch.2-3.
- Dincecco, Mark. "The rise of effective states in Europe." *The Journal of Economic History* 75.03 (2015): 901-918.
- Lee, Alexander and Jack Paine. "The Great Revenue Divergence." Working Paper 2018.
- Acharya A, Lee A. "Path Dependence in European Development: Medieval Politics, Conflict, and State-Building." Working paper, Stanford University; 2016 Feb 4.

October 22nd: Did colonialism create inequalities within the non-European world?

- Stanley Engerman and Kenneth Sokoloff. "Factor Endowments, Inequality, and Paths of Development Among New World Economies." NBER Working Paper 9259. 2002.
- Acemoglu, Daron Simon Johnson, and James Robinson. "Reversal of Fortune: Geography and Institutions in the Making of the Modern World Income Distribution." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 118: 1231-1294. 2002.
- Acemoglu, Daron Simon Johnson, and James Robinson. "The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation." *American Economic Review* 91: 1369-1401. 2001.
- Ferguson, Niall. *Empire: How Britain made the modern world*. Penguin UK, 2012. Introduction.
- *Chaudhary, Latika, et al., eds. *A new economic history of colonial India*. Routledge, 2015. Ch. 4,5
- Nunn, Nathan. "The long-term effects of Africa's slave trades." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 123.1 (2008): 139-176.

October 29th: Did devolved colonialism have a negative effect?

- *Mamdani, Mahmood. *Citizen and Subject: Contemporary Africa and the Legacy of Late Colonialism*. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1996. Ch.2
- *Furnivall, J.S. *Colonial Policy and Practice: A comparative study of Burma and Netherlands India*. New York: New York University Press [1956] Ch. 8.
- Banerjee, Abhijit and Lakshmi Iyer. 2005. "History, Institutions and Economic Performance: The Legacy of Colonial Land Tenure Systems in India," *American Economic Review* 95 (4): 1190-1213.
- Lange, Matthew. *Lineages of despotism and development: British colonialism and state power*. University of Chicago Press, 2009. Ch.1
- Iyer, Lakshmi. "Direct versus indirect colonial rule in India: Long-term consequences." *The Review of Economics and Statistics* 92.4 (2010): 693-713.
- Acemoglu, Daron, Tristan Reed, and James A. Robinson. "Chiefs: Economic development and elite control of civil society in Sierra Leone." *Journal of Political Economy* 122.2 (2014): 319-368.

November 5th: Why did convergence in economic outcomes not occur after independence?

- *Rostow, William. *The Stages of Economic Growth: A Non-communist Manifesto*. Third Edition. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2003. Ch.1-3.
- Rodrik, Dani, Arvind Subramanian, and Francesco Trebbi. "Institutions rule: the primacy of institutions over geography and integration in economic development." *Journal of economic growth* 9.2 (2004): 131-165.
- Krueger, Anne O. "The political economy of the rent-seeking society." *The American economic review* 64.3 (1974): 291-303.
- Easterly, William, and Ross Levine. "Africa's growth tragedy: policies and ethnic divisions." *quarterly journal of economics* 112.4 (1997): 1203-1250.
- *Bates, Robert H. *Markets and states in tropical Africa: the political basis of agricultural policies*. Univ of California Press, 2014. P.1-11.
- Gupta, Akhil. *Red tape: Bureaucracy, structural violence, and poverty in India*. Duke University Press, 2012. Ch.1,

November 12th: Why did some states become associated with national identities?

Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. Second Edition. New York: Verso, 1994. Ch.1,4,5.

*Weber, Eugene. *Peasants Into Frenchmen: The Modernization of Rural France, 1870-1914*. Palo Alto: Stanford UP, 1976. Introduction, Ch.1-2, 17-18.

Miguel, Edward. "Tribe or nation? Nation building and public goods in Kenya versus Tanzania." *World politics* 56.3 (2004): 327-362.

Posner, Daniel N. "The political salience of cultural difference: Why Chewas and Tumbukas are allies in Zambia and adversaries in Malawi." *American Political Science Review* 98.4 (2004): 529-545.

*Hechter, Michael. *Internal Colonialism: The Celtic Fringe in British National Development, 1536-1966*. London: Taylor & Francis, 1975. Ch. 2

Gellner, Ernest. *Nations and Nationalism*. Cornell University Press, 1983. Ch.5.

November 19th: Why did some states become democracies?

*Moore, Barrington. *The Social origins of dictatorship and democracy; lord and peasant in the making of the modern world*. Boston, Beacon Press [1966] Ch.7.

Lipset, Seymour *Political Man*. New York: Doubleday 1963. Ch. 2.

*Acemoglu, Daron and James A. Robinson. *Economic Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006. Ch. 1-2

Przeworski, Adam, and Fernando Limongi. "Modernization: Theories and facts." *World politics* 49.2 (1997): 155-183.

Acemoglu, D., Johnson, S., Robinson, J.A. and Yared, P., 2008. Income and democracy. *The American Economic Review*, 98(3), pp.808-842.

*Putnam, Robert D., Robert Leonardi, and Raffaella Y. Nanetti. *Making democracy work: Civic traditions in modern Italy*. Princeton university press, 1994. Ch.4, 5

December 3rd: Can state policy lead to economic development?

Gerschenkron, Alexander. *Economic backwardness in historical perspective, a book of essays*, Cambridge, Massachusetts: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1962. Introduction.

Evans, Peter B. *Embedded autonomy: states and industrial transformation*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995. P.3-20, 43-73.

Ferguson, James, and Larry Lohmann. "The anti-politics machine: 'Development' and bureaucratic power in Lesotho." *Ecologist (United Kingdom)* (1994).

*Easterly, William. *The elusive quest for growth: economists' adventures and misadventures in the tropics*. MIT press, 2002. Introduction, Ch. 1-5.

Duflo, Esther. "Schooling and labor market consequences of school construction in Indonesia: Evidence from an unusual policy experiment." *American economic review* 91.4 (2001): 795-813. 2)

Bertrand, M., S. Djankov, R. Hanna and S. Mullainathan. 2007. "Obtaining a Driver's License in India: An Experimental Approach to Studying Corruption," *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 122:4, 1639-1676.

December 10th: Is higher state capacity the solution for the problems of poor countries?

*Herbst, Jeffery. *States and Power in Africa: Comparative Lessons in Authority and Control*.

Princeton: Princeton UP, 2000. Ch.1, 2,4.

Scott, James. *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1999. Ch.1-2.

Fearon, James and David Laitin. 2003. "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War." *American Political Science Review* 97 (1): 75-90.

Migdal, Joel S. *Strong societies and weak states: state-society relations and state capabilities in the Third World*. Princeton University Press, 1988. Introduction to Part 1, chapter 1.

Lee, Melissa M., and Nan Zhang. "Legibility and the informational foundations of state capacity." *The Journal of Politics* 79.1 (2017): 118-132.