

Rich and poor countries: Global History Matters

Responsible institution:

Faculty of Humanities / Department of archaeology, history, cultural studies and religion, University of Bergen (UiB)

Disciplines:

History, sociology, economics and cultural studies

Course Leaders:

Camilla Brautaset (CB), Associate Professor, Department of archaeology, history, cultural studies and religion, UiB

Eivind H.Seland (EHS), Lecturer, Department of archaeology, history, cultural studies and religion, UiB

Invited course leader:

Regina Grafe (RG), Associate Professor, Northwestern University, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Department of History

Guest lecturers:

Stig Tenold (ST), Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration

Inger Marie Okkenhaug (IMO), Researcher, Unifob Global, UiB

Renate Lunde (RL), Research Fellow, Department of archaeology, history, cultural studies and religion Department of history, UiB

Course Description:

We live in a divided world. The divergence between rich and poor countries has never been as large as it is today. This course aims at providing an overview and insight into important historical processes and experiences that address wealth and poverty in a global perspective. The empirical framework of analysis stretches from around 1800 towards the present day, but emphasis is laid upon the development in the 20th century. We approach the issues by focusing on historical processes on global and regional levels. However, the course also offer in-depth analyses of the problem of poverty in micro units in the developing world based on extensive field work. Combining historical observations with attempts of explanations, we apply a theoretical framework drawing upon research within several academic disciplines such as sociology, history and economics.

Prerequisites:

Proficiency in the English language is required.

Target Candidates:

The course is primarily targeted for PhD students and junior faculty. MA level students will be accepted depending on space and academic qualifications.

ECTS credits:

10 ECTS granted for approved course performance (full course attendance, course readings and approved essay consisting of 3,000-5,000 words).

Lectures:

Date	Time	Title	Lecturer	Literature
08/08 2008	14.00-16.00	A world divided	CB and EHS	
09/08 2008	09.00-11.00	Global connections and disconnections	RG	Landes 1999: 1-28, Curtis 2000: 1-38.
10/08 2008	09.00-11.00	World systems	EHS	Shannon 1996.
10/08 2008	14.00-16.00	Leaping ahead, catching up and falling behind in the long 19th century	CB	Abramovitz 1986, Landes 1999: 186-391.
12/08 2008	09.00-11.00	Total war and how to restore society	IMO	Curtin 2000:109-192
12/08 2008	14.00-16.00	Has history forgotten the poor?	RL	Landes 1999: 393-421.
13/08 2008	14.00-16.00	Empire and after	EHS	Alesina and Dollar 2000; Bates, Coatsworth and Williamson 2006; Landes 1999: 422-441; Curtin 2000: 193-278.
14/08 2008	09.00-11.00	Economic winners and losers after 1945	CB	Ikenberry 2002, Landes 1999: 442-524.
14/08 2008	14.00-16.00	Economic Miracles: Do they happen?	ST	Crafts 1999.
15/08 2008	11.30-13.00	Closing lecture: Why global history matters	RG	

Course syllabus:

* Abramovitz, Moses. 1986. "Catching Up, Forging Ahead, and Falling Behind" *The Journal of Economic History*, Vol. 46, No. 2. 385:406.

* Alesina, A., Dollar, D. 2000. "Who Gives Foreign Aid to Whom and Why". *Journal of Economic Growth*, Vol 5. 33:63.

** Bates, Robert H., Coatsworth, John. H. and Williamson, Jeffrey G. 2006. "Lost Decades: Lessons from Post-Independence Latin America for today's Africa", *NBER Working Paper Series*, No.12610, Cambridge, MA. 42 pages. <http://www.nber.org/papers/w12610.pdf>

** Nicholas Crafts. 1999. "East Asian Growth Before and After the Crisis", *IMF Staff Papers*, Vol. 46, No.2. 27 pages.
<http://www.internationalmonetaryfund.org/external/pubs/ft/staffp/1999/06-99/pdf/crafts.pdf>

** Ikenberry, John G. 2002. *After victory – institutions, strategic restraint, and the rebuilding of order after major wars*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 3:20.
<http://press.princeton.edu/chapters/s6981.pdf>

Curtin, Philip D. 2000. *The World and the West. The European Challenge and the Overseas Response in the Age of Empire*. Cambridge/New York, Melbourne/Madrid: Cambridge University Press. 1:52, 109:274.

Landes, David. 1999. *The Wealth and Poverty of Nations. Why some are so rich and some are so poor*. London: Abacus. ISBN 0-349-11166-9. 1:28, 186:658.

Shannon, Thomas Richard. 1996. *An Introduction to the World Systems Perspective*. 2nd edition, Boulder/San Francisco/London: Westview Press. ISBN 0-8133-2452-1 (pbk).