

# **World Economic History**

Code: 102330 ECTS Credits: 6

2025/2026

Degree	Туре	Year
Business Administration and Management	FB	1
Economics	FB	1

## Contact

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## **Teachers**

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# **Teaching groups languages**

You can view this information at the <u>end</u> of this document.

## **Prerequisites**

There are no official prerequisites for taking the course. However, it is recommended that students have a basic knowledge of Economics, History and Geography, in order to get the most out of the lectures, readings and exercises.

# **Objectives and Contextualisation**

- Analyse the complexity and dynamics of economic processes.
- Identify and explain the main determinants that have made possible periods of growth, economic stability, recession and crisis, on a national and international scale.
- Establish the explanatory factors of the economic globalisation processes.
- Analyse the causes and consequences of inequality amongst countries and between individuals generated by capitalist economic development.

- Study technological revolutions and their impact on the economy and on business organisation.
- Assess and compare the sustainability of historical economic development models.
- Detect gender differences and discrimination in the labour market, in access to economic resources and general welfare.

# **Learning Outcomes**

- 1. CM06 (Competence) Report on the field of historical knowledge by evaluating sex/gender-based inequalities.
- 2. CM07 (Competence) Solve the problems faced by economic agents, when they have to make decisions in conditions of uncertainty, based on different historical experiences.
- 3. CM08 (Competence) Propose organisational, technological and evolution-monitoring solutions in historical, social, economic and environmental terms.
- 4. CM20 (Competence) Report on the field of historical knowledge by evaluating sex/gender-based inequalities.
- 5. CM21 (Competence) Solve the problems faced by economic agents, when they have to make decisions in conditions of uncertainty, based on different historical experiences.
- 6. CM22 (Competence) Propose organisational, technological and evolution-monitoring solutions in historical, social, economic and environmental terms.
- 7. CM23 (Competence) Comprehensively report on the physical, financial and migratory flows of the economy, based on different historical experiences.
- 8. KM07 (Knowledge) Identify the economic agents that make up an economy, identifying how they have been interrelated to date and how they are currently interrelated.
- 9. KM08 (Knowledge) Explain economic problems in historical terms.
- 10. KM09 (Knowledge) Indicate theoretical models of the economy taking as a reference the historical events that gave rise to them.
- 11. KM18 (Knowledge) Identify the economic agents that make up an economy, identifying how they have been interrelated to date and how they are currently interrelated.
- 12. KM19 (Knowledge) Explain economic problems in historical terms.
- 13. KM20 (Knowledge) Indicate theoretical models of the economy taking as a reference the historical events that gave rise to them.
- 14. SM08 (Skill) Adapt organisations to national and international economic institutions, taking into account the various historical facts that have shaped them.
- 15. SM09 (Skill) Form leadership models based on the different historical experiences of financial, worker and physical flows of the economy.
- 16. SM19 (Skill) Adapt organisations to national and international economic institutions, taking into account the various historical facts that have shaped them.
- 17. SM20 (Skill) Form leadership models based on the different historical experiences of financial, worker and physical flows of the economy.
- 18. SM22 (Skill) Critically explain the causes that have historically led to periods of economic stability, recession and crisis, on a regional, national and international scale.

## Content

## TOPIC 1. THE PRE-INDUSTRIAL ECONOMY

- 1.1. The limits of population growth: the "Malthusian ceiling"
- 1.2. Agriculture, trade and manufacturing
- 1.3. The agrarian revolution

## TOPIC 2. THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION. STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN SOCIETY AND THE ECONOMY

- 2.1. Determining factors of Industrial Revolution
- 2.2. Technical and organizational change in the First Technological Revolution
- 2.3. Demographic transition
- 2.4. Modern economic growth and living standards

## TOPIC 3. THE DIFFUSION OF INDUSTRIALISATION (1830-1913)

- 3.1. The diffusion of industrialisation in Europe
- 3.2. The emergence of the Second Technological Revolution
- 3.3. The rise of the USA

## TOPIC 4. THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY (1860 - 1913)

- 4.1. Changes in transport and communications
- 4.2. Business relationships
- 4.3. Regional and transcontinental migrations
- 4.4. Capital markets
- 4.5. The international monetary system
- 4.6. The Long Depression (1873-1896)
- 4.7. The great divergence in economic development

## TOPIC 5. THE CRISIS OF TRADITIONAL LIBERAL CAPITALISM (1914-1945)

- 5.1. World War I (1914-18): the factors and the economic consequences
- 5.2. The unbalanced growth of the 1920s
- 5.3. The Great Depression and the anticrisis policies
- 5.4. Second World War II (1939-45): the factors and the economic consequences
- 5.5. American financial intervention and the economic recovery in Western Europe

## TOPIC 6. THE SECOND POSTWAR AND THE GOLDEN AGE OF CAPITALISM (1945-1973)

- 6.1. The BrettonWoods agreement and the new international relations
- 6.2. Advanced capitalist economies: the factors of economic growth
- 6.3. Centralised planned economies: from expansion to crisis
- 6.4. Decolonisation and theunderdevelopment in the Third World

# TOPIC 7. STRUCTURAL CHANGE, THIRD TECHNOLOGICAL REVOLUTION AND SECOND GLOBALISATION (1973-2020)

- 7.1. The 1973-84 economic crisis: the causes and responses
- 7.2. New protagonists of the world economy
- 7.3. The new process of market integration: Third Technological Revolution and imbalances between countries

# **Activities and Methodology**

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Exercise sessions	17	0.68	

Lectures	32.5	1.3
Type: Supervised		
Tutorship	10.5	0.42
Type: Autonomous		
Preparation of exercises	31.5	1.26
Reading and study	55	2.2

#### 1. Lectures

The professor will develop an analytical conceptualisation and a synthesis for every topic in the programme. The aim is to facilitate the transmission of knowledge and to motivate the student in historical analysis.

#### 2. Exercise sessions

The aim of the exercise sessions is to help students to achieve the specific knowledge of the subject and acquire transferable skills. There will be questions set for each topic and it is expected that students will work on them before class with the help of the lectures and reading material.

## 3. Studying from lectures and readings

The work done in class has to be complemented by the student individually or in group work. The student should gain independence in the learning process and in the process attain the analytical tools to develop the critical thinking. This work should amount to hundred hours in addition to lectures and tutorials.

#### 4. Tutorship

Students can use the professor's office hours to solve specific questions. Office hours will be announced in the intranet, Campus virtual.

## 5. Campus Virtual

Campus Virtual is a useful tool to help students to get easy information about the logistics of the course and the basic materials that the professor considers essential for learning.

## 6. Use of Al

In this course, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies is not allowed at any stage. Any assignment that includes AI-generated content will be considered a breach of academic integrity and may result in a partial or total penalty in the grade for the activity, or more severe sanctions in serious cases.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

# **Assessment**

## **Continous Assessment Activities**

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Exercise	5% of the	0	0	CM06, CM07, CM08, CM20, CM21, CM22, CM23, KM07, KM08, KM09,

1	final mark			KM18, KM19, KM20, SM08, SM09, SM19, SM20, SM22
Exercise 2	5% of the final mark	0	0	CM06, CM07, CM08, CM20, CM21, CM22, CM23, KM07, KM08, KM09, KM18, KM19, KM20, SM08, SM09, SM19, SM20, SM22
Exercise 3	5% of the final mark	0	0	CM06, CM07, CM08, CM20, CM21, CM22, CM23, KM07, KM08, KM09, KM18, KM19, KM20, SM08, SM09, SM19, SM20, SM22
Final exam	45% of the final mark	2	0.08	CM06, CM07, CM08, CM20, CM21, CM22, CM23, KM07, KM08, KM09, KM18, KM19, KM20, SM08, SM09, SM19, SM20, SM22
Midterm exam	40% of the final mark	1.5	0.06	CM06, CM07, CM08, CM20, CM21, CM22, CM23, KM07, KM08, KM09, KM18, KM19, KM20, SM08, SM09, SM19, SM20, SM22

#### The evaluation will consist of:

- Three practical exercises. Weight of the grade for each exercise = 5% of the course grade. These practical exercises cannot be reprogrammed.
- The midterm exam has two parts, each worth 50% of the exam mark. The first part consists of twenty multiple-choice questions each worth 0.5 points if the answer is correct, -0.17 if the answer is incorrect and 0 if the question is not answered. The second part consists of 4 questions worth 2.5 points each. Weight of the grade of the midterm exam = 40% of the course grade.
- The final exam has two parts, each worth 50% of the exam mark. The first part consists of twenty multiple-choice questions each worth 0.5 points if the answer is correct, -0.17 if the answer is incorrect and 0 if the question is not answered. The second part consists of 4 questions worth 2.5 points each. Weight of the grade of the final exam = 45% of the course grade.

The course will be considered passed if the following two requirements are met:

- 1. The average grade for the course is equal to or higher than 4.9, and
- 2. The final exam grade is equal to or higher than 4.
- If a student meets the first requirement but not the second, they will receive an average course grade of 4.5 and will be allowed to take the retake exam, in accordance with the provisions set out in the "Retake Process" section found below.
- If a student meets the second requirement but not the first, or meets neither, they will receive the overall
  course grade resulting from the direct application of the previously stated weightings and will be allowed
  to take the retake exam, in accordance with the provisions set out in the "Retake Process" section
  found below.

The questions will be on the topics explained in the theory and practical sessions and on the content of the readings and teaching materials indicated by the group professor.

Synthesis test: students who wish to opt for the synthesis test will have to apply by e-mail to the group's professor before 1 october 2025. The synthetic test will take place on the day of the final exam set by the Faculty. It will consist of forty multiple-choice questions and eight essay questions concerning all the differents parts of the subject, practical and theoretical.

## CAUTION:

- 1. A student is considered UNEVALUABLE if he has completed less than 30% of the assessed activities. "The qualification of UNEVALUABLE implies exhausting all the rights inherents to enrolment in the subject".
- 2. Only midterm and final exams can be reprogrammed, always exceptionally and after obtaining the explicit aproval of the Grade Coordinator. All other types oftests performed during the course will NOT be reprogrammed.

3. This subject does not offer the option for comprehensive evaluation.

#### Calendar of evaluation activities

The dates of the evaluation activities (midterm exams, exercises in the classroom, assignments, ...) will be announced well in advance during the semester.

The date of the final exam is scheduled in the assessment calendar of the Faculty.

"The dates of evaluation activities cannot be modified, unless there is an exceptional and duly justified reason why an evaluation activity cannot be carried out. In this case, the degree coordinator will contact both the teaching staff and the affected student, and a new date will be scheduled within the same academic period to make up for the missed evaluation activity." Section 1 of Article 264. Calendar of evaluation activities (Academic Regulations UAB).

Students of the Faculty of Economics and Business, who in accordance with the previous paragraph need to change an evaluation activity date must process the request by filling out an Application for exams' reschedule: e-Formulari per a la reprogramació de proves.

## Grade revision process

Afterall grading activities have ended, students will be informed of the date and way in which the course grades will be published. Students will be also be informed of the procedure, place, date and time of grade revision following University regulations.

## Retake Process

"To be eligible to participate in the retake process, it is required for students to have been previously been evaluated for at least two thirds of the total evaluation activities of the subject." Section 2 of Article 261. The recovery (UAB Academic Regulations). Additionally, it is required that the student to have achieved an average grade of the subject greater than or equal to 3.5 and less than 5.

The date of the retake exam will be posted in the calendar of evaluation activities of the Faculty. Students who take this exam and pass, will get a grade of 5 for the subject. If the student does not pass the retake, the grade will remain unchanged, and hence, student will fail the course.

The retake exam has two parts, each worth 50% of the exam mark. The first part consists of twenty multiple-choice questions each worth 0.5 points if the answer is correct, -0.17 if the answer is incorrect and 0 if the question is not answered. The second part consists of four questions worth 2.5 points each.

Irregularities in evaluation activities

In spite of other disciplinary measures deemed appropriate, and in accordance with current academic regulations, "in the case that the student makes any irregularity that could lead to a significant variation in the grade of an evaluation activity, it will be graded with a 0, regardless of the disciplinary process that can be instructed. In case of various irregularities occur in the evaluation of the same subject, the final grade of this subject will be 0". Section 11 of Article 266. Results of the evaluation. (UAB Academic Regulations).

## **Bibliography**

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Temin, Peter (1989) Lessons from the Great Depression. Cambridge: The MIT Press.

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## **Software**

Excel, Word and PowerPoint.

# **Groups and Languages**

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this <u>link</u>. To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(PAUL) Classroom practices	1	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	2	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	3	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	41	English	first semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	42	English	first semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	51	Catalan	first semester	afternoon
(PAUL) Classroom practices	52	Catalan	first semester	afternoon
(PAUL) Classroom practices	60	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	81	English	first semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	82	English	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed

(TE) Theory	2	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	3	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	4	English	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	8	English	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	51	Catalan	first semester	afternoon
(TE) Theory	52	Catalan	first semester	afternoon
(TE) Theory	60	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed