



Academic Year 2016-2017
Syllabus
Comparative Business History
6 CFU
Prof. Daniela Felisini

Course Description

The course deals with world economic and business history since the 19th century to the beginning of the 21st century. It is organized as a sort of journey around the world, surfing across the two main historical dimensions of time and space.

Based on an institutional approach, it will compare the varieties of capitalism of the different regions, considering State and firm as main actors of the analysed processes.

The years 1945-2000 will be analysed in the context of the European integration process and of globalization. Specific case-studies will be the object of in-depth focuses, brought into with the active participation of the students.

At the end of the course students will have acquired knowledge and critical understanding of the main issues of contemporary economic history.

Teaching Method

The course combines various teaching methodologies: lectures; discussions of the assigned readings, which will analyze a series of questions about the topics covered in the lectures; written essays and their oral presentation.

Schedule of Topics

Topic 1	Industrial revolutions in global perspective
Topic 2	Discovering the varieties of capitalism
Topic 3	The 20 th century's dominant nation: USA
Topic 4	Does a European model exist? Lessons from history.
Topic 5	From Russia to Russia, going through USSR: backwardness, Soviet economy and deregulated market
Topic 6	Japan, the challenger
Topic 7	Capitalism triumphs in Asia: the Four Asian Dragons and the case of South Korea
Topic 8	The giant's reawakening: China
Topic 9	India in the long run
Topic 10	Brasil: a South American giant
Topic 11	Old but new protagonists: the State
Topic 12	Old but new protagonists: Banks and financial markets

Topic 13	Few words about Italy: Industrial districts and globalization
Topic 14	Globalization, a historical process

Assessment

35% attendance and active participation; 45 % written essays on specific case-studies that will be the object of debate during the class; 20% final oral examination.

Students who fail or do not attend the final examination or who have not participated in class will need to give a new complete final examination in different exam dates of the year.

Textbook and Materials

1. F. Amatori, A. Colli, *Business history: complexities and comparisons*, London and New York, Routledge, 2011, selected chapters
2. W.J. Baumol, R.E. Litan, C.J. Schramm *Good Capitalism, Bad Capitalism, and the economics of growth and prosperity*, Yale University Press, New Haven and London, 2007, chapters 1-4, free download <http://escholarship.org/uc/item/3zt2b504>
3. Slides of the course.
4. Further readings will be suggested during the lessons.

Office hours

Students could talk with the teacher after each lesson or they could set a meeting writing an e-mail to felisini@uniroma2.it

NOTE: Since the course is provided for a limited number of students, **Erasmus students** who would like to attend this course and take this exam need to contact the Secretariat of Global Governance by e-mail global.governance@uniroma2.it for registration.
