



Syllabus 2017-18
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 a neo-institutional approach, it will compare the varieties of capitalism of the different regions, considering the enterprise and the State as major 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 are expected to acquire knowledge and critical understanding of the main issues of contemporary economic and business history.

Teaching Method

The course combines various teaching methodologies: lessons; seminars; discussions of the assigned readings, which will analyze a series of questions about the topics covered in the lessons; presentations of written essays by the students and debates.

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 it exist a European model? 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 meteoric success ?
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 problem

Textbook and Materials

1. 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>
2. Slides of the course.
3. Further readings will be suggested during the lessons.

Non attending students shall use: F. Amatori, A. Colli, *Business history: complexities and comparisons*, London and New York, Routledge, 2011, selected chapters

Assessment

Method of assessment: 45% attendance and active participation; 45 % written essays on specific case-studies that will be the object of debate during the class; 10% final oral examination.

Students who do not pass the written essays or reject the marks will be evaluated 55% on the final oral examination, as students who take the final oral examination in another session, since the results of written essays will be valid only within the same exam session.

Non-attending students will be assessed 100% on the final oral examination.

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 or non-Global Governance students** who would like to attend the course need to contact the Secretariat of Global Governance by e-mail global.governance@uniroma2.it for registration and inform the Professor of the course. They are required to sign a code of conduct like all Global Governance students, accepting all values and rules. Please read it carefully before enrolling. Please notice that attendance is required from the very first lesson and only 3 absences are permitted to take the exams as attending student.