



Syllabus 2018-19
Comparative Business History
6 CFU
Prof. Daniela Felisini

Course Description

The course deals with world economic and business history of the 20th century up 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 1945-2015 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. A special focus will be dedicated to the history and the economy of Poland, due to the special location of the course.

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.

The course will start with an introductory class (2 hours) in Rome. The rest of the course will be carried out in Gdansk (Poland) from September 30th to October 6th through lectures at European Solidarity Centre and guided tours of the Second World War Museum, the Stutthoff concentration camp and the Migration Museum. The course will end in Rome with a conclusive class (2 hours) during the second week of October.

Schedule of Topics

Topic 1	Industrial revolutions in global perspective
Topic 2	State and Business in Historical perspective
Topic 3	Exploring the history of Poland
Topic 4	Discovering the varieties of capitalism. The 20 th century's dominant nation: USA
Topic 5	Japan, the challenger
Topic 6	The giant's reawakening: China
Topic 7	India in the long run
Topic 8	From Russia to Russia, going through USSR: backwardness, soviet economy and deregulated market
Topic 9	Brasil: a meteoric success ?

Textbook and Materials

Attending students:

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

Non attending students:

F. Amatori, A. Colli, *Business history: complexities and comparisons*, London and New York, Routledge, 2011: all the chapters contained in the Parts IV, V and VI.

Assessment

Method of assessment for attending students: 50% attendance and active participation; 50% final oral examination.

Method of assessment for non-attending students: 100% 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 most part of the course will be held abroad, Erasmus or non Global Governance students can take the exam as non-attending students, unless booking the travel on their own.
