



Syllabus 2019-2020
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 Central Eastern Europe, 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. They will explain the origins of the regional varieties of capitalism in comparative perspective, identifying the main forces of global economic development throughout the history of enterprises in their regional environment.

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 (6 hours) in Rome. The rest of the course will be carried out in Gdansk (Poland) from October 14th to October 18th through lectures at European Solidarity Centre and guided tours at historical museums and sites.

Schedule of Topics

Topic 1	Discovering the varieties of capitalism
Topic2	Industrial revolutions in global perspective
Topic 3	The 20 th century's dominant nation: USA
Topic 4	Japan, the challenger
Topic 5	The giant's reawakening: China
Topic6	India in the long run
Topic 7	From Russia to Russia, going through USSR
Topic 8	Brasil: the contradictions of succes
Topic 9	Exploring the economic and business history of Central eastern Europe

Textbook and Materials

Attending students:

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

Non attending students, especially Erasmus students:

Since most part of the course will be given abroad, Erasmus or non Global Governance students can take the exam as non-attending students, studying the following textbook:

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: 60% attendance and active participation; 40% 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
