

EMPIRE AND POLITICAL ECONOMY IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

Department of History, University of Georgia
Fall 2009

HIST 4300 22-872
T, Th 9:30-10:45 AM
LeConte 341
Office Hours: T 10:45-11:45, Th 3:15-4:15

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Course Syllabus

Please note: the course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe* (Penguin)
Adam Smith, *The Wealth of Nations* (Random House/Modern Library)
Maya Jasanoff, *Edge of Empire* (Random House)
Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative and Other Writings* (Penguin)
Max Weber, *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism* (Penguin)
C. L. R. James, *The Black Jacobins* (Random House)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

First paper (5-6 pages)	20%
Second paper (15-20 pages)	40%
Midterm Examination	20%
Class participation	20%

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Two excused absences are permitted over the course of the semester. Each additional absence will result in a reduction of the final grade for the semester by one grade (i.e. from B+ to B, etc.). It is the student's responsibility to explain any absence to the professor.

WEEK ONE

Course Introduction: The Adventure

Tuesday 18 August: Course Introduction.

Thursday 20 August: Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, 5-80.

WEEK TWO

Imaginative Paradigms: Colony, Capital, Cannibal, Commodity

Tuesday 25 August: Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, 81-154.

Thursday 27 August: Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, 155-241.

WEEK THREE

Colonial Economy and Economic Morality

Tuesday 1 September: Jacob M. Price, "The Imperial Economy, 1700-1776"; Richard B. Sheridan, "The Formation of Caribbean Plantation Society."

Thursday 3 September: Bernard Mandeville, *The Fable of the Bees*, 53-92, 131-36.

WEEK FOUR

Luxury and Vice...

Tuesday 8 September: Mandeville, *The Fable of the Bees*, 136-58, 188-90, 199-212, 234-47, 255-59.

Thursday 10 September: John Law, "General Idea of the New System of Finances." **PRELIMINARY BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE.**

WEEK FIVE

...And Commerce

Tuesday 15 September: Jean-François Melon, "A Political Essay upon Commerce"; Voltaire, "The Worldling," "The Man of the World," "On Commerce and Luxury."

Thursday 17 September: **LIBRARY RESEARCH WORKSHOP. Main Library, Library Instructional Lab, Room 106A.**

WEEK SIX

The British in India

Tuesday 22 September: Maya Jasanoff, *Edge of Empire*, 3-44.

Thursday 24 September: Rajat Kanta Ray, "Indian Society and the Establishment of British Supremacy, 1765-1818"; Jasanoff, *Edge of Empire*, 45-80. **INITIAL TOPIC STATEMENT DUE.**

WEEK SEVEN

Cosmopolitan Empire

Tuesday 29 September: **MIDTERM EXAMINATION.**

Thursday 1 October: Jasanoff, *Edge of Empire*, 81-114.

WEEK EIGHT

French Political Economy and Overseas Empire

Tuesday 6 October: Anne-Robert-Jacques Turgot, "Reflections on the Formation and the Distribution of Wealth." **PROSPECTUS & REVISED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE.**

Thursday 8 October: Class cancelled.

WEEK NINE

Enlightenment and Empire in France

Tuesday 13 October: The *abbé* Raynal, "A Philosophical and Political History of the Settlements and Trade of the Europeans in the East and West Indies." **FIRST PAPER DUE.**

Thursday 15 October: Denis Diderot, "Supplement to Bougainville's 'Voyage.'"

WEEK TEN

British Political Economy: Adam Smith

Tuesday 20 October: Adam Smith, *The Wealth of Nations*, xxiii-32; 62-99; 299-321. **OUTLINE DUE.**

Thursday 22 October: Smith, *The Wealth of Nations*, 360-80; 455-502; 663-75; 839-846.

WEEK ELEVEN

The Atlantic Slave Trade

Tuesday 27 October: Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative and Other Writings*, 31-112; Philip D. Morgan, "The Black Experience in the British Empire, 1680-1810."

Thursday 29 October: Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative*, 113-93.

WEEK TWELVE

Black Empire

Tuesday 3 November: Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative*, 194-236; J. R. Ward, "The British West Indies in the Age of Abolition, 1748-1815." **ROUGH DRAFT (PARTIAL) DUE.**

Thursday 5 November: Max Weber, *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*, 1-36.

WEEK THIRTEEN

Protestantism and Capitalism: Max Weber

Tuesday 10 November: Weber, *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*, 67-122.

Thursday 12 November: C.L.R. James, *The Black Jacobins*, 3-61.

WEEK FOURTEEN

Revolt in Saint-Domingue

Tuesday 17 November: James, *The Black Jacobins*, 85-96; David Geggus, "The Haitian Revolution," 21-40. **REVISED (EXPANDED) DRAFT DUE.**

Thursday 19 November: James, *The Black Jacobins*, 145-198; Geggus, "The Haitian Revolution," 41-50.

WEEK FIFTEEN

Tuesday 24 & Thursday 26 November: Thanksgiving Break. Class cancelled.

WEEK SIXTEEN

France and Britain in Egypt

Tuesday 1 December: Jasanoff, *Edge of Empire*, 117-207.

Thursday 3 December: Jasanoff, *Edge of Empire*, 211-321. Final Meeting.

**** FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER: FINAL PAPERS DUE ****

N.B. All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Each student is responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.