

ECON 1740: US ECONOMIC HISTORY

Fall 2020

Instructor: Jan Weber	Time: MoWe 01:25 – 02:45 P.M.
Email: jan.weber@utah.edu	Place: Zoom via Canvas

Office Hours and Communication:

Office hours will be held on Zoom by appointment only. Please use Canvas or email with your u-Mail address for any communication.

Main References:

This class does not require a specific textbook. All readings will be made available through Canvas or other University resources.

Objectives:

By the end of the semester, a student can expect to:

1. Identify everyday issues that are economic in nature, and explain why they are economic.
2. Trace the historical development of various current economic issues, including: discrimination, climate change, automation, immigration, and rural/urban tensions.
3. Describe historical periods in terms of various economic undercurrents, such as labor, natural resources, and technological advancement; including how they are experienced by different sub-populations.
4. Utilize historical economic situations of different economic theoretical arguments/assumptions.
5. Demonstrate self-directed academic exploration including basic research, writing, cooperation, participation, and argumentation skills.
6. Practice the social process (and etiquette) of scientific exploration including discussion, debate, critique and open-minded inclusivity.

Prerequisites:

There are no pre- or co-requisites for this course.

Course Overview:

This **class** will be taught in an “IVC” (Interactive Video Conferencing) format. As this course is usually be taught in person, it will be offered remotely in order to best comply with CDC physical distancing requirements. The course will be taught synchronously in order to allow interaction between students and the teacher. Therefore you will be responsible to attend classes at the designated time listed in the Utah time zone (Monday and Wednesday, 1:25pm-2:45pm). If you will be outside of the US or in a different time zone, you are still expected to be prepared to attend your class and fit your course schedule to your given time zone. I intend to lecture synchronously throughout the semester with the exception of three days, as outlined in the tentative course outline below. Please pay attention to announcements during lectures and through Canvas.

I will encourage **discussions** of the readings within Canvas. Please pay attention to announcements in the first lecture of the semester.

You will be given (on average) one **assignment** per week. You will be expected to submit a brief discussion response pertaining to the readings and the accompanying lecture. Assignments will be peer reviewed. There is so much we can learn by seeing how others approached the work differently from you. The discussion, and your comments will be subject of the grade you will receive.

The **midterm** will be given online during class time. The exam will be timed, open book and taken at home. Further formalities, as well as a study guide will be released approximately one week prior to the midterm exam. Students are expected to write a **paper** and submit it by the end of the semester. In order to assist in the progress of writing the paper, several checkpoints will be assigned and graded. Further information will be released in the beginning weeks of the semester.

The semester will conclude with a **comprehensive final** in Canvas. The exam will be timed, open book and taken at home. It is scheduled for Tuesday April 29, 2021, from 1:00 and 3:00 P.M.. Further details and a study guide will be released approximately one week prior to the exam.

Course Expectations:

While all of the academic expectations of this IVC course are equivalent to those in the traditional course setting, there are a number of additional expectations that students should be aware of when participating in the course online.

- **Instructor Expectations:**

Your instructor is your mentor and facilitator of the classroom experience and is committed to the following expectations for this course:

- The instructor will design the course to include lectures, readings materials, and assignments designed to challenge students and will provide them with opportunities to learn and practice course content.
- Though this IVC course may include pre-recorded lectures, it is not a class that is run “automatically” by technology. The instructor will interact with the class via lecture time, but also via announcements, virtual office hours, email, feedback on assignments, and comments on lecture bulletin boards.
- The instructor will respond to emails in a timely fashion. “Timely” in this instance means within 48 hours, not including weekends and holidays.
- The instructor will be available for individual consultation via virtual office hours, email, or phone. Students will not be required to come to campus in order to meet with the instructor or teaching assistants.
- The instructor will provide feedback on the assignments in a timely manner.
- The instructor will follow all official University of Utah policies regarding conduct in the classroom, incompletes, and accommodations. Accommodations will be considered on an individual basis and only with required documentation.

- **Student Expectations:**

Though the online format allows students greater flexibility to complete their work, this course does have a structure and timeline, including due dates for course assignments. As such, the following is expected of all students in this class:

- Students will log in to the course a minimum of 3 times per week.
- Students may be expected to work with classmates; however, students are not expected to interact with their classmates in person. A good alternative to meeting in person would be online video conferencing, which allows students to find a time to meet that works best for their schedule. Depending on the assignment, students can also choose to interact and/or conference with their classmates with using whatever technology they prefer (GroupMe, FaceTime, Google Hangouts, Zoom, etc).

- To do well in this class, students must be self-motivated, organized, and willing to stay on top of their schedule. Students should take control of their learning while in this course.
- Students will regularly check course announcements. The “Announcements” area is the instructor’s official means of communication when distributing information to the entire class.
- Students will update their Canvas settings to ensure they receive timely notifications from the course.
- If students have any questions, are struggling with course materials, or need further assistance from their instructor, they will take the initiative to contact their instructor via the Inbox feature in Canvas or via email.
- Email is not perfect; sometimes, messages sent to instructors are lost before they are read. If you do not hear back from your instructor 3 days after sending a message, please contact your instructor again.
- Students will engage with the course, students, and the instructor in a respectful and professional manner at all times.

- **Netiquette:**

Students are expected to follow the core rules of netiquette at all times while participating in the class, interacting with other students, and communicating with the course instructor.

Assignments, Exams, and Paper:

All assignments will be submitted and peer-reviewed via Canvas. Exams and papers must be taken and submitted within Canvas. There will be no make-up exams and late assignments will not get credit except in the cases of:

1. Medical emergencies
2. Officially sanctioned University activities
3. Religious obligations

As indicated in PPM 9-7 Sec 15, the appropriate unit should provide a written statement for the reason of absence. In cases 2 and 3, students should inform the instructor at least one week before an examination and reschedule. Students will not be assigned extra credit work to improve their grades. Senior class students’ work will not be graded differently.

Technology info:

Your instructor has invested time before the start of the semester to ensure that the technologies used in this online class will operate smoothly. Nevertheless, technology does not always do what we want it to do! As such, this course has the following expectations regarding tech problems:

- Students are required to contact the instructor immediately when they notice broken links or inaccessible files in the course. Links and files are assumed to work, unless students indicate otherwise. Points lost on assignments due to inaccessible links and files cannot be made up if students did not notify the instructor of the problem prior to the assignment due date.
- The instructor is committed to fixing broken links and inaccessible files as soon as possible after being notified by the students. In the case that there will be a significant delay before these items can be fixed, the instructor will post an announcement to inform about the problem and to describe any alternate files/links or alternate due dates for assignments, if applicable, that students should be aware of.

- Students are responsible for submitting all assignments and activities by their due dates. In the case that technical problems prevent a student from submitting an assignment, students are required to:
 - Immediately contact their instructor via email or the Canvas Inbox, to let them know about the problem and to submit a copy of their assignment as an attachment (where possible).
 - Then, immediately contact the Canvas help desk to troubleshoot and resolve the problem.
 - Submit an email updating the instructor on whether the problem was resolved and of any additional steps the student or instructor needs to take to get the assignment properly submitted to Canvas.
- Students are expected to read all assignment instructions and to submit work in the required file formats. Work submitted as improper file formats will not be considered to have been handed in on time. The instructor will only grade work submitted using the proper file format.
- It is the student’s responsibility to reach out to the appropriate help desk to troubleshoot and resolve tech problems in the course, 24/7 help is available to all students via the Help button in the far-left Canvas menu.

To support students who may have technology access challenges, the [Marriott Library](#) is expanding the number of laptops and hotspots available for checkout.

In this class, software may be used to record live class discussions. As a student in this class, your participation in live class discussions will be recorded. These recordings will be made available only to students enrolled in the class, to assist those who cannot attend the live session and/or to serve as a resource for those who would like to review content that was presented. All recordings will become unavailable to students in the class the latest when the course is unpublished. Students who prefer to participate via audio only, will be allowed to disable their video camera, so only audio will be captured.

Grading Policy:

Assignments and Peer Review (24%), Participation (1%), Midterm (20%), Final (25%), Final Paper (30%).

Grade Scale:

A	94+	C	73-76.9
A-	90-93.9	C-	70-72.9
B+	87-89.9	D+	67-69.9
B	83-86.9	D	63-66.9
B-	80-82.9	D-	61-62.9
C+	77-79.9	E+	< 61

This grading scheme might get adjusted after the course has started. Such a “curving” will only favor students compared to the here given grading scheme and be announced through Canvas and within class.

Important Dates:

Paper Topic Presentation	March 15, 2021
Midterm I (*)	March 29, 2021
Final Paper	April 28, 2021
Final Exam	April 29, 2021

(*): Subject to change.

Participation:

Regular attendance is the underlying condition to pass this class. Even this is a virtual class, your participation in lecture and the discussion section of Canvas is expected and required.

The Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, (801) 581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services. [Accommodation Policy \(see Section Q\)](#)

University Safety Statement: The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.

Addressing Sexual Misconduct: Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information.

If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066.

For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

Undocumented Student Support Immigration is a complex phenomenon with broad impact—those who are directly affected by it, as well as those who are indirectly affected by their relationships with family members, friends, and loved ones. If your immigration status presents obstacles to engaging in specific activities or fulfilling specific course criteria, confidential arrangements may be requested from the Dream Center. Arrangements with the Dream Center will not jeopardize your student status, your financial aid, or any other part of your residence. The Dream Center offers a wide range of resources to support undocumented students (with and without DACA) as well as students from mixed-status families.

To learn more, please contact the Dream Center at 801-213-3697 or visit dream.utah.edu.

Drop/Withdrawal: Students may drop a course within the first two weeks of a given semester without any penalties. Students may officially withdraw (W) from a class or all classes after the drop deadline through the midpoint of a course. A “W” grade is recorded on the transcript and appropriate tuition/fees are assessed. The grade “W” is not used in calculating the student's GPA. See the Academic Calendar for the last day to withdraw from term, first and second session classes.

Deadlines for courses with irregular start and end dates policy:

<https://registrar.utah.edu/handbook/miscellaneous.php>

Plagiarism/Cheating: It is assumed that all work submitted to your instructor is your own work. When you have used ideas of others, you must properly indicate that you have done so. Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on an individual assignment, and/or failure in the course. Academic misconduct, according to the University of Utah Student Code, “includes, but is not limited to,

cheating, misrepresenting one's work, inappropriately collaborating, plagiarism, and fabrication or falsification of information. . . It also includes facilitating academic misconduct by intentionally helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic misconduct.”

For detailed definitions and possible sanctions, see the Student Code: <http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php>

Wellness Statement: Your personal health and wellness are essential to your success as a student. Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive in this course and at the University of Utah. Please speak with the instructor or TA before issues become problems.

For helpful resources, contact the Center for Student Wellness at www.wellness.utah.edu or 801-581-7776.

Veterans Support Center: The Veterans Support Center is a “one stop shop” for student veterans to find services, support, advocacy, and camaraderie. They are located in the Park Building Room 201.

You can visit their website for more information about their services and support at:

<http://veteranscenter.utah.edu>

LGBT Resource Center: The University of Utah has an LGBT Resource Center on campus. They are located in Room 409 of the Olpin Union Building. Hours: M-F 8:00AM - 5:00 PM MT.

You can visit their website to find more information about the support they can offer, a list of events through the center and links to additional resources: <http://lgbt.utah.edu>

Learners of English as an Additional/Second Language: If you are an English language learner, please be aware of several resources on campus that will support you with your language and writing development.

These resources include:

- [Writing Center](#)
- [Writing Program](#)
- [English Language Institute](#)

Face Coverings: Based on CDC guidelines, the University requires everyone to wear face coverings in shared public spaces on campus, including our classroom. As a reminder, when I wear a face covering, I am protecting you. When you wear a face covering, you are protecting me and all of your classmates. If you forget your face covering, I will ask you to leave class to retrieve it. If you repeatedly fail to wear a face covering in class, I will refer you to the Dean of Students for a possible violation of the Student Code. Note that some students may qualify for accommodations through the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you think you meet these criteria and desire an exception to the face covering policy, contact the [Center for Disability and Access \(CDA\)](#). Accommodations should be obtained prior to the first day of class so that I am notified by CDA of any students who are not required to wear a face covering.

Syllabus Changes:

This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for our course. Please note that I may modify it with reasonable notice to you. I may also modify the Course Schedule to accommodate the needs of our class. Any changes will be posted to Canvas under Announcements.

Tentative Course Outline:

W	20. Jan	Orientation and Welcome	W	17. Mar	Great Depression
M	25. Jan	What is history?	M	22. Mar	Civil Rights Movement
W	27. Jan	Purpose of the Economy	W	24. Mar	
M	1. Feb	Schools of thought*	M	29. Mar	Midterm
W	3. Feb	Institutions	W	31. Mar	Guided Selfstudy*
M	8. Feb	First Settlements	M	5. Apr	Non-Instructional Day - NO CLASS
W	10. Feb	The Pilgrims	W	7. Apr	Guided Selfstudy*
M	15. Feb	Presidents Day - NO CLASS	M	12. Apr	A Theory of the Firm and Competition
W	17. Feb	Independence	W	14. Apr	Debt
M	22. Feb	Moving West	M	19. Apr	Taxation I
W	24. Feb	Slavery and Civil War	W	21. Apr	Taxation II
M	1. Mar	Post-Civil War	M	23. Apr	Inequality I
W	3. Mar	Crisis of 1873	W	26. Apr	Inequality II
M	8. Mar	Money in the US	M	28. Apr	Reading Day
W	10. Mar	Labor movement	Tu	29. Apr	Final Exam 1-3 pm
M	15. Mar	Paper Presentation			

* This class session will be held asynchronous