



The University of Western Ontario  
**HISTORY 1807**

**The History of Business and Commerce**

**TENTATIVE SYLLABUS**

**Fall/Winter 2019-2020**

**Tuesday and Thursday, 11:30 – 12:30; HSB 236**

**Instructor: Dr. Peter V. Krats**

Office Hours: TBA

Department of History, Office: Stevenson Hall 2123

Email: pkrats@uwo.ca

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**Course Description:**

This course examines the history of business and capitalism from the late Middle Ages to the present day. Particular attention will be paid to the history of credit, banking, the stock market, the corporation, and globalization.

**Antirequisite(s):**

History 1803E

**Course Syllabus:**

**Expectations:** Attending lectures should provide broad outlines and suggest ideas that students can, with the addition of **careful reading** of course materials should facilitate successful participation and written results. **Participating** in mandatory weekly tutorials and the lectures should also aid students prepare for course tests and a final examination. Success on these tests tasks and the final exam relies on a student's familiarity with the readings and their understanding of larger themes in the course. In short, success relies significantly on **your** thought and effort in the course.

**Course Materials: TENTATIVE**

Ha-Joon Chang, *23 Things They Don't Tell You About Capitalism*. Bloomsbury Press, 2010.

James Fulcher, *Capitalism: A Very Short Introduction*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Oxford University Press, 2015.

Jürgen Kocka, *Capitalism: A Short History*. Princeton University Press, 2016.

John Micklethwaite and Adrian Wooldridge, *The Company: A Short History of a Revolutionary Idea*. The Modern Library, 2003.

## Methods of Evaluation: **TENTATIVE**

Early Course Reaction paper: 10 %. Your main thoughts on material covered thus far. Two to three pages double-spaced; no need for any outside research. Proper English expected.

Tutorial Reaction Papers: 5 % (2.5 % each) [1 each term] – one page [double-spaced] reaction to ideas raised by reading[s] for *that* week – offer ideas not simply a summary. Proper English expected.

Tutorial: 20 % - based on **active** presence in Tutorial – the quality of ideas and information is more significant than the quantity, but you need to be heard. Students will be assessed on the regularity of their attendance throughout the year, their knowledge of assigned readings, and their ability to **discuss** those reading within the broader themes of the course.

OWL online tutorial “chat”: 10 % -- casual “conversation” amongst members of your Tutorial on issues, questions, rebuttals and more emerging from other class work (lectures, tutorials). This is meant to be a relaxed discussion, but it is important to maintain standard of politeness. The chat can help with understanding issues while also offering a platform for easily-earned marks.

Lecture “breakouts”: 15 % [5 % first term; 10 % second term] Classes will periodically be “**flipped**” with the class “taking control” – raising thoughts, objections or other reactions to the course text *23 Things They Don't tell you about Capitalism*. Having read the materials prior to class, students will form spontaneous groups (likely 10 students that will vary from class to class). You will have a few minutes to discuss issues; your ideas and your names should be written down on a sheet of paper. Student reaction will be graded by the Professor for its merit, frequency, enthusiasm and, slightly on the basis of being present. Seven such “flips” are anticipated -- if your name appears on a group list five times in the term, you will get the class grade. Fewer “appearances” will result in a lower grade.

“History Taught Me” paper – 10 % -- 2-3 pages double-spaced on the most significant idea that has occurred to you because of the lectures / tutorials to this point of the course. This paper will be due in the latter part of the course. No outside research required but proper English is expected.

Final Exam (Apr.) 30% - 3 hours; the exam will test students’ awareness of events and concepts from the course – a good paper features both sound ideas and useful historical examples in support.

Extensions for late papers and allowance for missed tutorials will only be available for reasons deemed suitable under the regulations established by the University. See the information at the end of this document. If in doubt during the term, be sure to consult with your Tutorial leader and/or the Professor as soon as possible. Longer absences or other academic issues will require that documentation be submitted by the student directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean’s office and not to the instructor. It will be the Dean’s office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.

## **Course Schedule and Readings: TENTATIVE**

### **TENTATIVE LECTURES**

Introduction // Modern Definitions & Ideas

#### PRECURSORS TO CAPITALISM

Rise of Economic Systems and Pre-Capitalist Economies – Historical Contexts and Debates

#### THE ORIGINS OF CAPITALISM

Mercantilist Globalization at Work Eurocentric Views

Mercantilist Globalization: The View from Beyond Europe

#### INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

The Concept of Divergence

Divergence from the “Other” Side: Industrialization Missing? Or Different?

Unfree Labour & the Spread of Capitalism. Indigenous Genocide, Slavery, and Other Forced Labour

#### TOWARD “UNFETTERED INDUSTRIAL CAPITALISM ? : THE LONG 19th Century

The Modern Corporation / Capitalist Institutions

Reshaping Production – New Technologies and Concepts

Laissez-faire? -- Examining the Role of Government & the Regulation of Business

Workers Challenge the New Models

#### MODERN TIMES: The World of Keynesianism

Crises: War, Booms & Busts & Great Depression

Business-Government Symbiosis – Capitalism in Action

Consumerism and Affluence – A Better Globalization?

#### [POST??]-MODERN GLOBAL CAPITALISM?

Japan, South Korea, Taiwan & more

China and India: Re-emergent Giants

Globalization for Struggling Economies?

#### OIL SHOCKS: STAGFLATION, RE-IMAGINED CAPITALISM AND FINANCIAL CRISES

De-Industrialization / New forms / Deregulation – The Collapse of the Postwar System

Neoliberalist Monetarism Takes Hold // Neo-liberalism and its Paradoxes of Deregulation

Globalization, Work and Workers’ Lives

#### WHERE ARE WE // WHERE ARE WE HEADED ?

The Economic Meltdown 2008 -- Financial Crisis & Inequality

The Future of Global Capitalism ? Supporters and Critics

CLOSING SHOP

Conclusions / Exam Considerations

### **Additional Statements**

#### ***Academic Offences:***

Scholastic Offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitute a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com ( <http://www.turnitin.com> ).

#### ***Accessibility Options:***

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website:

[www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated\\_exams.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html)

#### ***Medical Issues***

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf)

to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation.

Please note: Please visit [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic\\_policies/index.html](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html) to view all updated academic policies regarding medical accommodations.

### ***Plagiarism:***

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Students are expected to retain all research notes, rough drafts, essay outlines, and other materials used in preparing assignments. In the unlikely event of concerns being raised about the authenticity of any assignment, your instructor may ask you to produce these materials; an inability to do so may weigh heavily against you.

The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another

writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

### ***Scholastic Offences***

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site:

[www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

### ***Copyright***

Lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. You may not record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, wiki material, and other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without my written consent.

### ***Accommodation for missed midterms with a Self Reported Absence:***

Students with an approved absence from an in-class test will be required to write a makeup test on one of the two time slots available.

- Tests scheduled before February 14th – the makeup will take place Monday, February 24th at 9am.
- Tests scheduled between February 25th and March 25th – the makeup will take place Friday, March 27th at 1pm.

Students who fail to write a makeup test in one of these two time slots will receive a grade of zero.

Students should be aware that course professors may not be available to respond to questions during the makeup test slots.

### ***Accommodation for missed assignment deadlines with a Self Reported Absence:***

If a student reports a SRA for an assignment (i.e. an essay) the new due date will be 72 hours after the SRA has been completed. For example, if you complete a SRA on March 19th at 3pm, your new due date will be March 22nd at 3pm.

### ***Support Services***

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western, [http://uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/](http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

### ***Use of Electronic Devices***

Electronic devices may not be used in examinations.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Heidi Van Galen, Administrative Officer, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84963 or e-mail [vangalen@uwo.ca](mailto:vangalen@uwo.ca).