

# ECON 1740: US Economic History

Tuesday and Thursday, 2:00-3:20 PM, OSH 202

Matt Kosko

matthew.kosko@economics.utah.edu

[http://faculty.utah.edu/u0882800-MATTHEW\\_DAVID\\_KOSKO/biography/index.html](http://faculty.utah.edu/u0882800-MATTHEW_DAVID_KOSKO/biography/index.html)

NOTE: This syllabus may change throughout the semester.

**Course Description:** This course charts the historical foundations of American economic growth and development from the colonial period to the present day.

**Prerequisite(s):** None.

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Text(s):** *History of the American Economy*, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> Edition

**Author(s):** Gary M. Walton and Hugh Rockoff; **ISBN-13:** 978-1111822927

(There will also be various readings posted to Canvas; they are detailed in the course outline below)

## Grade Distribution:

Participation	20%
Midterm Exams	45%
Final Exam	35%

## Course Policies:

### • Grades

- Grades in the **C** range represent performance that **meets expectations**; Grades in the **B** range represent performance that is **substantially better** than the expectations; Grades in the **A** range represent work that is **excellent**.
- Grades will be maintained on Canvas. Students are responsible for tracking their progress by referring to the online gradebook.

### • Attendance and Absences

- Students are responsible for all missed work, regardless of the reason for absence. It is also the absentee's responsibility to get all missing notes or materials.

### **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement:**

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 the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services

### **Tentative Course Outline:**

The weekly coverage **WILL** change, as it depends on the progress of the class. However, you must keep up with the reading assignments.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Content</b>
Week 1:	8/26: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction, founding of Americas, and early colonial economy</li><li>• Reading assignment: R&amp;W: chapter 2, 3; Diamond (1999) (optional)</li></ul> 8/28: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Colonial era: 1607-1776</li><li>• Reading assignment: R&amp;W: chapter 4, 5; Innes (1913)</li></ul>
Week 2	9/2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prelude to revolution and war</li><li>• Reading assignment: R&amp;W: chapter 6</li></ul> 9/4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creation of the Constitution and the new country</li><li>• Reading assignment: Beard (1941)</li></ul>
Week 3	9/9: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Land acquisition and westward migration</li><li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li></ul> 9/11: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transportation and market growth</li><li>• Reading assignment: Christensen (1957) (optional),</li></ul>
Week 4	9/16: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Market expansion and industry</li><li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li></ul> 9/18: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Labor during the early industrial period</li><li>• Reading assignment:</li></ul>

Week 5	<p>9/23:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early money and banking</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul> <p>9/25:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MIDTERM #1</li> </ul>
Week 6	<p>9/30:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slavery</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul> <p>10/2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil War</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul>
Week 7	<p>10/7:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture's western advance</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul> <p>10/9:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Railroads and economic change</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul>
Week 8	FALL BREAK
Week 9	<p>10/21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Industrial expansion</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul> <p>10/23:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Labor</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul>
Week 10	<p>10/28:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Money and finance</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul> <p>10/30:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Money and finance (continued)</li> </ul>

Week 11	11/4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commerce</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul> 11/6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MIDTERM #2</li> </ul>
Week 12	11/11: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World War I</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul> 11/13: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roaring Twenties</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul>
Week 13	11/18: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Great Depression</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul> 11/20: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Great Depression</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul>
Week 14	11/25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• War economy</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul>
Week 15	12/2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post-war entrenchment of Keynesianism</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul> 12/4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post-war (continued)</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul>
Week 16	12/9: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBA</li> <li>• Reading assignment: Something interesting</li> </ul> 12/11: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBA</li> <li>• Reading assignment: TBA</li> </ul>

## References

- Beard, C. A. (1941). *An economic interpretation of the Constitution of the United States*. New York: Macmillan Company.
- Christensen, J. B. (1957). Negro slavery in the utah territory. *The Phylon Quarterly*, (pp. 298–305).
- Diamond, J. (1999). *Guns, germs, and steel: the fate of human societies*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.
- Innes, A. M. (1913). What is money. *Banking LJ*, 30, 377.
- Sinclair, U. (2008). *The Jungle*. Electronic Classics Series.