

### Description

The course, while giving an outline of global economic developments over the last hundred years and their implications in today's world, focuses on key moments and areas in the history of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century – sometimes referred to as “the short 20<sup>th</sup> Century” starting in 1914 and ending in 1989. This course instead will take up the story up to 2000.

### Evaluation

- midterm exam 33% : multiple choice (on first five lectures and accompanying readings)
- final exam (week of 14 December): 66% : all material

### Readings

#### **Mandatory:**

A.G. Kenwood, and A.L. Lougheed, *The growth of the international economy, 1820–2000: an introductory text*, London: Routledge, 2008 (several previous editions): scan posted on moodle by chapters

#### **Recommended:**

Maddison, Angus, *The World Economy in the Twentieth Century*, Paris, OECD, 1998.

Also of relevance:

Jones, E., L. Frost and C. White, *Coming full circle. An economic history of the Pacific Rim*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1993.

Levinson, Marc, *The Box: How the Shipping Container Made the World Smaller and The World Economy Bigger*, Princeton, Princeton University Press, 2008.

### Database

Consult the historical data on population, GDP and GDP per capita by country on the ‘Maddison database’: [www.ggdnc.net/maddison/historical\\_statistics/horizontal-file\\_03-2007.xls](http://www.ggdnc.net/maddison/historical_statistics/horizontal-file_03-2007.xls)

### SUMMARY: THE WORLD ECONOMY IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

#### Ch. I The legacy of the nineteenth century

1. Liberal capitalism
2. Technological complex
3. The liberal state
4. The interconnected world

#### Ch. II The “Belle époque”

1. The West and the Rest
2. Persistence of the Old régime
3. Dawn of a new age; America first; reluctant hegemon
4. Scramble for hegemonic power

#### Ch. III Europe's self-inflicted suicide; WWI: the closing of the liberal mind

1. Resource mobilization
2. How to pay for the war

3. The economic consequences of the peace
- Ch. IV Reconstruction, debts and revival
1. Postwar boom and bust
  2. Healing the wounds
  3. Restoring financial stability
  4. Return of prosperity (and bubbles)
- Ch. V The Wall street krach and the depression of the 1930s
1. The world economy powerhouse
  2. The calendar of terror
  3. Harmful policies; the collapse of international trade
  4. Hesitant recovery
- Ch. V Phoney war to total war 1939-1945
1. This time it's different—
  2. Total war: the command economy
  3. Massive destructions
  4. What next?
- Ch. VI The new post-war economic order
1. Pax Americana
  2. San Francisco and Bretton Woods
  3. The Marshall Plan
  4. Cold war and decolonization.
- Ch. VII The 'Golden Age' in the West
1. 25 years of unprecedented growth
  2. Emergence of 'affluent societies'
  3. Polarization; the rise of Japan and Germany
  4. 'Small arrangements between friends'
- Ch. VIII The world outside
1. Falling behind: the Communist economies
  2. Chasing development in the 'Third world'
  3. Imitators and challengers
- Ch. IX The end of the Bretton Woods system and the oil shocks and their consequences
1. The return of inflation
  2. The end of the 'Bretton Woods system'
  3. The oil crisis
  4. A forced revision of production systems
- Ch. X A new wave of globalization
1. Promoting trade liberalization and multilateralism
  2. Changing international division of labour
  3. Capitalism rises in the East
  4. The logistics of globalization
- Ch. XI The 'Information age'
1. The digital revolution
  2. Technological breakthroughs
  3. The 'Big bang' and deregulation
  4. The displacement of wealth creation
- Ch. XII Challenges for a new century
1. Shift in economic power; China #1

2. The end of poverty in sight?
3. Reforming welfare states
4. Taming pollution and global warming