



**UNIVERSITÄT
BAYREUTH**

University of Bayreuth • 95440 Bayreuth • GERMANY

**VWL VII: CHAIR OF
EMPIRICAL ECONOMIC
HISTORY**

Prof. Dr. Sebastian Till Braun

University of Bayreuth
Faculty of Law and Economics
Chair of Empirical Economic History
Universitätsstraße 30
95447 Bayreuth
GERMANY

Phone: 0921 / 55 - 6256
Secretariat: 0921 / 55 - 6241

Internet: <http://www.econhist.uni-bayreuth.de>
e-mail: Sebastian.braun@uni-bayreuth.de

Winter-term 2018/2019

Foundations of Economic History I: Growth & Crises

Lecture: Mondays, 12-2pm, H 27 (GWII)

Tutorial: Wednesday, 12-2pm, H27 (GWII)

Please note: The course will start in week 2!

Basic literature:

There is no single textbook for this course. However, you may find the following books useful as background reading. Readings for specific topics will be listed on the lecture slides.

- Acemoglu, Daron and James A. Robinson J.A, (2012). *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty*. New York: Crown.
- Clark, Gregory. (2007). *A Farewell to Alms: A Brief Economic History of the World*, Princeton.
- Eichengreen, Barry S. (1996). *Golden Fetters. The Gold Standard and the Great Depression, 1919-1939*. Oxford University Press.
- Aliber, Robert Z. and Charles P. C. Kindleberger (2015). *Manias, Panics and Crashes: A History of Financial Crises*. New York: Wiley and Sons.
- Mankiw, N. Gregory (2016). *Macroeconomics*. New York: Worth Publishers.
- The CORE Team (2017). *The Economy. Economics for a Changing World*. Oxford University Press.

Week 2: 22./24.10.2018
<p>1. Introduction: Economic Growth in History</p> <p><u>Tutorial:</u> Recap: Regression Analysis</p>
I. Drivers and patterns of economic growth: Selected historical episodes
Week 3: 29./31.10.2018
<p>2. Population growth and the “Malthusian Trap”</p> <p><u>Tutorial:</u> Guinnane, Timothy W. (2011): The Historical Fertility Transition: A Guide for Economists. <i>Journal of Economic Literature</i> 49(3): 589-614.</p>
Week 4: 5./7.11.2018
<p>3. Measuring growth: From the Middle Ages to the Great Divergence</p> <p><u>Tutorial:</u> Allen, Robert (2000): Economic Structure and Agricultural Productivity in Europe, 1300-1800. <i>European Review of Economic History</i> 4(1): 1-25.</p>
Week 5: 12./14.11.2018
<p>4. The role of technology: The Industrial Revolution in Great Britain, 1780-1830</p> <p><u>Tutorial:</u> Becker, Sascha O., Erik Hornung and Ludger Woessmann (2011): Education and Catch-Up in the Industrial Revolution. <i>American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics</i> 3(3): 92-126.</p>
Week 6: 19./21.11.2018
<p>5. The role of institutions: The legacy of European Colonialism</p> <p><u>Tutorial:</u> Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson and James A. Robinson (2001): The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation. <i>American Economic Review</i> 91(5): 1369–1401.</p>
Week 7: 26./28.11.2018
<p>6. The role of inequality: Long-run trends since 1850</p> <p><u>Tutorial:</u> Corak, Miles (2013): Income Inequality, Equality of Opportunity, and Intergenerational Mobility. <i>Journal of Economic Perspectives</i> 27 (3): 79-102.</p>
Week 8: 3./5.12.2018
<p>7. Europe’s Golden Age and Germany’s “Economic Miracle”</p> <p><u>Tutorial:</u> Temin, Peter (2002). The Golden Age of European Growth Reconsidered. <i>European Review of Economic History</i> 6(1): 3-22.</p>
II. Theories of economic growth

Week 9: 10./12.12.2018
<p>8. Neoclassical Growth Theory</p> <p><u>Tutorial:</u> Abramovitz, Moses (1986) Catching Up, Forging Ahead, and Falling Behind. <i>The Journal of Economic History</i> 46(2): 385–406.</p>
Week 10: 17./19.12.2018
<p>9. New Growth Theories</p> <p><u>Tutorial:</u> Jones, Charles and Paul Romer (2010). The New Kaldor Facts: Ideas, Institutions, Population, and Human Capital. <i>American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics</i> 2(1): 224-245.</p>
III. Economic crises in history
Week 11: 7./9.1.2019
<p>10. Monetary regimes and crises in history</p> <p><u>Tutorial:</u> Reinhart, Carmen M. and Kenneth Rogoff (2010). Growth in a Time of Debt. <i>American Economic Review</i> 100(2).</p> <p>Thomas Herndon, Michael Ash and Robert Pollin (2014). Does High Public Debt Consistently Stifle Economic Growth? A Critique of Reinhart and Rogoff. <i>Cambridge Journal of Economics</i> 38(2): 257–279.</p>
Week 12: 14./16.1.2019
<p>11. The Great Depression</p> <p><u>Tutorial:</u> Richardson, Gary and William Troost (2009). Monetary Intervention Mitigated Banking Panics during the Great Depression: Quasi-Experimental Evidence from a Federal Reserve District Border, 1929–1933. <i>Journal of Political Economy</i> 117:6: 1031-1073.</p>
Week 13: 21./23.1.2019
<p>12. The Global Financial Crisis and the Euro Crisis</p> <p><u>Tutorial:</u> Reinhart, Carmen M. and Christoph Trebesch (2015): The Pitfalls of External Dependence: Greece, 1829-2015. <i>Brookings Papers on Economic Activity</i> 2015(2): 307–328.</p>
IV. Repetition and Exam
Week 14: 28./30.1.2019
<p>13. Repetition</p> <p><u>Tutorial:</u> Exam preparation</p>
Week 15: 6.2.2019
14. Examination

