

**ECON &260/ AMST &260: Economic Development of the United States****Spring Quarter 2009****Meetings: M-F 9:30-10:20am/R303**

Instructor: Ms. Humaira Jackson

Office: D200B

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Email: [hjackson@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:hjackson@bellevuecollege.edu)**Course Description:**

The U.S. has been an economic powerhouse for much of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In the face of the current economic downturn and related banking/financial crisis, we, as a nation, are now re-evaluating the United States' economic dominance and predictions for the future.

What contributes to the economic development of a country? What forces play a role in setting up and sustaining prosperity? Is economic development the same as prosperity? In this class, we will use historical information to look at how the US has developed and attempt to identify what features have contributed consistently towards that development.

Required Readings:

Heilbroner, Robert & Singer, Aaron *The Economic Transformation of America: 1600 to the Present*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition

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Selected Readings assigned by the instructor

Optional:

Zinn, Howard *A Peoples' History of the United States: 1492 to the Present*

## Calendar

WEEK	TOPIC
1 (4/1)	Colonies (Preface and Chapters 1-3)
2 (4/6)	Cont'd
3 (4/13)	Birth of a Nation (Chapters 4-6)
4 (4/20)	Cont'd
5 (4/27)	Industrialization/Businesses (Chapters 7-9)
6 (5/4)	Industrialization/Workers (Chapters 10-11)
7 (5/11)	Cont'd
8 (5/18)	The Great Depression (Chapter 12)
9 (5/25)	Expansion of Government (Chapter 13-16)

10 (6/1)	Looking toward the future (Chapter 17 and supplements)
11 week of 6/8 + 6/15 (only)	Wrap up and presentation of final projects

### Attendance (active participation in general)

Since much work can only be done in-class, attendance is critical. In order to successfully complete the class you should plan to be present every day. Attendance will be noted at lectures and discussion times as well as during library time and other complementary meetings. If problems arise, attendance will be handled by both the instructor and our class community as a whole.

### Note-taking (active listening/reading)

You will be expected to take careful notes on all texts, lectures, films and speakers. If you tend to highlight or underline while you read, these notes will be a record of what you highlighted or underlined. Think of these notes as making it easy for you to find information quickly in the text. This effort will prepare you for discussions and in your writing.

### Seminar Discussions (active group collaboration, leadership, listening, & synthesizing)

Seminars are small groups of students meeting with the faculty member. The faculty member takes an active role in the seminar but is not there to “lecture” or “teach” the material. This is the heart of our class, and being prepared for these meetings is crucial. You must complete the readings before each seminar and bring relevant notes on the reading to each seminar discussion. You are expected to be an active participant, bring up questions to be discussed, speak to the point under discussion, and be a good listener.

### Papers (written communication & critical analysis)

A large part of our class will be focused on effective research with the purpose of writing papers with clear evidence and support to address questions prompted by our main text. We are scheduled to go to the library for a few sessions with an assignment in hand. This will allow students to gain competency in evaluating sources and to compare/contrast different perspectives.

### GRADING

There are 3 sources of your course grade available over the course of the quarter. Your grade will be based on the following:

Papers: 6 short 1 to 2-page papers, each drawn from the readings of that section. Each paper will be assigned an alpha grade and each is worth 10% of your course grade. I will only count the 5 highest scores. These papers have firm due dates. However, I will accept late papers (up to 2 days) but expect them to be downgraded for being late. Value: 50%

Discussions & Class Participation(includes attendance): Class time is primarily for discussions. Each week students will be assigned to be seminar leaders for their group. We will have 3 groups of 4 students each so that your opportunity to be a leader will come once every 2 weeks. There will be a prompt for discussion and students will spend ½ the class time preparing for the discussion and the other half in discussion as a class. There will be 2 discussions per week. This is how we will spend our time from Monday-Thursday. Fridays are reserved for library time, films, speakers etc.. Value: 30%

Final Project: Students will prepare a project using the mode(s) of their choice (visual arts, technology(video, website, audio), performing arts, or oral presentation(with visuals such as powerpoint)). This project will be shared with the class. The main goal of the project is its focus on the broader and more comprehensive integration of the issues raised during the quarter. Value: 20%

Learning Outcomes: (BCC guidelines for Econ/Amst 260)

By the end of the quarter, students will be able to do the following:

- \* Define and explain the relationships between the basic economic concepts that are used in theories of economic growth and transformation.
- \* Describe the structure and operation of a capitalist economic system, and identify the forces that led to its establishment in the United States.
- \* Identify the critical events, such as Civil War and Depression, in the historical life of the U.S., and analyze the causes and effects of those events from the perspective of the development of the economy.
- \* Explain the relationship between the role of government and the market system, tracing the development of that relationship throughout the history of the U.S. economy.
- \* Identify and describe the forces that have shaped a labor force in the United States, in particular the role of immigration, unionization, and the differentiations of race and class and gender.
- \* Define the stages in the development of the structure of enterprise in the United States, compare and contrast the structure and functioning of types of businesses, and explain the transitions in the nature of the business system.
- \* Describe the relationship of the U.S. economy to the international economic system at key points in history, from colony to economic superpower, and explain the changing nature of that relationship.
- \* Describe and explain the changes in the class structure of U.S. society throughout its history.
- \* Identify the main trends in technological development, the role each played in U.S. economic growth and the effects technology has had on the material and economic life of the population.

**PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION**  
**Revised Spring 2009**

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing\*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue Community College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue Community College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BCC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the [Disability Resource Centre](#) (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with [Disability Resource Centre](#), and review those needs with the instructor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BCC Web site.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

*\*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue Community College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*