

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

ECON0605 ECONOMIC HISTORY OF CHINA  
COURSE OUTLINE

First Semester 2003-2004

(Tuesday, 3:00-3:50pm, KKL109; Thursday, 2:00-3:50pm, TS403)

Dr. Patrick Leung  
KKL Building, Room 1001  
Email Address: pleung@econ.hku.hk

TOPICS

- 1<sup>st</sup> Week Overview of China's economic development in history  
*Reading Assignments:*  
(a) The Lever of Riches, pp.3-14 (on reserve);  
(b) Main Trends in National Economic Disparities since the Industrial Revolution, pp.3-17 (handouts);  
(c) Chinese Economic Performance in the Long Run, pp.13-54 (on reserve);  
(d) Poor Until 1820 (handouts).
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Week Economic revolution in the Song/Yuan era  
*Reading Assignments:*  
(a) The Patterns of the Chinese Past, pp.17-22, pp.69-90, 113-178 (on reserve).
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Weeks Economic development in the Ming/Qing period  
*Reading Assignments:*  
(a) The Patterns of the Chinese Past, pp.91-110, pp.203-319 (on reserve).
- 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Weeks China and Europe compared: early modern period similarities and differences  
*Reading Assignments:*  
(a) The Great Divergence, pp.3-107 (textbook);  
(b) China Transformed, pp. 22-27 (on reserve).

## TOPICS (continued)

- 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Weeks China and Europe compared: the rise of capitalism  
*Reading Assignments:*  
(a) The Great Divergence, pp.111-207 (textbook).
- 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Weeks China and Europe compared: ecological constraints and sustained industrial growth  
*Reading Assignments:*  
(a) The Great Divergence, pp.211-297 (textbook).
- 11<sup>th</sup> Week China's role in global trade and the flow of silver and gold, 1400-1800; Ming/Qing China's fiscal/monetary crises  
*Reading Assignments:*  
(a) ReOrient, pp.52-164, 237-248 (on reserve);  
(b) Revolution and Rebellion, pp.349-353, 355-363, pp.368-375, 379-391, 394-399 (on reserve).
- 12<sup>th</sup> Week The modern era and the future  
*Reading Assignments:*  
(a) China Transformed, pp.58-70, 181-190 (on reserve);  
(c) ReOrient, pp.352-359 (on reserve);  
(d) Chinese Economic Performance in the Long Run, pp.55-99 (on reserve).

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Kenneth Pomeranz, *The Great Divergence: China, Europe and the Making of the Modern World Economy*, Princeton University Press, 2000.

ECON0605 ECONOMIC HISTORY OF CHINA  
BOOKS ON RESERVE  
First Semester 2003-2004

Joel Mokyr, *The Lever of Riches*, Oxford University Press, 1990.

Angus Maddison, *Chinese Economic Performances in the Long Run*, OECD Development Centre, 1998.

Mark Elvin, *The Pattern of the Chinese Past*, Stanford University Press, 1973.

Kenneth Pomeranz, *The Great Divergence*, Princeton University Press, 2000

R. Bin Wong, *China Transformed: Historical Change and the Limits of European Experience*, Cornell University Press, 2000.

Andre Gunder Frank, *ReOrient: Global Economy in the Asian Age*, University of California Press, 1998.

Jack Goldstone, *Revolution and Rebellion in the Early Modern World*, University of California Press, 1991