



Topics in East Asian economic history

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This course will introduce topics on the comparative development of the East Asian economies of Japan, China, and India in historical perspective. Major themes include institutional development and persistence, technology adoption, market integration, and international trade and finance.

Each session consists of three hours of lecture, and will include time for discussion. The first session will introduce the major themes in recent economic history research on the countries, while the remaining two sessions will focus on specific papers. Below are some suggested readings for the course.

Textbooks:

- Flath, Davis. 2014. *The Japanese Economy*. Third edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Madisson, Angus. 1998. *Chinese Economic Performance in the Long Run*. Paris: OECD Development Centre.
- Chaudhary, Latika, Bishnugupta Gupta, Tirthankar Roy, and Anand Swamy. 2015. *A New Economic History of Colonial India*. New York: Taylor and Francis.

Papers:

Japan

- Braguinsky, Serguey, Atsushi Ohyama, Tetsuji Okazaki, and Chad Syverson. 2015. "Acquisitions, productivity, and profitability: evidence from the Japanese Cotton Spinning Industry," *American Economic Review* 105(7): 2086-2119.
- Davis, Donald and David Weinstein. 2002. "Bones, bombs, and break points: the geography of economic activity," *American Economic Review* 92(5): 1269-1289.
- Drixler, Fabian. 2016. "Hidden in plain sight: stillbirths and infanticides in imperial Japan," *Journal of Economic History* 76(3): 665-696.
- Mitchener, Kris and Mari Ohnuki. 2009. "Institutions, Competition, and Capital Market Integration in Japan," *Journal of Economic History* 69(1): 138-191.
- Moriguchi, Chiaki and Tuan Hwee Sng. 2014. "Asia's little divergence: state capacity in China and Japan before 1850," *Journal of Economic Growth* 19(4): 439-470.
- Tang, John. 2014. "Railroad expansion and industrialization: evidence from Meiji Japan," *Journal of Economic History* 74(3): 863-886.

China

- Brandt, Loren, Debin Ma, and Thomas Rawski. 2014. "From divergence to convergence: reevaluating the history behind China's economic boom," *Journal of Economic Literature* 52(1): 45-123.
- Li, Bozhong and Jan Luiten van Zanden. 2012. "Before the great divergence? Comparing the Yangzi delta and the Netherlands at the beginning of the nineteenth century," *Journal of Economic History* 72(4): 956-989.
- Shiue, Carol and Wolfgang Keller. 2007. "Markets in China and Europe on the Eve of the Industrial Revolution," *American Economic Review* 97(4): 1189-1216.
- Zeitz, Peter. 2013. "Do local institutions affect all foreign investors in the same way? Evidence from the interwar Chinese textile industry," *Journal of Economic History* 73(1): 117-141.

India

- Bogart, Dan and Latika Chaudhary. 2013. "Engines of growth: the productivity advance of Indian railways, 1874-1912," *Journal of Economic History* 73(2): 339-370.
- Donaldson, David. Forthcoming. "Railroads of the Raj: estimating the impact of transportation infrastructure." *American Economic Review*.
- Gupta, Bishnupriya. 2014. "Discrimination or social networks? Industrial investment in colonial India," *Journal of Economic History* 74(1): 141-168.