

# ECONOMIC HISTORY 771 & 871



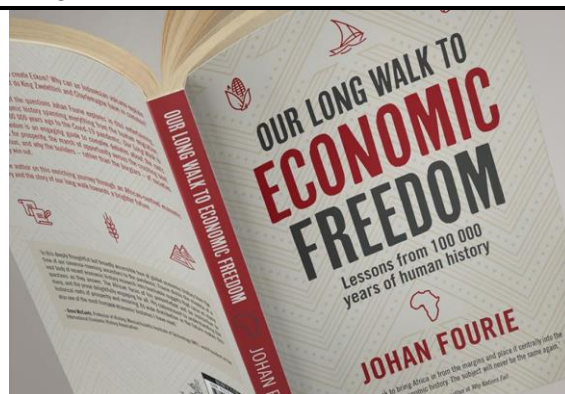
Department of Economics, Stellenbosch University  
First semester 2023

Course coordinator:  
Johan Fourie  
[johanf@sun.ac.za](mailto:johanf@sun.ac.za)

## Work programme:

### Preparation:

For those who intend to join this course, it would help to have some background in economic history and South African history. For those who did Economics 281 or History 214 at an undergraduate level, that should be sufficient. For those who have not (and, in particular, those who are joining us from outside South Africa), I would recommend reading *Our Long Walk to Economic Freedom* (Tafelberg) as background reading. It is available on Amazon Kindle or in any good South African bookshop. (The Cambridge University Press issue, published in 2022, is updated and expanded, but also more expensive.)



Intro	The rise of African economic history  <b>Johan Fourie</b>	Additional reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hopkins, A.G., 2019. Fifty years of African economic history. <i>Economic History of Developing Regions</i>, 34(1), pp.1-15.</li> <li>• Margo, R.A., 2018. The integration of economic history into economics. <i>Cliometrica</i>, 12(3), pp.377-406.</li> <li>• Fourie, J., 2016. The data revolution in African economic history. <i>Journal of Interdisciplinary History</i>, 47(2), pp.193-212.</li> </ul>
Historical episodes	The Neolithic Revolution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Cao, Y., Enke, B., Falk, A., Giuliano, P. and Nunn, N., 2021. Herding, Warfare, and a Culture of Honor: Global Evidence (No. w29250). National Bureau of Economic Research.</li> <li>2) Kung, J., Ozak, O., Putterman, L. and Shi, S. 2022. Millet, Rice, and Isolation: Origins and Persistence of the World's Most Enduring Mega-State. Working paper.</li> <li>3) Blouin, A., 2021. Axis-orientation and knowledge transmission: evidence from the Bantu expansion. <i>Journal of Economic Growth</i>, 26, pp. 359-384.</li> <li>4) Obikili, N. 2022. Tubers and its Role in Historic Political Fragmentation in Africa. Working Paper.</li> </ol>
Historical episodes	The Industrial Revolution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5) Humphries, J. and Schneider, B., 2019. Spinning the industrial revolution. <i>The Economic History Review</i>, 72(1), pp.126-155.</li> <li>6) Gallardo-Albarrán, D. and de Jong, H., 2021. Optimism or pessimism? A composite view on English living standards during the Industrial Revolution. <i>European Review of Economic History</i>, 25(1), pp.1-19.</li> <li>7) Crafts, N. and Mills, T.C., 2021. Considering the Counterfactual: Real Wages in the First Industrial Revolution. <i>The Economic Journal</i>.</li> </ol>

		8) O'Brien, P., 2021. Was the British industrial revolution a conjuncture in global economic history? <i>Journal of Global History</i> , pp.1-23.
Historical episodes	Slavery and serfdom	9) Martins, I., Cilliers, J. and Fourie, J. 2022. Legacies of loss: The health outcomes of slaveholder compensation in the British Cape Colony. <i>Explorations in Economic History</i> , in press. 10) Whatley, W.C., 2018. The gun-slave hypothesis and the 18th century British slave trade. <i>Explorations in economic history</i> , 67, pp.80-104. 11) Heblich, S., Redding, S. and Voth, H-J. 2022. Slavery and the British Industrial Revolution. Working Paper. 12) Ogilvie, S. 2022. <i>Economics and history: Analyzing serfdom</i> . Working paper.
Historical episodes	Colonialism	13) Bolt, J., Gardner, L., Kohler, J., Paine, J. and Robinson, J. 2022. African political institutions and the impact of colonialism. Working paper. 14) Dell, M. and Olken, B.A., 2020. The development effects of the extractive colonial economy: The Dutch cultivation system in Java. <i>The Review of Economic Studies</i> , 87(1), pp.164-203. 15) van Waijenburg, M., 2018. Financing the African Colonial State: The Revenue Imperative and Forced Labor. <i>The Journal of Economic History</i> , 78(1), pp.40-80. 16) De Haas, M., 2021. The Failure of Cotton Imperialism in Africa: Seasonal Constraints and Contrasting Outcomes in French West Africa and British Uganda. <i>The Journal of Economic History</i> , 81(4), pp.1098-1136.
The roots of growth	Innovation and technology	17) Gollin, D., Hansen, C.W. and Wingender, A.M., 2021. Two blades of grass: The impact of the green revolution. <i>Journal of Political Economy</i> , 129(8), pp.2344-2384. 18) Giorcelli, M. and Moser, P., 2020. Copyrights and creativity: Evidence from Italian opera in the Napoleonic age. <i>Journal of Political Economy</i> , 128(11), pp.4163-4210. 19) Martina Miotto and Luigi Pascali. 2022. Solving the Longitude Puzzle: A Story of Clocks, Ships and Cities. Working paper. 20) Hornbeck, R. and Rotemberg, M. 2022. Growth off the rails: Aggregate Productivity Growth in Distorted Economies. Working paper.
The roots of growth	The state	21) Angelucci, C., Meraglia, S. and Voigtländer, N., 2022. How merchant towns shaped parliaments: From the Norman Conquest of England to the Great Reform Act. <i>American Economic Review</i> , 112(10), pp.3441-87. 22) Galofré-Vilà, G., Meissner, C.M., McKee, M. and Stuckler, D., 2021. Austerity and the rise of the Nazi party. <i>The Journal of Economic History</i> , 81(1), pp.81-113. 23) González, F., Prem, M. and Urzúa, F., 2020. The privatization origins of political corporations: Evidence from the Pinochet regime. <i>The Journal of Economic History</i> , pp.1-40. 24) Archibong, B., Coulibaly, B. and Okonjo-Iweala, N., 2021. Washington consensus reforms and lessons for economic performance in Sub-Saharan Africa. <i>Journal of Economic Perspectives</i> , 35(3), pp.133-56.
The roots of growth	Human capital	25) Squicciarini, M.P. and Voigtländer, N., 2015. Human capital and industrialization: Evidence from the age of enlightenment. <i>The Quarterly Journal of Economics</i> , 130(4), pp.1825-1883. 26) Stojkoski, V., Koch, P. and Hidalgo, C. 2022. The Role of Immigrants, Emigrants, and Locals in the Historical Formation of Knowledge Agglomerations. Working paper. 27) Dittmar, J. and Meisenzahl, R. 2022. The research university, invention and industry: Evidence from Germany history. Working Paper. 28) De Swardt, T., Fourie, J. and Von Fintel, D. 2023. The persistence of Huguenot productivity in eighteenth-century South Africa. Working paper.
The roots of growth	Trade and globalisation	29) Kerby, E., Moradi, A. and Odendaal, H., 2022. African time travellers: what can we learn from 500 years of written accounts? Working paper. 30) Frankema, E., Williamson, J. and Woltjer, P., 2018. An Economic Rationale for the West African Scramble? <i>The Commercial Transition and the Commodity Price Boom of 1835–1885</i> . <i>The Journal of Economic History</i> , 78(1), pp.231-267. 31) Hersh, J. and Voth, H.J., 2022. Sweet diversity: Colonial goods and the welfare gains from global trade after 1492. <i>Explorations in Economic History</i> , 86, p.101468.

		32) Pérez, S., 2021. Southern (American) Hospitality: Italians in Argentina and the United States During the Age of Mass Migration. <i>The Economic Journal</i> , 131(638), pp.2613-2628.
Hot topics	Measuring welfare	33) Broadberry, S., Guan, H. and Li, D.D., 2021. China, Europe, and the Great Divergence: A Restatement. <i>The Journal of Economic History</i> , 81(3), pp.958-974. 34) Fourie, J., Inwood, K. and Mariotti, M., 2022. Living standards in settler South Africa, 1865–1920. <i>Economics &amp; Human Biology</i> , 47, p.101158. 35) Cummins, N., 2021. Where is the middle class? Evidence from 60 million English death and probate records, 1892–1992. <i>The Journal of Economic History</i> , pp.1-46. 36) Chingozha, T. and von Fintel, D., 2019. The complementarity between property rights and market access for crop cultivation in Southern Rhodesia: evidence from historical satellite data. <i>Economic History of Developing Regions</i> , 34(2), pp.132-155.
Hot topics	Women and gender	37) Perrin, F., 2021. On the origins of the demographic transition: rethinking the European marriage pattern. <i>Cliometrica</i> , pp.1-45. 38) De Pleijt, A. and van Zanden, J.L., 2021. Two worlds of female labour: gender wage inequality in western Europe, 1300–1800. <i>The Economic History Review</i> , 74(3), pp.611-638. 39) Baten, J., De Haas, M., Kempter, E. and Meier zu Selhausen, F., 2021. Educational Gender Inequality in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Long-Term Perspective. <i>Population and Development Review</i> , 47(3), pp.813-849. 40) Tertilt, M., Doepke, M., Hannusch, A. and Montenbruck, L., 2022. The Economics of Women's Rights. <i>Journal of the European Economic Association</i> , 20(6), pp.2271-2316.
Hot topics	Health	41) Alsan, M. and Goldin, C., 2019. Watersheds in child mortality: The role of effective water and sewerage infrastructure, 1880–1920. <i>Journal of Political Economy</i> , 127(2), pp.586-638. 42) Lowes, S. and Montero, E., 2021. The legacy of colonial medicine in Central Africa. <i>American Economic Review</i> , 111(4), pp.1284-1314. 43) Hanlon, W.W., 2020. Coal smoke, city growth, and the costs of the industrial revolution. <i>The Economic Journal</i> , 130(626), pp.462-488. 44) Hollingsworth, A., Karbownik, K., Thomasson, M. and Wray, A., 2022. The Gift of a Lifetime: The Hospital, Modern Medicine, and Mortality. Working paper.
Hot topics	Mobility and migration	45) Alesina, A., Hohmann, S., Michalopoulos, S. and Papaioannou, E., 2021. Intergenerational mobility in Africa. <i>Econometrica</i> , 89(1), pp.1-35. 46) Abramitzky, R., Boustan, L., Jácome, E. and Pérez, S., 2021. Intergenerational mobility of immigrants in the united states over two centuries. <i>American Economic Review</i> , 111(2), pp.580-608. 47) Derenoncourt, E., 2022. Can you move to opportunity? Evidence from the Great Migration. <i>American Economic Review</i> , 112(2): 369-408. 48) Eriksson, K. and Ward, Z., 2022. Immigrants and cities during the age of mass migration. <i>Regional Science and Urban Economics</i> , 94, p.103593.
Hot topics	Race, segregation and discrimination	49) Alsan, M. and Wanamaker, M., 2018. Tuskegee and the health of black men. <i>The Quarterly Journal of Economics</i> , 133(1), pp.407-455. 50) Cook, L.D., Jones, M.E., Logan, T.D. and Rosé, D., 2023. The Evolution of Access to Public Accommodations in the United States. <i>The Quarterly Journal of Economics</i> , 138(1), pp.37-102. 51) Ferrara, A., 2022. World War II and black economic progress. <i>Journal of Labor Economics</i> , 40(4), pp.1053-1091. 52) Abel, M., 2019. Long-run effects of forced resettlement: evidence from Apartheid South Africa. <i>The Journal of Economic History</i> , 79(4), pp.915-953.
Hot topics	Culture and religion	53) Bazzi, S., Fiszbein, M. and Gebresilashe, M., 2020. Frontier culture: The roots and persistence of “rugged individualism” in the United States. <i>Econometrica</i> , 88(6), pp.2329-2368. 54) Michalopoulos, S. and Xue, M.M., 2021. Folklore. <i>The Quarterly Journal of Economics</i> , 136(4), pp.1993-2046. 55) Chaudhary, L., Rubin, J., Iyer, S. and Shrivastava, A., 2020. Culture and colonial legacy: Evidence from public goods games. <i>Journal of Economic Behavior &amp; Organization</i> , 173, pp.107-129.

- 
- 56) Jedwab, R., Meier zu Selhausen, F. and Moradi, A. 2022. The Economics of Missionary Expansion: Evidence from Africa and Implications for Development. Journal of Economic Growth. Forthcoming.
- 

### Assessment and assignment

<b>Honours:</b> Class participation: 40% Essay: 60% (20% presentation, 40% written)	Essay details: Harvard referencing style Topic to be decided in consultation with lecturer Word limit: 3000 words <b>Essay presentation: Saturday, 6 May</b> Deadline: 15 May
<b>Masters:</b> Class participation: 30% Essay: 40% (10% presentation, 30% written) Take-home exam: 30%	Essay details: Harvard referencing style Topic to be decided in consultation with lecturer Word limit: 4000 words <b>Essay presentation: Saturday, 6 May</b> Deadline: 15 May Take-home exam: Monday 12 June 2023; 24-hour exam to be submitted electronically (can write from anywhere)