



**Stellenbosch**

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saam vorentoe

ECONOMICS 281

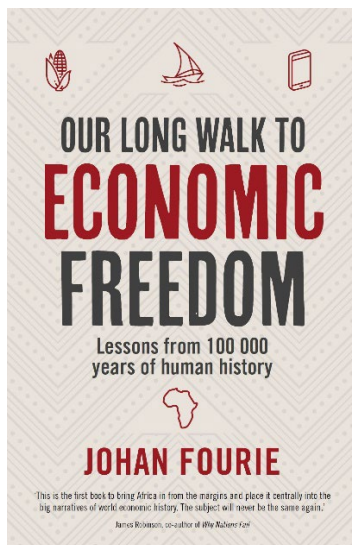
**GLOBAL ECONOMIC HISTORY FOR  
SOUTH AFRICANS**



WORK PROGRAMME, FIRST SEMESTER 2022

## MODULE AIM

The first semester covers questions such as “What were the origins of human prosperity?”; “Why is Africa poorer than other regions?”; “Why did a small group of people in North-Western Europe suddenly experience rapid growth in income in the early nineteenth century?”; “Why do massive inequalities remain, even within national borders (with South Africa the perfect example)?” Mankind's eternal quest to satisfy his needs with limited resources stands central to answering these questions. In search of answers, we investigate historical examples. The development of mankind – especially the last 400 years – provides a tapestry of choices by ordinary people, leaders and countries and the consequences that it entailed. The lessons of the past help us to navigate the future with more confidence and wisdom.



## MODULE OUTCOMES

After the successful completion of this submodule the student will be able to:

- i) have a good understanding of the economic change of the last 400 years
- ii) be able to refer to economic theories to explain this change and progress
- iii) be able to differentiate between correlation and causation in economic analysis, with special reference to natural experiments in history
- iv) have a good understanding of Africa's development dilemmas and opportunities
- v) be able to evaluate South Africa's position in the global economy and identify future trends.

## PRESCRIBED TEXTBOOK

Fourie, J. 2021. *Our Long Walk to Economic Freedom*. Cape Town: Tafelberg.

## ESSAY

Choose one of the following five topics for the essay:

- When did the cash crop revolution begin in West Africa, and why?
- Why did the discovery of diamonds benefit Botswana but hurt Sierra Leone?
- What did Tanzania's Ujamaa and Zimbabwe's Land Reform programme have in common?
- Were the structural adjustment programmes that the IMF and World Bank implemented in Africa a success?
- Why do African countries manufacture so little?

Scope: 1200 words. Due: 2 May 2022. Harvard referencing.

## WORK PROGRAMME

How do we thrive? An introduction

1. Who are the architects of Wakanda? African economic historians and the stories we tell
2. What happened at Blombos in 70 000 BCE? The Out-of-Africa hypothesis and the peopling of the world

3. Why are the Danes so individualistic? The Neolithic Revolution and the rise of civilisations
  4. Why does isiXhosa have clicks? The Bantu migration
  5. How did Joseph and his eleven brothers solve the economic problem? Custom and command in the ancient world
  6. What do Charlemagne and King Zwelithini have in common? Feudalism
  7. Why do Indians have dowry and Africans lobola? Precolonial African economic systems
  8. Who was the richest man in history? The spread of Islam in Africa and the Crusades
  9. How did 168 Spanish conquistadores capture an empire? Europeans in the New World
  10. Why was a giraffe the perfect gift for the Chinese emperor? The Indian Ocean trade and European imperialism
  11. Who visited Gorée island on 27 June 2013? The Atlantic slave trade and Africa's long-run development
  12. What is an incunabulum? Book printing and the Reformation
  13. Who was Autshumao's niece? The arrival of Europeans in South Africa and the demise of the Khoesan
  14. What did Thomson, Watson & Co. buy? The emancipation of slaves at the Cape
  15. What do an Indonesian volcano, Frankenstein and Shaka Zulu have in common? The Mfecane and Great Trek
  16. Why was the spinning jenny not invented in India? Science, technology and the Industrial Revolution
  17. Why did railways hurt Basotho farmers? South Africa's mineral revolution
  18. What did Sol Plaatje find on his journey through South Africa? Property rights and labour coercion
  19. Why can you have any car as long as it is black? The rise of American industry
  20. What did a butterfly collector do in the Congo? The Berlin Conference and the colonisation of Africa
  21. What was new about the New Deal? The Great Depression and the New Deal
  22. How could a movie embarrass Stalin? Russia and the turn to communism
  23. What was the Great Leap Forward? Mao Zedong, famine and the Cultural Revolution
  24. Why should we cry for Argentina? A country reverses
  25. Who was the last king of Scotland? African independence struggles
  26. How did Einstein help create Eskom? South Africa industrialises
  27. Why would you want to eat dim sum in the Transkei? The economics of apartheid
  28. Why do the Japanese play rugby? The rise of the East Asian economies
  29. What do Lego and the greatest invention of the twentieth century have in common? The second era of globalisation
  30. What is funny about Moore's law? ICT and the Fourth Industrial Revolution
  31. Who were Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac? The Global Financial Crisis of 2008
  32. What did The Economist get spectacularly wrong? Africa after 2000
  33. Will Madiba's Long Walk to Freedom ever end? The first 25 years of democracy and the future of South Africa
  34. What should no scholar ever do? Predicting the future
- Epilogue: How do you win a World Cup?



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EKONOMIE 281

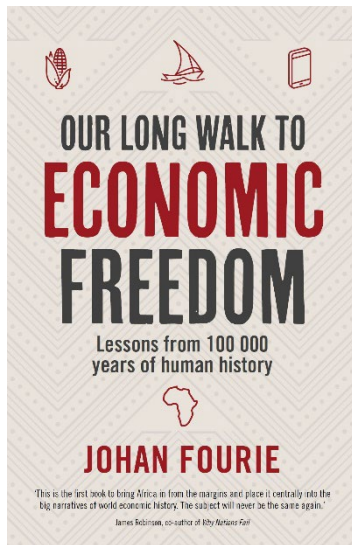
**Globale Ekonomiese Geskiedenis vir  
 Suid-Afrikaners**



WERKPROGRAM, EERSTE SEMESTER 2022

## MODULE DOELWIT

Die eerste semester dek vrae soos “Wat is die oorsprong van welvaart?”; “Waarom is Afrika die armste kontinent vandag?”; “Hoekom het ’n klein groepie mense in Noordwes-Europa se inkomste vinnig toegeneem aan die begin van die neëntiende eeu?”; “Hoekom bestaan ongelikheid steeds, selfs binne nasionale grense (met Suid-Afrika as voorbeeld)?” Die mens se voortdurende soeke om sy onbeperkte behoeftes te bevredig met beperkte bronne staan sentraal in al hierdie vrae. Op soek na antwoorde, delf ons in die verlede. Die ontwikkeling van die mens se lewensstandaard – veral die afgelope 400 jaar – bied ’n lappieskombers van keuses deur gewone mense, leiers en lande en die gevolge wat dit inhou. Die lesse uit die verlede help ons om die toekoms met wysheid en insig te navigeer.



## MODULE UITKOMSTE

Na suksesvolle voltooiing van hierdie module, sal die student in staat wees om:

- i. met insig die geskiedenis van ekonomiese verandering die laaste 400 jaar te bespreek
- ii. te verwys na ekonomiese teorieë om hierdie verandering te verduidelik
- iii. te onderskei tussen korrelasie en kousaliteit, veral met verwysing na natuurlike eksperimente
- iv. Afrika se ontwikkelingskwelvrae en –geleenthede te bespreek
- v. Suid-Afrika se posisie in die globale ekonomie te analiseer en langtermyn-tendense te identifiseer.

## VOORGESKREWE HANDBOEK

Fourie, J. 2021. Our Long Walk to Economic Freedom. Kaapstad: Tafelberg.

## OPSTEL

Kies een van die volgende vyf onderwerpe:

- Wanneer en hoekom het die kontantgewasrewolusie in Wes-Afrika begin?
- Hoekom het die ontdekking van diamante Botswana bevoordeel en Sierra Leone benadeel?
- Wat het Tanzanië se Ujamaa en Zimbabwe se grondherverdelingsprogram in gemeen gehad?
- Was die strukturele aanpassingsprogramme van die IMF en die Wêreldbank in Afrika ’n sukses?
- Hoekom is die vervaardigingsektor so klein in Afrika-lande?

Omvang: 1200 woorde. Inhandigingsdatum: 2 Mei 2022. Harvard verwysingsstyl.

## WERKPROGRAM

Hoe skep ons welvaart? 'n Inleiding

1. Wie is die argitektheite van Wakanda? Afrika ekonomiese geskiedkundiges en die stories wat ons vertel
  2. Wat het by Blombos in 70 000 BCE gebeur? Die migrasie van mense uit Afrika
  3. Hoekom is die Dene so individualisties? Die Neolitiese rewolusie en die opkoms van samelewings
  4. Hoekom het isiXhosa klieks? The Bantoe-migrasie
  5. Hoe het Josef en sy elf broers die ekonomiese probleem opgelos? Tradisie en bevel in die antieke wêreld
  6. Wat het Karel die Grote en Koning Zwelithine in gemeen? Feudalisme
  7. Hoekom het Indiërs 'n bruidskat en Afrikane 'n bruidsprys? Afrika se prekoloniale ekonomiese stelsels
  8. Wie was die rykste man in die geskiedenis? Islam in Afrika en die Kruistogte
  9. Hoe het 168 Spaanse conquistadores 'n ryk oorwin? Europeërs in die Amerikas
  10. Hoekom was 'n kameelperd die perfekte geskenk vir die Chinese keiser? Handel in die Indiese Oseaan en Europese imperialisme
  11. Wie het Gorée op 23 Junie 2013 besoek? The Atlantiese slawehandel
  12. Wat is 'n incunabulum? Die drukpers en die Reformasie
  13. Wie was Autshumao se broerskind? The aankoms van Europeërs in Suid-Afrika en die verval van die Khoesan
  14. Wat het Thomson, Watson & Co. gekoop? The vrystelling van die slawe aan die Kaap
  15. Wat het 'n Indonesiese vulkaan, Frankenstein en Shaka Zulu in gemeen? Die Mfecane en die Groot Trek
  16. Hoekom is die Spinning Jenny nie in Indië uitgevind nie? Die Nywerheidsomwenteling
  17. Hoe het die spoorweë Basutho boere benadeel? Die minerale rewolusie in Suid-Afrika
  18. Wat het Sol Plaatje gevind op sy reise deur Suid-Afrika? Eiendomsreg en arbeidsdwang
  19. Hoekom kan jy enige kleur kar kry solank dit swart is? Die opkoms van Amerika se nywerheidssektor
  20. Wat doen 'n skoenlapperversamelaar in die Kongo? Die Berlynse Kongres en die koloniseringsvna Afrika
  21. Wat was nuut aan die New Deal? Die Groot Depressie en die New Deal
  22. Hoe kon 'n flik Stalin in verleentheid bring? Rusland en die opkoms van kommunisme
  23. Wat was die 'Great Leap Forward'? Mao, hongersnood en die Kulturele Rewolusie
  24. Hoekom moet ons huil vir Argentinië? A land draai om
  25. Wie was die laaste koning van Skotland? Afrika se onafhanklikheidsstryd
  26. Wat was Einstein se rol in die stigting van Eskom? Suid-Afrika se nywerheidsomwenteling
  27. Hoekom sal jy dim sum in die Transkei wil eet? Die ekonomie van apartheid
  28. Hoekom speel die Japanese rugby? Die opkoms van Oos-Asiese ekonomieë
  29. Wat he Lego en die beste uitvinding van die twintigste eeu in gemeen? Die tweede era van globalisasie
  30. Wat is snaaks aan Moore se Wet? IKT en die Vierde Nywerheidsomwenteling
  31. Wie was Fannie Mae en Freddie Mac? Die globale ekonomiese krisis van 2008
  32. Wat het The Economist heeltemal verkeerd gekry? Afrika na 2000
  33. Sal Madiba se Long Pad ooit tot 'n einde kom? Die eerste 25 jaar van demokratiese SA
  34. Wat moet geen akademikus ooit doen nie? Voorspel die toekoms
- Epiloog: Hoe wen jy 'n Wêreldbeker?