A) BASIC STRUCTURES

1. Population
   FLINN, The European Demographic System.

2. The Family
   ANDERSON, Approaches to the History of the Western Family.

3. The Social Order

4. Resources and Technology
   WHITE, "Technology and Invention in the Middle Ages", in Speculum (1940).

B) FORCES OF CHANGE

5. Population Trends and Urbanization
   DAVIS, ch. 6.
   WRIGLEY, "Parasite or Stimulus", in Abrams & Wrigley, Towns in Society, ch. 12.
   FISHER, "The Development of London as a Center of Conspicuous Consumption", in CW, vol. II.

6. New Markets: At Home and Overseas
   DAVIS, chs. 1, 3, 5, 8.

7. The Price Revolution
   DAVIS, pp. 96-107.

C) RESPONSE TO CHANGE

8. Agriculture
   DAVIS, ch. 7.
   C.T. SMITH, An Historical Geography of Europe, ch. 9.

9. Industry
   SELLAR, "European Industries", in FEHE, vol. 2.

10. Trade and Credit
    DAVIS, ch. 14.
    PARKER, "The Emergence of Modern Finance", in FEHE, vol. 2.
11. The Seventeenth Century Crisis
   HOBSBAWN's article in ASTON (ed.), Crisis in Europe.
   ZAGORIN, ch. 5.

12. Social Conflict
   ZAGORIN, chs. 1, 2, 6, 7, 8.

D) DIVERGENT PATHS

13. Spain: The Cost of Empire
    DAVIS, chs. 4, 9, 10.

    PULLAN (ed.), Crisis and Change in the Venetian Economy,
    Editors Introduction and chs. 5 and 6.
    SSELLA, Crisis and Continuity, chs. IV, V, VI, VII, VIII.

15. The Netherlands: Unfulfilled Promise
    DAVIS, ch. 11.

16. France: Power and Inertia
    DAVIS, ch. 13.

17. England: Balanced Growth
    DAVIS, 12, 17, 18.

E. EPILOGUE

18. The Origins of Modern Capitalism
    GREEN (ed.), Protestantism, Capitalism, and Social Science.

Abbreviations used:

CEHE .............. Cambridge Economic History of Europe
CW ................ Carus Wilson (ed.), Essays in Economic History
FEHE .............. Fontana Economic History of Europe
NCMH .............. New Cambridge Modern History
COURSE NO. | COURSE TITLE | INSTRUCTOR
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457 | Economic and Social History of Europe 1500-1700 | Sella

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The object of the course is to provide an in-depth understanding of the society and economy of Europe before the coming of modern industrialization. This will involve an analysis of: demographic and family structures; the social order and its stratification based on rank and legal privilege; the operation of pre-industrial economies; social tensions and popular upheavals.

Some broad changes will be discussed next, and notably the great demographic upswing of the 15th century; the progress of urbanization; overseas expansion and early colonization, the price revolution; and the so-called "general crisis" of the 17th century.

A survey of the diverse and often contrasting historical experiences of individual European countries will then offer an opportunity to see how broad economic and social forces interacted in different historical contexts to produce different results.

**LECTURES**

Two 75-minute lectures a week. Students who elect to take the course for 4 credits will meet with the instructor an additional hour a week to work on and discuss a research project.

**WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS**

1) a one-hour mid-term exam; 2) a two-hour final; and 3) (for 4-credit students only) one research paper.

**GRADING SYSTEM**

Final grade in the course will be determined as follows:

- for 3-credit students: mid-term exam: 1/3; final: 2/3 of final grade.
- for 4-credit students: mid-term exam: 1/4; final: 1/2; paper: 1/4.

**REQUIRED READINGS**