

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Department of History
Semester II, 1985-86

HISTORY 467

Mr. Sella

Social and Economic History of Europe, 1500-1750

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
ZAGORIN, Rebels and Rulers, vol. I, chs. 3 and 4.
4. Resources and Technology
DAVIS, The Rise of the Atlantic Economies, ch. 2.
DARBY, "The Face of Europe on the Eve of the Great Discoveries",
in NCMH, vol. I.
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.
RICH, "Colonial Settlement and Its Labor Problems", in CEHE,
vol. 4.
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
SELLA, "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
HOBBSBAWN'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.
14. Italy: Urban Decline and Rural Stability
PULLAN (ed.), Crisis and Change in the Venetian Economy,
Editors Introduction and chs. 5 and 6.
SELLA, 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

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
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Semester II, Year 85-86

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
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 16th 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

Required textbooks: ANDERSON, Approaches to the History of the Western Family; DAVIS, The Rise of the Atlantic Economies; FLINN, The European Demographic System; ZAGORIN, Rebels and Rulers, vol. I. Additional readings will be from books available in the Reserve Book Room, Helen C. White Bldg.