Economics 764 provides a survey of the economic history of the United States with a focus on the impact of social conflict. My office is 1002 Thompson Hall, tel. 545-6357, E-Mail: gfriedma@econs.umass.edu.

Required readings are marked with a star *. Class discussions will focus on these readings. Students are expected to participate in class discussions and prepare at least 6 papers assessing the week’s readings; papers should be submitted (as email attachment) before 5 PM on Tuesdays. In addition, you should prepare an annotated bibliography of the literature on a research question of their choice.

1. **Introduction: Approaches to Economic History**
   *Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, “The Communist Manifesto, Part I”
   *__________________________, “Eleven Theses on Feuerbach”
   *Donald McCloskey, "Does the Past Have Useful Economics?", "*Journal of Economic Literature* (1976), 434-61.

   E. H. Carr, *What is History?*


2. **Europeans and the New World**

   Jared Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*.

3. Markets and the Colonial Economy


* Sven Beckert, “Merchants and Manufacturers in the Antebellum North,” pp. 92-122 in Fraser and Gary Gerstle, eds., Ruling America.


4. Economics of Early Republic: Property


5. **Economics of Early Republic: Technological Change**


*__________, “The Horndal effect’ in Lowell, 1834-56,” in David, *Technical Choice*


*Ken Sokoloff, “Was the Shift from the Artisanal Shop Associated with Gains in Efficiency?” *Explorations in Economic History* 21 (October 1984), 351-82.


Peter Temin, “Labor Scarcity and the Problem of American Industrial Efficiency in the 1850s,”

6. **Economics of Early Republic: Proletarianization**

*G Gordon, Edwards, and Reich, *Segmented Work, Divided Workers*, ch. 3.


7. **Slavery and Revolution: Economics of Slavery and Civil War**

*Adam Rothman, “The ‘Slave Power’ in the United States, 1783-1865,” pp. 64-91 in Fraser and Gary Gerstle, eds., *Ruling America*


8. **Slavery and Southern Reconstruction**


W. E. B. DuBois, Black Reconstruction, chs. 1, 2, 4, 5, 9.


Gavin Wright, Old South, New South: Revolutions in the Southern Economy since the Civil War New York, Basic Books: 1986.


9. Corporate Capitalism: Technology and Proletarianization


*Gordon, Edwards, and Reich, Segmented Work, Divided Workers, ch. 4.


10. **Corporate Capitalism: Monopoly Capitalism**

*Naomi Lamoreaux, The Great Merger Movement in American Business, 1895-1904*


11. **Class, Socialism, Unions, and American Exceptionalism**


*Sean Wilentz, "Against Exceptionalism: Class Consciousness and the American Labor Movement," *International Labor and Working Class History* (Fall 1984), 1-37*

*Gerald Friedman, “Success and Failure in Third Party Politics: The Knights of Labor and the Union Labor Coalition in Massachusetts, 1884-88” *International Labor and Working Class History* 62 (Fall 2002), 169-189.*


David Montgomery, *The Fall of the House of Labor: The Workplace, the State, and American
12. An American Welfare State?


Rosanne Currrarino, “‘The Revolution now in progress’: social economics and the labor question,” *Labor History* 50:1 (2009), 1-17.


14. **Great Depression**


15. **Unions and a New Deal Labor Accord?**

*Gordon, Edwards, and Reich, *Segmented Work, Divided Workers,* ch. 5.


16. **Breakdown?**


* Fraser and Gerstle, eds., *Ruling America*, chs. 7-8.


