

# Syllabus for the course

## AMERICA FROM INDEPENDENCE TO FINANCIAL CRISIS: SPECIAL TOPICS IN U.S. ECONOMIC HISTORY

<b>Course code:</b>	5HD396
<b>Course title in language of instruction:</b>	America from Independence to Financial Crisis: Special Topics in U.S. Economic History
<b>Course title in Czech:</b>	Amerika od nezávislosti po finanční krizi: vybraná témata z hospodářských dějin USA
<b>Course title in English:</b>	America from Independence to Financial Crisis: Special Topics in U.S. Economic History
<b>Number of ECTS credits allocated:</b>	4
<b>Mode of delivery:</b>	full-time; 0/2 (hours of lectures per week / hours of seminars per week) as semestral course
<b>Mode of completion:</b>	graded course
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	English
<b>Level of course and year of study:</b>	master (second cycle): 2
<b>Semester:</b>	SS 2020/2021
<b>Name of lecturer(s):</b>	Ing. Zdenka Johnson, Ph.D. (examiner, instructor, supervisor)
<b>Prerequisites and co-requisites:</b>	not to be taken after 5HD346 or not to be taken concurrently with 5HD346
<b>Recommended optional programme components:</b>	none
<b>Work placement:</b>	none

### Aims of the course:

The course provides a deeper insight into selected topics at different times in U.S. economic history.

### Learning outcomes and competences:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- identify factors of economic rise of the United States in the 19th and 20th centuries,
- describe and evaluate the causes, course and consequences of the Great Depression,
- summarize the origins and development of the U.S. welfare state,
- explain the impact of oil shocks on the U.S. economy,
- define the principles of the economic policies of Presidents Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton.

### Course contents:

1. War for Independence – economic aspects.
2. Slave labor and slavery in American economy.
3. The North and the South – economic causes and consequences of the Civil War.
4. The Gilded Age – rise of the U.S. in the world economy.
5. Roaring Twenties – consumer society and economy.
6. The Great Depression – course, response of economic policy, consequences.
7. War economy during World War II.
8. Golden Sixties – economy and society during the Kennedy and Johnson eras.
9. Oil crises and the collapse of the Bretton Woods system – impacts on the U.S. economy.
10. Supply-side Economics in practice – economic policy during the Reagan administration.
11. Clintonomics, dot-com bubble.

12. Dollar Diplomacy a hundred years later – U.S. economic interests in the Americas, Asia and Third World countries.  
 13. Recent financial and economic crisis – the parallels with the Great Depression.

**Learning activities, teaching methods and workload (hours):**

Type of teaching method	Hours of workload
	Daily attendance
Attendance at seminars/workshops/tutorials	26
Preparation of presentation	10
Preparation for mid-term test(s)	34
Preparation for final test	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>

**Assessment methods and criteria:**

Requirement type	Weight
	Daily attendance
Active lecture/seminar/workshop/tutorial participation	25 %
Presentation	15 %
Mid-term test(s)	30 %
Final test	30 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 %</b>

**Assessment:**

Graded courses  
 1 Excellent (90 – 100%)  
 2 Very good (75 – 89%)  
 3 Good (60 – 74%)  
 4 Insufficient (0 – 59%)

Ungraded courses  
 P Passed  
 NP Not Passed

**Special requirements and details:**

In the winter semester 2020/2021 there is no midterm test, students will be evaluated on the basis of the final test. When graded 4+ (50-59%), a student will take a make-up test covering the material from the whole semester. Based on the result of this make up test, the instructor will determine whether the student's grade will be 3 (if more than 60% from this test is achieved) or 4 (if less than 59% is achieved).

**Reading:**

Type*	Author	Title	Published in	Publisher	Year	ISBN
RQ	ROCKOFF, H. – WALTON, G M.	History of the American economy	Boston	Cengage Learning	2018	978-1-337-10460-9
RQ	CAIN, L P. – HUGHES, J R T.	American economic history	Boston	Pearson	2011	978-0-13-703741-4
RE	CHAFE, W H.	The unfinished journey : America since World War II	New York	Oxford University Press	2015	978-0-19-934799-5
RE	ENGERMAN, S L. – GALLMAN, R E.	The Cambridge economic history of the United States. Volume III, The twentieth century	Cambridge	Cambridge University Press	2000	0-521-55308-3

- RE Barsky R. B.; Kilian L. , Oil and the Macroeconomy since the 1970. The Journal of Economic Perspectives, Vol. 18, No. 4 (Autumn, 2004), pp. 115-134, 2004
- RE ENGERMAN, Stanley L. – GALLMAN, Robert E. (eds.). The Cambridge economic history of the United States. Volume I, The colonial era. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996. ISBN ISBN 978-0-52-139442-0.
- RE ENGERMAN, Stanley L. – GALLMAN, Robert E. (eds.). The Cambridge economic history of the United States. Volume II, The long nineteenth century. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000. ISBN ISBN 978-0-52-155307-0.
- RE Greenspan A.; Mankiw N. G.; Stein J. C., The Crisis [with Comments and Discussion]. Brookings Papers on Economic Activity, (Spring, 2010), pp. 201-261 , 2010
- RE Higgs R., Wartime Prosperity? A Reassessment of the U.S. Economy in the 1940s. The Journal of Economic History, Vol. 52, No. 1 (Mar., 1992), pp. 41-60 , 1992
- RE Temin P. , The Great Depression. NBER Working Paper Series on Historical Factors in Long Run Growth, Historical Paper No. 62 (Nov., 1994), pp. 1-49, 1994

\* RQ – required RE – recommended