

## The Long-Run History of Trade

Course title – Intitulé du cours	The Long-Run History of Trade
Level / Semester – Niveau /semestre	M2/S2
School – Composante	Ecole d'Economie de Toulouse
Teacher – Enseignant responsable	Paul Seabright
Other teacher(s) – Autre(s) enseignant(s)	
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Other teacher(s) – Autre(s) enseignant(s)	
Lecture Hours – Volume Horaire CM	30
TA Hours – Volume horaire TD	
TP Hours – Volume horaire TP	
Course Language – Langue du cours	English
TA and/or TP Language – Langue des TD et/ou TP	

### **Teaching staff contacts – Coordonnées de l'équipe pédagogique :**

Paul Seabright – Paul.Seabright@tse-fr.eu

### **Course Objectives – Objectifs du cours :**

The purpose of the course is to trace the history of trade between communities beginning in prehistoric times and continuing the story up to the present day and the potential trade war between the United States and China. Although most of the material will focus on the history of trade itself, we shall also look at the history of *ideas* about trade, from those of classical writers such as Herodotus through Ibn Khaldun, Adam Smith, David Ricardo through to researchers in the second half of the twentieth century.

We will consider how trade has interacted historically with migration, slavery, warfare, innovation, disease, the rise of the nation state, industrialization and political change. In short, most of the important developments in human history have been influenced by, and have had an influence upon trade.

### **Prerequisites – Pré requis :**

There are no prerequisites other than a course in intermediate microeconomics.

### **Practical information about the sessions – Modalités pratiques de gestion du cours :**

The first session will take place after January 4<sup>th</sup> 2021.

### **Grading system – Modalités d'évaluation :**

A 90-minute written examination and a take-home essay.

### **Bibliography/references – Bibliographie/références :**

A full bibliography will be provided as the course progresses.

However, to get a flavor of the subjects to be covered, prospective students may find it interesting to listen before the course starts to ten 15-minute podcasts for BBC radio:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b09lsns0>

### **Session planning – Planification des séances :**

There are ten sessions:

Session 1: Outline of the course, the significance of Smith's *The Wealth of Nations*, and special guest lecture from Francesca de Petrillo, IAST Research Fellow, on "Trade in the animal kingdom".

Session 2: Prehistoric trade.

Session 2: Trade in the classical and the medieval worlds.

Session 3: Mercantilism, war and the rise of the national state.

Session 4: The medieval guilds – efficiency-enhancing institutions or cartels?

Session 5: The gains from trade – what are they and how important are they?

Session 6: Trade and industrialization: which comes first?

Session 7: Trade and disease.

Session 8: The free and enforced movement of people: migration and the slave trade.

Session 9: Waves of globalization.

Session 10: The history of trade and trade policy in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries – is mercantilism making a comeback?

### **Distance learning – Enseignement à distance :**

To be determined