

Instructor:

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Office hours: Individual appointments can be made via email and will be scheduled on Zoom, Google Meet, or by phone.

Text: John Steele Gordon, *An Empire of Wealth: The Epic History of American Economic Power* (Harper, 2004)

ISBN-10 : 0060093625

ISBN-13 : 978-0060093624

Objectives: Utah State Code 53B-16-103(b) requires that “A student shall demonstrate a reasonable understanding of the history, principles, form of government, and economic system of the United States prior to receiving a bachelor’s degree or teaching credential.” Successful completion of this course will satisfy this “American Institutions” requirement.

Class Description: A critical study of the history of the American Economy, significant events, fundamental principles of a market economy, interactions between government and the market economy, and the evolution of fundamental economic institutions.

Grading Policies: Grades will be determined on the following basis:

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|-------------|-----|
| Worksheets | 80% |
| Book Report | 20% |

Grades: A: 90 - 100% B: 80 - 89% C: 70 - 79% D: 60 - 69% E: 0 - 59%
(Grades at the high or low ends of these ranges will earn plus and minus grades.)

Cheating Policy: Cheating and deceit are not accepted at Weber State University. *Cheating on an quiz or assignment, or turning in someone else's work as your own, will result in an E for the class.* You may work together on your assignments and papers, but you must turn in your own work. If you quote from a book, article, or web site, you must properly quote and cite your work. **Avoid even the appearance of cheating or plagiarism.**

Book Report: Each student will read an additional book from a list to be distributed by the instructor. The student should research book reviews and academic papers on the book, if they exist. Each student will write a four-page book report (double-spaced, 12-point font, one-inch margins), covering who wrote the book, a very brief description of the topics covered, and why this is an important book.

Students with Disabilities: Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in Room 181 of the Student Service Center. SSD can also arrange to provide materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary.

Student Expectations for Spring 2021 Courses:

See this [document](#) for campus policies in light on the pandemic.

Digital Addendum for Campus Course Policies:

See this [document](#) for other campus course policies.

Schedule:

| Week of | Readings/Worksheet |
|-------------|---|
| January 11 | Class introduction. Get your textbook! |
| January 18 | Read Gordon, Introduction and Chapter One Worksheet One, due January 22 |
| January 25 | Read Gordon, Chapters Two and Three Worksheet Two, due January 29 |
| February 1 | Read Gordon, Transition and Chapter Four Worksheet Three, due February 5 |
| February 8 | Read the Constitution Worksheet Four, due February 12 |
| February 15 | Read Gordon, Chapters Five and Six Worksheet Five, due February 19 |
| February 23 | Read Gordon, Chapters Seven and Eight Worksheet Six, due February 26 |
| March 1 | Read Gordon, Chapters Nine and Ten Worksheet Seven, due March 5 |
| March 8 | Spring Break |
| March 15 | Read Gordon, Transition and Chapters Eleven and Twelve Worksheet Eight, due March 19 |
| March 22 | Read Gordon, Chapters Thirteen and Fourteen Worksheet Nine, due March 26 |
| March 29 | Read Gordon, Transition, Chapters Fifteen and Sixteen Worksheet Ten, due April 2 Book Report due April 2 |
| April 5 | Read Gordon, Chapters Seventeen, Transition, and Eighteen Worksheet Eleven, due April 9 |
| April 12 | Read Gordon, Chapters Nineteen and Twenty Worksheet Twelve, due April 16 |
| April 19 | Excerpts from Ben S. Bernanke, Timothy F. Geithner, and Henry M. Paulson, Jr., <i>Firefighting</i> (2019). Worksheet Thirteen, due April 23 |
| | No final exam |