
For the past three decades, China has been one of the most rapidly changing economies in the world. Yet, from another standpoint, there has been remarkable historical continuities. How can we understand the recent rise of China in light of its long-run trajectory? What challenges face China over the medium and long-run as it seeks to continue to modernize its economy?

This course selectively surveys key elements of the economy, state, and society of China starting from the 17th century to today. We use a comparative approach to understand the impact of select topics: education, kinship and lineage organization, demography, living standards, property rights, foreign trade, capital and commodity markets, governance, and public finance. How do differences in the historical determinants of growth help to explain why China and Europe developed along different growth trajectories? What can China's growth experience teach us about competing explanations of growth? We will also consider factors that may be important for China's sustained development in the future.

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Econ 3070 or 3080, Intermediate Micro or Intermediate Macro.

The following texts have been ordered at CU Bookstore.

China's Economic History, 2nd edition, by Elleman and Paine (Rowman & Littlefield, 2019). Provides a historical background of the Qing (1644-1911) with a political/military focus; useful tables, maps, and figures describing major events.

China's Economic History, 3rd edition, by Chen et al. (W.W. Norton, 2014). Selection of primary-sources, in translation.

Optional Text: *China's Economic Reforms*, 2nd edition, by Naughton (MIT Press, 2018). An overview of the nature of economic reforms implemented by the CCP since 1978.

: At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Extract meaning from primary sources in translation through careful reading;
- Draw on a base of knowledge of Chinese history from c. 1644 – present to interpret the historical context of primary data sources;
- Understand how economists frame a good hypothesis or question that can in turn be answered with data, and gain experience in analysis of systematic patterns in the data;
- Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of empirical findings and causal ar

Text: Elleman and Paine, Ch. 1-3

*Chen et al. Ch. 1 "The Late Ming"

- *Chen et al Ch. 2 "The Manchu Conquest"

*Text: "Cambridge History of China, "Social Stability and Social Change", Rowe.

*Acemoglu and Robinson, Why Nations Fail, Ch. 3 & 4

- *Chen et al. Ch. 5 "Chinese Society and the Reign of Qianlong"

Documents: The Great Qing Code

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- *Documents: Chen et al. Ch. 7, "The First Clash with the West"
- *Keller,

