Course: History of Economic Thought

Free University of Bolzano. Italy
School of Economics and Management

Spring Term 2008

Prof. Dr. Dieter Bögenhold

TEACHING LANGUAGE: English

SEMESTER:

TOTAL LECTURE HOURS: 30 + 20

CREDIT POINTS:

SCIENTIFIC FIELD:

LECTURER: Professor Dr. Dieter Bögenhold, dboegenhold@unibz.it

TEACHING ASSISTANT:

PREREQUISITE:

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The course intends to provide a systematic introduction into the history of economic thought. The course will discuss selected authors of the tradition of economic theory in order to embed them into the framework of institutional determinants and related regimes and principles of intellectual debate and change.

LIST OF TOPICS COVERED: History of Economic Thought, Scientific Change, Socioeconomics, Transdisciplinary Thought

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES: Students shall acquire adequate knowledge to classify competing I positions in the history of economic thought and to develop skills to use the knowledge for an interpretation of contemporary problems in academic debate.

TEACHING FORMAT: Reading, discussion, lecturing, students presentation

ASSESSMENT: Final examination (60%), student presentation (30%), performance in class (10%)
COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS

I. Why Study History of Economic Thought?


II. History of Thought or Histories of Thought?


III. Marx: Capital Accumulation and the Idea of Social Embeddedness of the Economy

Böhm-Bawerk, Eugen von: Karl Marx and the Close of His System, download at: http://www.marxists.org/subject/economy/authors/bohm/index.htm

IV. Old German Institutionalism: The Case of the New Historical School by Schmoller and Associates

English edition 1897

V. The Marginal Revolution: Jevons, Menger, and Walras

VI. Old (American) Institutionalism (I)


VII. Old (American) Institutionalism (II)


VIII. Mises and Hayek: On Socialism


IX. Keynes and the “Keynesian Revolution”


Keynes, John Maynard: General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money, 1936
download: http://cepa.newschool.edu/het

X. Competition and Knowledge: Perfect, Imperfect and Rivalrous


XI. Creative Destruction, Innovation and Entrepreneurship


XII. Entrepreneurship and Dynamics


XIII. Economics and the Problem of Social Costs


XIV. Bounded Rationality and (New) Institutionalism


XV. Extending the Domain of Economics: Rational Actors in a Rational World


XVI. The Rise of Mathematics in Economics


TEXTBOOKS (with individual selective advantages, Heilbroner and 2 x Schumpeter are very well to read but end up quite early)


Additional books


**WEBSITES (for further special interest and additional surfing)**
There are many interesting websites that are of use to historians of economic thought. Among are the following:

The New School’s History of Economic Thought Website  
http://cepa.newschool.edu/het/

The McMaster University Archive for the History of Economic Thought  
http://socserv2.sosci.mcmaster.ca/~econ/ugcm/3ll3/

The Liberty Fund Library of Economics and Liberty  
http://www.econlib.org/library/classics.html

The Liberty Fund Online Library of Liberty  
http://oll.libertyfund.org/

The Nobel Prize in Economics e-Museum  
http://www.nobel.se/economics/index.html

The Akamac E-text Links Page  
http://www.cpm.11.ehime-u.ac.jp/AkamacHomePage/Akamac_Etext_Links/Akamac_E-text_Links.html

The Mises Institute Austrian Economics Study Guide  
http://www.mises.org/studyguide.asp

The Friedrich Hayek Scholar’s Page  
http://www.hayekcenter.org/friedrichhayek/hayek.html

The Acton Institute’s Markets and Morality Website  
http://www.acton.org/publicat/m_and_m/

The Eh.Net History of Economics Website  
http://www.eh.net/HE/

The Economy Professor Website:  
History of Economic Thought Fall 2004 – Dalton 4  
http://www.economyprofessor.com/

The Internet Classics Archive:  
http://classics.mit.edu/

The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy  
http://www.utm.edu/research/iep/

The Internet Modern History Sourcebook  
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/modsbook.html

European History of Economics Society  
http://www.ecn.bris.ac.uk/het1/links.htm

Dead Economists Society.
http://netec.wustl.edu/~adnetec/WebEc/webecb.html
WebEc: Methodology and History of Economic Thought. Site at Helsinki mirrored at Washington University.
http://slutsky.ecn.bris.ac.uk/het
Bristol Resources for the History of Economics.
http://timer.kub.nl/economics/econ_history.html
TIMER, The Interactive Management and Economics Resources, maintained by Tilberg and Purdue Universities.
http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books
The On-Line Books Page at the University of Pennsylvania. Links to books everywhere.
http://socserv2.socsci.mcmaster.ca:80/~econ/ugcm/3ll3/index.html McMaster University