Preliminary Course Description and Requirements

This course compares the development of rich and “emerging market” countries over time.

Through both macro- and micro-economic perspectives, we examine political, cultural, and economic similarities and differences of national enterprise systems, paying special attention to impacts of government, financial institutions, entrepreneurship and management.

The intellectual objectives of the course are to develop an understanding of different enterprise systems and to hone abilities to think comparatively, both over time and across national contexts.

We will consider the lessons we can learn from the histories of the UK, the US, Germany and Japan before examining the more recent progress of economies and firms in such diverse countries as India, China, the Asian “Dragons,” Russia, Saudi Arabia, Argentina, Chile and the European Union and their implications for global business and investment prospects.

Classes will be a mix of lecture and discussion of the assigned readings. Attendance is important. Short paragraphs on the assigned readings will be required for each class as a preparation for discussion. There will be a final take home essay, distributed in the penultimate class session, which will be due one week from the end of the course.