

INTERDISCIPLINARY MINOR in the HISTORY OF CAPITALISM

Capitalism has delivered unrivaled prosperity, but with many social costs. Understanding capitalism's past is essential to understanding our world today—as well as tomorrow. How has it been defined? How has it developed at different times and in different parts of the world? Students undertaking the minor will be exposed to many different perspectives on capitalism, enabling them to critically reflect on economic institutions and ideas, as well as understand how our global economy has come to be.

The minor is designed to provide students with the basic vocabulary of economics and business, but to deepen it with a longer, critical perspective on the development of capitalism. “Capitalism” has had many different meanings over time and students in the minor will also learn how its meanings have changed across time and how they continue to differ across place.

This minor is offered collaboratively with courses from across the university, but is coordinated by the Department of History staff, and Edward Baptist (A&S), George Boyer (ILR), Lawrence Glickman (A&S), Sandra Greene (A&S), Victor Seow (A&S) and Louis Hyman (ILR). For more information on the minor and a list of currently approved courses, please see the department website at: history.arts.cornell.edu.

History of Capitalism Approved Courses

This list will change over time as new courses are added. Students may petition to have a course not listed approved. And the core faculty welcome suggestions by faculty for relevant courses not yet listed.

I. Regional/National/Global Survey of Capitalism

HIST 1540/AMST 1540/ILRLR 1845 American Capitalism

II. Economics and Business

ECON 1110	Introductory Microeconomics
ECON 1120	Introductory Macroeconomics
ECON 3010	Accelerated Microeconomics
ECON 3030	Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
ECON 3300	Development of Economic Thought and Institutions
ECON 3310	American Economics History I
ECON 3320	American Economic History II
GOVT 3547	American Primacy Challenged: International Political Economy
GOVT 3557	American Exceptionalism Questioned: Comparative Political Economy
PAM 2000	Intermediate Microeconomics
AEM 2241	Finance (formerly AEM 2240)
HADM 2250	Finance

III. Historical Areas

Students will need to take at least three courses from the following list (which will be updated regularly).

GERST 4431	Melancholy Left: Marx to Benjamin (HIST 4234)
GERST 1170	Marx, Nietzsche, Freud
GERST 3610	Homo Oeconomicus
HIST 1690	Latin America and the World
HIST 1950	The Invention of Latin America
HIST 1955	No gods, No masters: Histories of Anarchism
HIST 2062	Migrant Workers in the Americas
HIST 2210	Popular Culture in China
HIST 2452	Dress Cloth and Identity
HIST 2423	Dazed and Confused: The Politics of Drug and Alcohol in US History
HIST 2430	The History of Things
HIST 2063	Anarchism: History, Theory, Practice
HIST 2131	Energy in History
HIST 2500	Technology in Society
HIST 2581	Environmental History
HIST 3022	Capitalism and American Democracy
HIST 3050	Eighteenth-Century Britain
HIST 3181	Living in an Uncertain World: Science, Technology, and Risk (BSOC 3181, STS 3181)

HIST 3411	Engineering in History
HIST 3652	African Economic Development Histories
HIST 3740	America Becomes Modern: The Gilded Age and Progressive Era
HIST 4041	Atlantic Commodities
HIST 4261	Commodification and Consumerism in Historical Perspective
HIST 4490	Peddlers, Pirates and Prostitutes: Subaltern Histories of Southeast Asia, 1800-1900
HIST 4820	History of Slavery
ILRLR 1100	Introduction to U.S. Labor History
ILRLR 3040	Special Topics in Labor History
ILRLR 3060	Recent History of American Workers
ILRLR 3065	Immigrant America: Race and Citizenship in Modern Working Class History
ILRLR 3880	Unfree Labor: Servants, Slaves, and Wives
ILRLR 3870	The History of Consumption: From Wedgwood to WalMart