Reading list:

Institutional Change


2. David, “Clio and the Economics of Qwerty” (1985); Liebowitz and Margolis, “The fable of the keys” (1990); David, “Path dependence, its critics, and the quest for historical economics” (year?)

Rise of the West


5. Diamond, Guns Germs and Steel (1999), Prologue, Ch.3 and Epilogue.


Chartered companies and Corporations

9. Carlos and Nicholas, Agency Problems in Early Chartered Companies: The Case of the Hudson’s Bay Company, JEH 1990; Carlos, “Agent Opportunism and the Role of Company Culture: The Hudson’s Bay and


12. Harris, “The formation of the East India Company as a cooperation-enhancing institution”.


16. Harris, “The Institutional Dynamics of Early Modern Eurasian Trade: From the Commenda to the Corporation”

Political Institutions


18. Weingast, “Self-enforcing constitutions, with an Application to Democratic Stability in America’s first century”

19. Londregan and Vindigni, “Voting as a Credible Threat”

20. Greif,”Self-enforcing political system and Economic Growth: Late Medieval Genoa”

22. Eggertsson, “No experiments Monumental Disasters: Why it too a thousand years to develop a specialized fishing industry in Iceland”; Acemoglu, Why no political Coase Theorem?”

23. Shleifer and Vishny, “Corruption”

Open Fields/Enclosure


Pistols at Dawn