

## EC120 The World Economy in Historical Perspective

### Assignment 1

This assignment must be submitted **no later than 12:00 on Monday 12th December 2011** via the University's *Online Coursework Submission* facility. You are welcome to submit assignments before the deadline but those submitted later will normally attract a mark of **zero**. The submitted file should not be watermarked. No paper copy should be submitted.

**Late assignments will not be accepted for assessment** — no extensions will be granted. See the *Undergraduate Economics Handbook*: “Coursework: assignments, tests and term papers”.

You are responsible for complying with the *Undergraduate Economics Handbook*: “A Guide to Good Practice in Assessed Work”.

You are strongly advised to read and follow the guidance in the *Undergraduate Economics Handbook*: “Making the best of your essays, term papers and projects”.

EC120-4-FY: If you are a **first year** student answer ONE of the following questions in an essay of at most 3,000 words.

1. Identify the ways in which demographic forces both influenced, and were influenced by, economic conditions in pre-industrial societies. Illustrate your answer with reference to Europe in the three centuries before 1800.
2. Assess the extent to which China enjoyed a technological lead over Europe by the late 15th century. Why does China appear to have lost its lead by the late 18th century?

EC120-5-FY: If you are a **second year** student answer ONE of the following questions in an essay of at most 3,000 words.

1. Explain, and critically assess, the Malthusian model of population in the context of its application to demographic change in pre-industrial economies. Illustrate your answer with reference to Europe in the three centuries before 1800.
2. Assess the extent to which China enjoyed a technological lead over Europe by the late 15th century. Use economic principles to analyse why China appears to have lost its lead, compared with Europe by the late 18th century.

\*\*\*\*\*