

ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND SOCIAL PROCESSES OF MODERNISATION SINCE THE 18TH CENTURY

The students can apply the term 'modernisation' and can both compare and evaluate different theories of modernisation.

Economic and social changes prompted by the Industrial Revolution

The students can

- analyse and evaluate the Industrial Revolution in terms of a process that has brought about great social and economical changes in history;
- compare the developments of the industrialisation in different European countries and in North America with their advantageous and disadvantageous factors;
- study and evaluate the changes in the fields of technology, of labour and in the environment and present their results;
- evaluate different approaches to solving the 'Social Question' (i.e. the social problems resulting from the Industrial Revolution) and their effects.

Dates and terminology:

foundation of labour parties since 1863; social legislation since 1883; the social papal encyclical 'Rerum Novarum' of 1891; agricultural revolution; Industrial Revolution; key / neuralgic industries ('Schrittmacherindustrien'); economic / classical liberalism; communism; socialism; big business; Great Depression; New Deal

A possible unit plan:

Note: The numbers do not refer to lessons of 45 or 90 minutes length. They rather refer to the chronology of the topics within the unit.

1.	Concepts of modernisation
2.	Feeding increasing numbers: was the Agricultural Revolution market- or science-driven?
3.	Th. R. Malthus's theory about population increase: a question of morality or of mathematics?
4.	The Industrial Revolution in Britain: many factors steaming ahead and combine
5.	A. Smith's 'The Wealth of Nations': a gospel of free trade?
6.	David Ricardo: 'classical liberalism revisited / confirmed'?
7.	The industrialisation of Germany compared to British industrialisation
8.	The Industrialisation of the US – a special case?
9.	The Gilded Age of Big Business and US-American Progressivism: how gilded – how progressive?
10.	Dickensian blight or progress? The social effects of the Industrial Revolution
11.	Social protests and reformers: King Ned, New Lanark and the Chartists
12.	Social revolutionaries: Marx and early socialism
13.	Ideas to alleviate the hard conditions of the working class both Christian and patriarchal: good answers to the 'social question'?
14.	The Crash of 1929 and the New Deal