

Group Assignment #3 Great Depression case study (due in your week 10 Tutorial) = 4 marks

1. North America
2. South America
3. Africa
4. Asia
5. Europe

Each group will choose a region *and then pick a country* and examine the impact of the Great Depression. Try to provide a ***who, what, where, when & why*** with a thesis argument for your particular country, if you can. Please provide a short group presentation of about 2 pages/5 minutes time. We will discuss this in the tutorial as well. Each group to choose a different one of the 5 topic regions.

For this group presentation you don't really have any set guidelines, except to try to find out what you can about your country during the Great Depression. Challenge #1 will be getting hold of good economic data, and while we have excellent statistical data for Great Britain over this period, it can be a huge challenge to find similar economic statistics for, example, Ghana or Bolivia. So just try to do the best you can with what you find, and if you can let your tutorial classmates know about the sources you found and used that would be really useful.

Let's give a sense of what kind of economic statistics might be useful here:

- 1) Can we get year by year GDP/GNP numbers? Percentage change year on year?
- 2) Can you get unemployment rates? Again, year on year changes? What share of the country was out of work, versus employed?
- 3) Did unemployment & hardship fall differently on women & men? Ethnic or regional variations?
- 4) How did your country try to deal with the Great Depression? Fiscal Policies, or Social Programs, or did it just ignore it?
- 5) Can we get a sense of the political and social impact of the Depression on your chosen country? Did some political parties gain/lose?
- 6) Can you get a sense of the impact on popular culture? Music, movies, literature, painting? Not always how we think about measuring economic history but important. (Hobsbawm does a good job with this.)
- 7) When did your country recover from the Great Depression? This could be tricky to answer.