

- Interplay between corporate strategies and state policies - context is important, deindustrialisation is not a passive process, it is enforced upon consciously by authorities to effect particular areas
- Productivity rises shedding labour, falling profits

Uneven Regional Geography

- US: 'blue collar' Midwest and North East - 'frostbelt' or 'rustbelt' regions
- UK: 'The North' - industrial Midlands and the North West
- Uneven urban geography: Detroit in the US, Birmingham in the UK, etc.
- Symptoms: firms and plant closures, structural unemployment and redundant skills

2. Deindustrialisation in the UK

- UK deindustrialisation
 - Earliest to industrialise & deindustrialise
 - 1955 industrial workforce > than public & private services
 - 1983 services 2x industrial employment
 - 1966 – 11.5 million peak employment
- Deindustrialisation from 1960s, but pace rapidly increased from mid-1970s
 - recession in 1979-1981/2
 - election of Conservative government and Margaret Thatcher as PM in 1979
 - Rapid and traumatic process

Political-economy of UK deindustrialisation

- Thatcherism - Political response to crisis
 - Make 'UK plc' internationally competitive
- Neo-liberal economic policies:
 - Roll back state
 - Privatisation and the withdrawal of support for (uncompetitive) nationalised industries
 - 'Crowding out' thesis
 - Raise market distortions
 - Reduce Unions' power

1984 Miners' Strike: 'The Enemy Within'

- Remaking the British variety of capitalism - Miners; strike a pivotal moment
- 'Long shadow' cast over labour relations - weakened the labour movement:
 - Union legislation
 - Morale and confidence
- 'Civil war'
 - Conservative government vis-à-vis NUM
 - Power of the state vis-à-vis unions
 - Competition vis-à-vis protectionism
 - Spatial shift of economic power from North to South

3. Uneven development in the UK

Uneven regional development

- 'Balanced growth'
 - Uneven regional development hinders national progress
 - Regions' strengths are export base
 - Contraction of this can lead to out migration (brain drain?)
 - Long term multiplier effects