

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY AT KINGSTON
Department of Economics
ECONOMICS 332
Economic History of North America Since 1865
Fall 2011/2012

Contact Information

	<u>Course Instructor</u>	<u>Administrative Assistance</u>
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<i>Hours:</i>	by appointment	daily

Evaluation

Midterm Exam	20%	in class, Thursday Oct. 27
Assignment	30%	due Nov. 17
Final Exam	50%	scheduled during exam period

A missed midterm with a legitimate, *documented* excuse will have that weight applied to the final exam.

Topics for the assignment will be circulated after the beginning of term. The price of late assignment submissions is 2% per day, weekends included.

Text and Course Readings

There is no required text for the course. Readings are available online. The full course reading list with links can be found online at [ECON 332 webpage](#).

For background on Canadian economic history, the following are useful, in the order listed:

Kenneth H. Norrie, Douglas Owsram and J.C. Herbert Emery, *A History of the Canadian Economy*, Fourth Edition (Scarborough, Ontario: Thomson, 2008).

Richard Pomfret, *The Economic Development of Canada*, Second Edition (Scarborough, Ontario: Nelson Canada, 1993).

W.T. Easterbrook and H.G.J. Aitken, *Canadian Economic History* (Macmillan, 1956—reprinted 1967).

For background on U.S. economic history, recommended texts are:

Jeremy Atack and Peter Passell, *A New Economic View of American History*, Second Edition (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1994).

Gary M. Walton and Hugh Rockoff, *History of the American Economy*, Eleventh Edition (Cengage Learning, 2010).

These texts have been placed on Reserve in Stauffer Library.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is constituted by the five core fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility (see academicintegrity.org). These values are central to the building, nurturing and sustaining of an academic community in which all members of the community will thrive. Adherence to the values expressed through academic integrity forms a foundation for the "freedom of inquiry and exchange of ideas" essential to the intellectual life of the University (see the Senate Report on Principles and Priorities).

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the regulations concerning academic integrity and for ensuring that their assignments conform to the principles of academic integrity. Information on academic integrity is available in the Arts and Science Calendar (see [Academic Regulation 1](#)), on the Arts and Science website, and from the instructor of this course.

Departures from academic integrity include plagiarism, use of unauthorized materials, facilitation, forgery and falsification, and are antithetical to the development of an academic community at Queen's. Given the seriousness of these matters, actions which contravene the regulation on academic integrity carry sanctions that can range from a warning or the loss of grades on an assignment to the failure of a course to a requirement to withdraw from the university.

Outline of Topics and Reading List

1. Explaining Canadian Economic Growth in the Long Run

M.H. Watkins. 1963. A Staple Theory of Economic Growth. *Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science* 29: 141–58; also in Easterbrook and Watkins, pp. 49–73.

E.J. Chambers and D.F. Gordon. 1966. Primary Products and Economic Growth: An Empirical Measurement. *JPE* 74: 315–32.

F. Lewis. 1975. The Canadian Wheat Boom and Per-Capita Income: New Estimates. *JPE* 84: 1249–57.

I. Keay. 2007. The Engine or the Caboose? Resource Industries and Twentieth-Century Canadian Economic Performance, *JEH* 67: 1–32.

2. Settling the Prairie

M. Scott Taylor. 2011. Buffalo Hunt: International Trade and the Virtual Extinction of the North American Bison. *AER* forthcoming.

T. Ward. 1994. Origins of the Canadian Wheat Boom, 1880–1910. *CJE* 27: 865–83.

3. Railways and the Timing of Prairie Settlement

K. Norrie. 1975. The Rate of Settlement of the Canadian Prairies, 1870–1911. *JEH* 35: 410–27. Also K.G. Grant. 1978. "...," A Comment. *JEH* 38: 471–73.

F. Lewis, 1981. Farm Settlement on the Canadian Prairies: 1898–1911. *JEH* 41: 517–35.

4. Railways and Government Policy

P.J. George. 1968. Rates of Return to Railway Investment in Canada and Implications for Government Subsidization of the C.P.R.: Some Preliminary Results. *CJE* 1: 740–62.

L. Mercer. 1973. Rates of Return and Government Subsidization of the Canadian Pacific Railway: An Alternative View. *CJE* 6: 428–37.

- J.C. Herbert Emery and K.J. McKenzie. 1996. Damned If You Do, Damned If You Don't: An Option Value Approach to Evaluating the Subsidy of the CPR Mainline. *CJE* 29: 256–70.
- F. Lewis and D. Robinson. 1984. The Timing of Railway Construction on the Canadian Prairies. *CJE* 17: 340–52.

5. Industrialization and Industrial Change

- W. Devine. 1983. From Shafts to Wires: Historical Perspective on Electrification. *JEH* 43: 347–72.
- A. Field. 2003. The Most Technologically Progressive Decade of the Century. *AER* 93(4): 1399–1413.
- Keay, Ian. 2000. Scapegoats or Responsive Entrepreneurs: Canadian Manufacturers, 1907–1990. *EEH* 37: 217–40.
- Wylie, Peter. 1989. Technological Adaptation in Canadian Manufacturing, 1900–1929, *JEH* 49: 569–91.

6. Industrialization of Agriculture

- Lew, Byron. 2000. The Diffusion of Tractors on the Canadian Prairies: The Threshold Model and the Problem of Uncertainty. *EEH* 37: 189–216.
- Alan L. Olmstead and Paul W. Rhode. 2001. Reshaping the Landscape: The Impact and Diffusion of the Tractor in American Agriculture, 1910–1960. *JEH* 61: 663–98.

7. Tariffs and Industrialization

- Beaulieu, Eugene and J.C. Herbert Emery. 2001. Pork Packers, Reciprocity, and Laurier's Defeat in the 1911 Canadian General Election. *JEH* 61: 1083–1101.
- Norrie, Kenneth H. 1974. Agricultural Implement Tariffs, the National Policy, and Income Distribution in the Wheat Economy. *CJE* 7: 449–62.
- Cherniwchan, Jevan and Beaulieu, Eugene. 2011. Tariff Structure, Trade Expansion and Canadian Protectionism from 1870–1910. unpublished manuscript.
- Douglas Irwin. 2001. Tariffs and Growth in Late Nineteenth Century America. *The World Economy* 24: 15–30.
- . 2002. Interpreting the Tariff-Growth Correlation in the Late Nineteenth Century. *AER, Papers and Proceedings* 92 (2): 165–9.

8. Importance of Human Capital Formation

- Claudia Goldin and Lawrence Katz. 1999. Human Capital and Social Capital: The Rise of Secondary Schooling in America, 1910–1940. *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*. 29(4): 683–723.
- P. Oreopoulos. 2006. The Compelling Effects of Compulsory Schooling: Evidence from Canada. *CJE* 39: 22–52.

9. Immigration and Domestic Labour Markets

- Collins, William J. 1997. When the Tide Turned: Immigration and the Delay of the Great Black Migration. *JEH* 57: 607–32.
- Green, Alan G. and David A. Green. 1993. Balanced Growth and the Geographical Distribution of European Immigration Arrivals to Canada, 1900–1912. *EEH* 30: 31–59.
- McInnis, M. 1994. Immigration and Emigration: Canada in the Late Nineteenth Century. In Timothy J. Hatton and Jeffrey G. Williamson, eds. *Migration and the International Labour Market, 1850-1939*. London: Routledge. p. 139–55.

10. Immigration Policy

Goldin, Claudia. 1994. The Political Economy of Immigration Restrictions in the United States, 1890 to 1921. In *The Regulated Economy: A Historical Approach to Political Economy*, edited by Claudia Goldin and Gary D. Libecap, 223–257. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Green, Alan G. and David A. Green. 1999. The Economic Goals of Canada's Immigration Policy: Past and Present. *Canadian Public Policy* 25(4): 425–51.

11. The Great Depression

B. Bernanke. 1995. The Macroeconomics of the Great Depression: A Comparative Approach. *Journal of Money, Credit and Banking* 27: 1–28.

M. Olney. 1999. Avoiding Default: The Role of Credit in the Consumption Collapse of 1930. *QJE* 114: 319–335.

C. Romer. 1993. The Nation in Depression. *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 7(2): 19–39.

—. 1992. What Ended the Great Depression? *JEH* 52: 757–84.

12. Social Insurance and American Exceptionalism

Alberto Alesina, Edward Glaeser, and Bruce Sacerdote. 2001. Why Doesn't the U.S. Have a European-Style Welfare System?

Emery, Herbert. 2010. "Un-American" or Unnecessary? America's Rejection of Compulsory Government Health Insurance in the Progressive Era. *EEH* 47: 68–81.

13. Postwar Labour Markets

Boustan, Leah Platt. 2009. Competition in the Promised Land: Black Migration and Racial Wage Convergence in the North, 1940–1970. *JEH* 69: 755–82.

Claudia Goldin and Robert Margo. 1992. The Great Compression: The Wage Structure in the United States at Mid-Century. *QJE* 107: 1–34.

Journal Abbreviations

AER: American Economic Review

CJE: Canadian Journal of Economics

EEH: Explorations in Economic History

JEH: Journal of Economic History

JPE: Journal of Political Economy

QJE: Quarterly Journal of Economics