

University of Waterloo
Department of Economics
Econ 483 – Section 1
Topics in Canadian Economic History
Spring 2017
Tuesday and Thursday 8:30-9:50 am DWE 3519

Instructor Information

Instructor: Ryan George

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Office Phone: 519-888-4567 ext. 33169 (please do not leave voice mails)

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 12 noon – 1pm, or by appointment

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The instructor will only respond to emails that include “Econ 483” or “Economic History” in the subject line of the message.

Course Description

The aim in this course is to analyze Canada's economic development in the context of the international economy and the patterns of change in the composition and internal geographical distribution of activity. A particular emphasis will be placed upon transportation, the appropriation of land, the evolution of labour markets, capital formation and foreign investment, and the formation of institutions and state structures.

Course Pre-Requisites

Econ 101 and Econ 102 are pre-requisites for the course. Previous knowledge of Canadian history is desirable but not required.

Course Goals and Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should:

- A. Be able to discuss dynamics of Canadian economic development and bring an historical perspective to bear upon economic questions.
- B. Have gained experience in public speaking and writing on economic subjects.

Required Text

William Cronon, *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West* (Norton: 1992).

Copies available at the Campus Bookstore. One copy is on reserve at the Porter Library.

Readings Available on LEARN

- Lecture slides and readings.
- Seminar readings.
- Exam details.
- Announcements, news and useful links.

Course Requirements and Assessment**Evaluation**

Assessment	Date of Evaluation (if known)	Weight
Seminar: 8 meetings	See schedule	15%
Lecture participation/reflection papers	Each lecture meeting	15%
Comparative Review Essay	4:30pm July 20 th in Learn Dropbox	25%
Midterm	June 8 th during lecture meeting period	20%
Final	Exam Period (scheduled by Registrar's Office)	25%
Total		100%

Lecture Participation (15% of final grade)

Students will be required to complete a short writing exercise following each lecture. These lecture reflection statements are intended to encourage consistent engagement with the material presented and encourage discussion.

Seminar Participation (15% of final grade)

Over the course of the term there will be 8 scheduled seminar discussions during the Thursday meeting time (see schedule below for dates).

Students are expected to prepare for the discussion by doing the assigned reading and preparing notes. Students should be prepared to i) identify the argument of each author, and discuss how effective it is; ii) discuss the significance of the analysis or narrative for understanding Canadian economic history.

Student evaluation will depend upon the quality of contributions, not just the quantity, meaning the value of comments and questions offered in stimulating and developing discussion.

The discussions are an opportunity for students to improve how they speak on analytical subjects, but they also form part of the process of learning the material.

Comparative Review Essay: (25% of Final Grade)

Students are expected to prepare a research essay on the development of one or more cities (other than Toronto or Montreal) in a particular *region* of Canada during the period 1760-1914. The essay cannot focus on Toronto or Montreal. In offering an explanation of economic development linked to the city (or cities) students must use William Cronon's book *Nature's Metropolis* as an analytical reference point. Your essay's argument should involve an engagement with some of the central themes and analyses that are put forward in the book by William Cronon. How does his approach enable or constrain the analysis of the city and region that you are considering?

Students should make use of the chapters of George A Nader's *Cities of Canada, Volume 2: Profiles of Fifteen Metropolitan Centres*, (Toronto: Macmillan 1976). *Cities of Canada vol.2* will be on reserve in Porter Library. Further research is encouraged.

The essay should be **submitted** to the Learn page dropbox by **4:30pm on July 20th**. It should be a well-structured essay including an introduction with **a clear thesis statement**, a main body that includes **an argument** in support of the thesis statement and a discussion of sources used, and a conclusion. The length of the essay ought to be between 7-8 double spaced pages (12 point font), amounting to approximately 1750-2000 words. All uses of other authors' writing must be clearly documented with footnotes or endnotes, and a bibliography.

Midterm Examination (20% of Final Grade)

The midterm exam will be held during lecture on **June 8th**. The exam will require students to write several short essays in which they will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of Canadian economic development considered analytically and factually.

Final Examination (25% of Final Grade)

The final exam will be scheduled during the formal exam period. The exam will require students to write several short essays in which they will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of Canadian economic development considered analytically and factually. Emphasis will be on the post-midterm material but also larger themes in the course.

Course Outline (Tentative)

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	May 2	Lecture: Themes and methods in Canadian Economic History	Lamoreaux, "Economic History and the Cliometric Revolution," in <i>Imagined Histories</i> . Norrie et al. "Introduction" in <i>A History of the Canadian Economy</i>
1	May 4	Lecture: NA Colonies and European Development	O'Rourke et al. "Trade and Empire" in <i>Cambridge Economic History of Modern Europe</i> J.R. Miller – chapter to be added
2	May 9	Lecture: Early Settlement and Development: New France and Maritimes	Innis "An Introduction to the Economic History of the Maritimes, Including Newfoundland and New England" in <i>Essays in Canadian Economic History</i> Taylor and Baskerville, "Ch.5 Old Regime Business" in <i>A Concise History of Business in Canada</i>
2	May 11	Seminar 1: French vs. British Fur trade	Frank D. Lewis and Ann Carlos, "Trade, Consumption, and the Native Economy: Lessons from York Factory, Hudson Bay, 1670-1770", <i>Journal of Economic History</i> . Allan Greer, "Fur Trade Labour and Lower Canadian Agrarian Structures" <i>Historical Papers</i> .
3	May 16	Lecture: Political Change and Economic Development: late 18th Century	Armstrong, "Ch.5 Institutional change" in <i>Structure and Change</i>
3	May 18	Seminar 2: Mercantile Trade, Banks and the St. Lawrence	Macmillan "The 'New Men' in Action" Naylor "Ch.16 Finance and Politics in Canada, 1793-1841" in <i>Canada in the European Age</i> J. Iguarta, "A Change in Climate: The Conquest and the Marchands of Montreal" <i>Historical Papers</i>

4	May 23	NO CLASS – MONDAY SCHEDULE	
4	May 25	Lecture: Money and Public Finance in NF and BNA	Easterbrook and Aitken, “Ch.19 Money and Banking in Canadian Development” in <i>Canadian Economic History</i>
5	May 30	Lecture: Migrations and transportation	McInnis, “Ch.2 The Economy of Canada in the Nineteenth Century” in <i>Cambridge EH of US</i> Innis – “Transportation as a factor”
5	June 1	Seminar 3: Comparative Development of Chicago	Cronon, <i>Nature’s Metropolis</i> – Part I
6	June 6	No class – Instructor away	
6	June 8	Midterm in class	
7	June 13	Lecture: Regional and Metropolitan Development	No readings
7	June 15	Seminar 4: Comparative Development of Chicago	Cronon, <i>Nature’s Metropolis</i> – Part II and III
8	June 20	Lecture: Building a National State	McInnis, “Ch.2 The Economy of Canada in the Nineteenth Century” in <i>Cambridge EH of US</i>
8	June 22	Seminar 5: Gold Standard and International Investment	McCloskey and Zecher, ‘How the Gold Standard Worked’ , in <i>The Monetary Approach</i> Rich “Canada without a Central Bank” in <i>Retrospective on the Classical Gold Standard</i>

9	June 27	Lecture: Prairie settlement, the Wheat Boom	Alan Green, "Twentieth Century Canadian Economic History", in <i>Cambridge EH of US</i>
9	June 29	Seminar 6: Structural Change: corporate form, labour and capital	Avery "Immigrant Workers and the Canadian Economy" ch.1 in <i>Dangerous Foreigners</i> Dow "Metal Mining and Canadian Economic Development" in <i>Business History</i> Dick "Canadian Newsprint, 1913-30" in <i>Journal of Economic History</i> 1982.
10	July 4	Lecture: Financial Intermediation, Capital markets and Public Finance through WWI	Easterbrook and Aitken, "Ch.19 Money and Banking in Canadian Development" in <i>Canadian Economic History</i> Drummond "Canadian Life Insurance Companies"
10	July 6	Seminar 7: FDI – Canada and Abroad	Paul Kellog "Kari Levitt and the Long Detour" <i>Studies in Political Economy</i> Key, "Scapegoats or Responsive Entrepreneurs: Canadian Manufacturers, 1907–1990" <i>Explorations in Economic History</i>
11	July 11	Lecture: Boom and Bust: Roaring 20s and the Great Depression - International	Alan Green, "Twentieth Century Canadian Economic History", in <i>Cambridge EH of US</i>
11	July 13	Seminar 8: Depression - Canadian Context	Eichengreen "Viewpoint: Understanding the Great Depression" <i>CJE</i> 2004 Green and MacKinnon, "Unemployment and Relief" in <i>Interwar Unemployment in International Perspective</i> (1988)
COMPARATIVE REVIEW ESSAY DUE July 20 in Learn Dropbox by 4:30pm			

12	July 18	Lecture: WWII and after: industry and labour	Fudge and Tucker, "Pluralism or Fragmentation" <i>Labour/Le Travail</i> 2000
12	July 20	Lecture: Post-war International Relations and the Era of Prosperity	To be announced
13	July 25	Last Class - Lecture: Dawn of the Neo- liberal Era	To be announced

Missed Work and Accommodation Regarding Assessment

If a student is unable to take a midterm exam for documented reasons, the weight of the midterm will be transferred to the final exam. ***Please note that students who decide to take an exam cannot be given accommodation after the fact due to illness or personal complicating factors that may have affected their performance.*** If you are not well on the day of an exam it is advisable that you not take the exam and obtain valid documentation of the circumstances of this decision.

Electronic Device Policy

To avoid disruptions to the learning environment handheld devices must be turned off during the lecture and laptops must be used strictly for lecture-related purposes. If a student's use of a laptop becomes a distraction for adjacent students that student will be asked to discontinue its use.

Attendance Policy

Lectures and Seminars are an essential component of the learning process and should be attended consistently.

Faculty of Arts Statements

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity webpage](#) and the [Arts Academic Integrity webpage](#) for more information.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](#), Section 4. When in doubt,

please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](#).

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Note for students with disabilities: The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.

If you are using Turnitin® in your course

Turnitin.com: Text matching software (Turnitin®) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all material and sources in assignments is documented. Students will be given an option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin®. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin® in this course.

Mental Health Services

[Mental Health Services](#) aim is to provide holistic programming and services to help you lead a healthy and balanced life. We strive to provide a secure, supportive environment for students of all orientations and backgrounds.

Students suffering from problems with anxiety, depression, problems with sleep, attention, obsessions or compulsions, relationship difficulties, severe winter blues, etc., may make an appointment by phone or in person. Appointments are usually available within two days of initial contact with one of our medical doctors. All contacts are completely confidential.

Contact Health Services

[Health Services Building](#)

Call 519-888-4096 to schedule an appointment

Call 1-866-797-0000 for free 24/7 advice from a health professional

Contact Counselling Services

[Needles Hall Addition, NH 2401](#)

Call 519-888-4567 x 32655 to schedule an appointment

counserv@uwaterloo.ca

Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes six miles on each side of the Grand River.