

**Department of Economics
Carleton University
ECON 3220A - Canadian Economic History
Summer 2021**

Instructor: Casey Pender

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TA: To be announced

Office Hours: Via Zoom on Wednesdays 10:00am-12:00pm (link on Brightspace) or by appointment.

Office: My kitchen (due to Covid)

Please read this document **in its entirety** before July 6th (our first class), furthermore please check for updates often on CU's Brightspace as Brightspace will be heavily relied upon for course relevant updates and communications.

Prerequisites and Preclusions:

Prerequisite(s): ECON 1001 and ECON 1002, or ECON 1000 or FYSM 1003. Students who believe they have good reason for exemption from the listed prerequisites must provide appropriate documentation to the Department of Economics Undergraduate Administrator.

Precludes additional credit for ECON 2305 or HIST 2305 (no longer offered), ECON 3203 (no longer offered), ECON 3202 or HIST 3203 (no longer offered), and ECON 3207 or HIST 3204 (no longer offered).

1 Overview/Objectives

This class offers a survey of Canadian history through an economic lens. The goal is to embed the Canadian experience within broader economic narratives and discussions examining why some countries see more economic success than others. In order to best achieve this, the first section of lectures will be devoted to an overview of methods of economic analysis which are required to make such institutional comparisons. Once the theoretical core of economic tools used in the class has been reviewed, we will move on to a topic-by-topic approach centering around historical Canadian experiences. See section 4 for more details on specific class-by-class topics.

2 Class Format

Lectures will be live over Zoom during the scheduled lecture times. Students are strongly encouraged to keep their cameras on whenever possible. Understanding that the current pandemic is complicating our schedules and live attendance to all lectures may not be possible, recordings of each lecture will also be uploaded to Brightspace, however, students will still be graded on attendance and participation (see the student evaluation section of the syllabus below).

2.1 Brightspace

This course will make extensive use of Brightspace. On top of recorded lectures, materials such as lecture slides and the *Reading List*, as well as exam and paper information will be posted on Brightspace. Brightspace will also be used to send announcements to the class and will host discussion forums in which students can pose questions and comments related to the course.

Because this may be your first time using/accessing Brightspace, please make sure you are familiar with it **before** classes begin. For additional information on Brightspace and how to navigate it, please see: mediaspace.carleton.ca

2.2 Required Readings

Textbook: Kenneth Norrie, Douglas Owsram & J.C. Herbert Emery (2008) “A History of the Canadian Economy” 4th edition, Nelson.

Journal Articles: Students are given a variety of both primary and secondary readings for each class. The primary readings are expected to be completed **before** the lecture in which the topics are discussed. See *Reading list* shared on Brightspace for more details.

Additional Media: Some classes may have podcasts and videos which will be otherwise treated the same as primary and secondary readings, and will be listed with links in the *Reading List* document on Brightspace.

2.3 Course Material

Virtual classroom teaching and learning activities, including Zoom lectures, discussions, presentations, *etc.*, by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including slides, recorded lectures, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes, **recorded lectures** and course materials publicly without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).

3 Evaluation

Student performance in this course is evaluated as follows:

3.1 Attendance/Participation (10%)

Students are expected to be present for all Zoom lectures to the extent that it is possible. Furthermore students are expected to participate and actively engage with course material. Further details will be given during the first class.

3.2 Reading Reviews (30%)

Students are required to submit short (400-600 word) reviews for **three** of the required readings, worth 10% each. Which required readings are chosen for review are up to the discretion of the student, however, reading reviews must be submitted before 11:59pm on the day before the reading is discussed in class. Students may submit additional reading reviews in which case the grade will be determined by averaging your best three marks. Further details to be discussed in the first class and posted on Brightspace early in the semester.

3.3 In-class exams (30%)

There will be two multiple choice exams during the semester worth 15% each, each 1.5 hours in duration during the second half of the scheduled lecture time. The first is currently scheduled for Tuesday July 27th and the second for Tuesday August 10th. The midterm will be administered via Brightspace and exact coverage will be posted on Brightspace nearer the time. Students who can document a compelling reason for missing one of the exams will have the weight transferred to the other exam.

3.4 Term Paper (30%)

Students are required to write a term paper (of 2000-2500 words) as a final take home paper at the end of the semester, with the due date being the final day of the August 2021 exam period. Students will be provided a list of topics to write on and are expected to confirm with the instructor before the final class of the semester. The list of topics as well as more details on the paper requirements will be discussed during class and posted on Brightspace during the semester.

3.5 Plagiarism:

Please be aware that plagiarism is a serious offence in this course and at Carleton in general. All assigned writing projects are solo projects, therefore each student must submit independent and original work in order for your work to be considered for grading. **Do not under any circumstance use the words or ideas of other authors without explicitly crediting them!** Further details on this will be given during the first lecture and for more information, please visit www.carleton.ca/economics/courses/writing-preliminaries

3.6 Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request and for more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator and visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

4 Tentative Schedule

There will be 12 lectures during the Summer 2021 semester between July 2nd and August 16th. The tentative breakdown of lecture reading topics is as follows:

Table 1: **Tentative Course Outline**

Topic 1: The Economist's Toolkit

Class 1	Introduction and the three R's in Economics
Class 2	Are we more rational today than peoples of the past?
Class 3	Don't hate the player, hate the game. Why institutions matter

Topic 2: The Canadian Experience

Class 4	Indigenous economies I
Class 5	Fish and fur
Class 6	The French versus the English
Class 7	Black enslavement in Canada
Class 8	Confederation and the infant industry argument
Class 9	Money and Banking in a new country
Class 10	Indigenous economies II

Topic 3: The Big Picture and Review

Class 11	World Wars and entering the modern era
Class 12	Loose ends and review

Required Readings are posted in the *Reading List* shared on Brightspace.
Students are responsible for regularly checking Brightspace for updates

5 Final Notes

Congratulations for reading the entire syllabus! To show you've completed this task, please email me a picture of your favourite person, place or thing from Canada (a picture of Drake, a bottle of maple syrup, Peggys Cove, *etc.*) before the first lecture (July 6th, 2021) and you will receive an extra point on your final grade for the course. However, while I will still enjoy the photos, this rule will be void (*i.e.* no addition points will be given) if more than 50% of registered students send me a photo – this is to incentivise you not to freely share this information with other students.