

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
Department of Economics

ECONOMICS 321Y
CANADIAN ECONOMIC HISTORY
2010-2011

Professor A. Rotstein – First Term
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Tuesday 2:00pm – 4:00pm

FIRST TERM PROSPECTUS

I. REQUIRED READINGS

Students are required to purchase the following texts:

Easterbrook and Aitken. Canadian Economic History.

Easterbrook and Watkins (eds.). Approaches to
Canadian Economic History.

In addition, eight other articles form part of the required reading in the first term. Xerox copies of these articles plus a bibliography useful for preparing term essays will be supplied in a reading package. The package will also contain “A Guide to Writing an Essay” specially prepared for students of this course. Please read this guide before you begin your essay preparation. **The entire kit is available from Print City, at 180 Bloor St. W., just west of Bloor and Avenue Rd. Their telephone number is 416-920-3040. The kit costs \$14 plus taxes.**

A separate prospectus will be issued later for the second term.

II. GRADING SCHEME FOR THE FIRST TERM

The final mark for the first term will be made up of the following:

First term essay	25
Class test	<u>25</u>
First term's work	<u>50</u>

III. CLASS TEST

There will be a one-hour test covering the first term's work on Tuesday, Dec. 7 from 2:00-3:00pm. The test will be held in the class room

IV. TERM ESSAYS

Students are expected to write an original, fully-documented essay of about 4000 words dealing with some theme of their choice in Canadian economic history prior to 1850. Possible themes for the first term include the fur trade (a particular period, personality, company, the role of the Native Americans); the development of the fishing economy; the building of the canals; economic problems of the Maritime provinces prior to Confederation; the growth of the timber trade and so on.

Students may choose any topic they wish within this early period. If in doubt about a topic, you may consult with the Teaching Assistant. A fuller list of possible topics is given on the last page. First-term essays are due in class on Tuesday, November 2 at 2:00pm.

Students are advised to retain a copy of their essays in case they wish to consult them in preparing for the class test. Also please ensure that essays have page numbers.

Students are required to keep a file of the Xeroxes, research notes, outlines and drafts of their essay. In case any question arises regarding the authorship of the essay, they will be asked to produce their notes and drafts. If they are unable to do so, no credit for the essay will be given.

Note that essays will be checked for plagiarism on current websites designed to track unattributed sources.

V. OFFICE HOURS

A Teaching Assistant will be available with whom you may consult regarding your term essay if you wish. Hours will be announced in class.

Professor Rotstein will be available to discuss any personal matters or themes from the lectures on Mondays from 8:45am to 9:45am. All office hours will be held in Room G40 in the basement of the Economics Building 150 St. George St.

VI. READING PACKAGE FIRST TERM

Your reading package contains the following eight articles all of which are required reading for the first term.

Rich, E.E. "Trade Habits and Economic Motivation among the Indians of North America." Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science, Vol.XXVI, No.1, February, 1960, pp.35-53.

Rotstein, A. "Innis: The Alchemy of Fur and Wheat." Journal of Canadian Studies, Vol.12, No.5, Winter, 1977, pp.6-31.

Ray, Arthur J., and D. Freeman. "Trade and Politics: A Reinterpretation." Ch.15 from 'Give Us Good Measure': An Economic Analysis of Relations Between the Indians and the Hudson's Bay Company Before 1763. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1978, p. 231-236.

----- "Economic Dimensions of Trade." Ch.16 from 'Give Us Good Measure': An Economic Analysis of Relations Between the Indians and the Hudson's Bay Company Before 1763. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1978, p.237-245.

Trigger, Bruce G. "The Nature of Indian Trade." Excerpt from Natives and Newcomers: Canada's "Heroic Age" Reconsidered. Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1985, p. 183-194.

Tanner, Adrian. "The End of Fur Trade History." Queen's Quarterly, 90/1 (Spring 1983), pp.176-191.

Tulchinsky, Gerald J.J. "Conclusion." Ch.13 from The River Barons: Montreal Businessmen and the Growth of Industry and Transportation, 1837-53. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1977, p. 232-239.

Innis, Harold A. "Transportation as a Factor in Canadian Economic History." From Essays in Canadian Economic History, Mary Q. Innis, ed. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1956, pp. 62-77.

VII SUGGESTED ESSAY TOPICS (Approximately 4000 words or 16 double-spaced pages)

The topics suggested below are generally very wide in scope. The exact topic of the essay may be narrowed down and should be specified in the title. All essays should have a covering page with this title along with the course number and the student's name and number. Please number the pages of the essay.

1. A comparative study of the development of New England and New France to 1760.
2. New France and the development of the fur trade.
3. The economic organization (or institutions) of the fur trade.
4. Harold Innis and the staples thesis to 1850 (his objectives and his achievement). Deal with one staple only.
5. The early economic history of Nova Scotia (or New Brunswick – choose one).
6. The historical role of the United States in Canadian economic development to 1850.
7. The interaction of commerce and politics on the St. Lawrence to 1850.
8. The Durham Report -- A critical review.
9. The Reciprocity Treaty of 1854
10. Railways in Ontario prior to 1850

NB: This list is not intended to be exhaustive. Choose any other topic in Canadian economic history to 1850 that you prefer. If in doubt about a topic, consult the Teaching Assistant.