

**Faculty of Science Course Syllabus**  
**Department of Economics**  
*Economics 2233*  
*Canadian Economic History*  
*Fall, 2016*

Instructor: Bill Steele

Time & Location: Tuesday 17:35-20:25, Mona Campbell Building room 1108

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Office Hours: Following class or by appointment

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### **Course Description**

An examination of the economic history of Canada from European Discovery to WWII. Major topics explored include: fur trade, control of North American, the economic reasons for Confederation, the building of the CPR, the Wheat Boom, foreign trade and investment and the roots of regional disparities.

### **Course Prerequisites**

Principles of Macroeconomics - Econ 1102 or equivalent with at least a grade of C-.

### **Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes**

The fundamental objective of this course is to form a foundation to analyses and critically think about Canadian economic history. This course covers a number of important topics in Canadian economic history to provide students with a framework for economic analysis. Unlike other Canadian economic history courses, this course focuses more on the history of economic events (and the following policy response). Students are expected to have some knowledge of macroeconomics principles and national economic accounts system.

As much as possible, this class aims to discuss the theory and measurement of economic growth as it applies to historical events in Canadian history.

Be prepared for effortful cognitive work beyond knowledge and comprehension, and recognize the fact that this course sits on a higher cognitive ladder than an introductory macroeconomics course. For effective learning, reconstruct and paraphrase the arguments presented in your textbook and lectures. Simply reading the textbook and lecture notes would not in general be sufficient to obtain a satisfactory mark on the exams.

**Course Materials**

- **Textbook:** K. Norrie, D. Owsram and J. Emery, A History of the Canadian Economy, fourth edition, (Thomson Nelson: Toronto, 2008) – referred to in the reading assignments as NOE.

**Course Assessment**

You will be evaluated based on your knowledge, comprehension, application, and analysis of the material learned in this course. Two key bases for evaluation: (1) Evaluating the validity of an argument, and disentangling cause from effect is a critical part of this course; (2) Presentations/ short essays to analyze, evaluate and discuss a specific well defined issues and how the issues relates to economic growth theory.

**Evaluation for the course** will involve four components: weekly quizzes, a mid-term exam, a final exam and a class presentation/short paper. The weights of each component will be:

**Weekly Quiz- 20%** One short essay question based on the material covered in the previous class

**Mid-term 20%** - The mid-term test will take place in class on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Presentation/short paper 30%** - The presentation/ Short paper is described in greater detail below. Part of 30% weight includes class participation .

**Final exam 20%-** The final exam will be scheduled during the official exam period following the end of classes.

**Class participation 10%.** This includes coming to class, participation in class discussions and asking questions, comments on the student presentations.

**Conversion of numerical grades to Final Letter Grades follows the Dalhousie Common Grade Scale**

A+ (90-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (65-69)	D (50-54)
A (85-89)	B (73-76)	C (60-64)	F (<50)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (55-59)	

**Presentation/short paper**

Each student will be required to give a presentation in class based on the questions /issues from the instructor. The presentation will be about 30 minutes covering the issue /questions highlighting the debate surrounding the question/issue. The core references will be how the conclusions/issues relate to economic growth theory. The textbook may be used as a reference but cannot be the only or even primary reference. There are other footnotes and references NOTED IN THE TEXTBOOK. The student can use slides (PowerPoint, handouts etc.).

The following class presentation ( next class), the student submits both in print and electronically the presentation along with a short paper. The short paper will explain the presentation noting the issue the debate and conclusion plus all references. It will also include any correction and/or challenges noted during the presentation in class. **A well research presentation that clearly states the issue, debates and proper references will be subject to a 10% bonus.** The short paper should be approximately 5 to 10 pages in typed, double- space format. The central objective of the presentation to answer the historical question using the key drivers of economic growth.

### **Course Policies**

*A late assignment (Presentation/ short paper due one week after class presentation) will result in a 20% discount on the total grade (100%). A missed mid-term due sickness or weather, the weight of the mid-term will be carried forward and added to the final grade weight of the final exam.*

### **Course Content**

#### **September 6 – class introduction – course structure - presentations**

#### **September 13- Introduction to Canadian Economic History**

NOE, Introduction- Economic growth theory

M. Watkins, "A Staple Theory of Economic Growth", Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science, 29, 1963 (available on jstor.org)

#### **September 20 The Era of Imperial Rivalry:**

NOE, chs. 1 – 3

#### **September 27 The British Mercantile Era**

NOE, chs 4 -7

Redish, A., "The Economic Crisis of 1837-1839: Case Study of a Temporary Suspension of Species Payments", *Explorations in Economic History*, 20 (1983): 403-417.

#### **October 4- Confederation**

NOE, chs 8 -10

W. A. Mackintosh, The Economic Background of Dominion-Provincial Relations (Carleton Library, no.13), (Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1964), chs. 1-

#### **October 11 The National Policy**

NOE, chs. 11-13

Mackintosh. chs. 3-4

P. George, "Rates of Return in Railway Investment", Canadian Journal of Economics, Nov. 1968.

Dales. Tariffs and Duties

K. Cruikshank, "The Intercolonial Railway, Freight Rates and the Maritime Economy", in K. Inwood (ed.), *Farm, Factory and Fortune: New Studies in the Economic History of the Maritime Provinces* (Acadiensis Press: 1993)

K.H. Norrie, "The Rate of Settlement of the Canadian Prairies, 1870-1911" *Journal of Economic History* XXXV, 2 (June 1975): 410-27. – Reprinted in D. McCalla, *Perspectives on Canadian Economic History*, 1987, Toronto: Copp Clark

Dales, J.H. "The Role of the Tariff in Canadian Development." *The Protective Tariff in Canada's Development*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1966

**October 18 –Mid-term exam –in class.**

**October 25 Turbulent years- Part 1**

World War 1 NOE chapter 14

**November 1 uneven growth 1919 -1929**

NOE, chs. -15

**November 8 no class --fall Break**

**November 15 Regional Growth and Welfare**

NOE chs. 16

**November 22 Turbulent years- Part 2**

Great Depression chapter 17

**November 29 World War II**

NOE chs. 18

**December 6 review and unfinished class presentations**

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## **ACCOMMODATION POLICY FOR STUDENTS**

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic protected under Canadian Human Rights legislation. The full text of Dalhousie's Student Accommodation Policy can be accessed here:

[http://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/academic/student-accommodation-policy-wef-sep--1--2014.html](http://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/student-accommodation-policy-wef-sep--1--2014.html)

Students who require accommodation for classroom participation or the writing of tests and exams should make their request to the **Advising and Access Services Centre (AASC)** prior to or at the outset of the regular academic year. More information and the ***Request for Accommodation*** form are available at [www.dal.ca/access](http://www.dal.ca/access).

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity, with its embodied values, is seen as a foundation of Dalhousie University. It is the responsibility of all students to be familiar with behaviours and practices associated with academic integrity. Instructors are required to forward any suspected cases of plagiarism or other forms of academic cheating to the Academic Integrity Officer for their Faculty.

The Academic Integrity website (<http://academicintegrity.dal.ca>) provides students and faculty with information on plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty, and has resources to help students succeed honestly. The full text of Dalhousie's **Policy on Intellectual Honesty** and **Faculty Discipline Procedures** is available here:

[http://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/academic-integrity/academic-policies.html](http://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity/academic-policies.html)

## STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Dalhousie University has a student code of conduct, and it is expected that students will adhere to the code during their participation in lectures and other activities associated with this course. In general:

“The University treats students as adults free to organize their own personal lives, behaviour and associations subject only to the law, and to University regulations that are necessary to protect

- the integrity and proper functioning of the academic and non – academic programs and activities of the University or its faculties, schools or departments;
- the peaceful and safe enjoyment of University facilities by other members of the University and the public;
- the freedom of members of the University to participate reasonably in the programs of the University and in activities on the University's premises;
- the property of the University or its members.”

The full text of the code can be found here:

[http://www.dal.ca/dept/university\\_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html](http://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html)

## SERVICES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS

The following campus services are available to help students develop skills in library research, scientific writing, and effective study habits. The services are available to all Dalhousie students and, unless noted otherwise, are free.

Service	Support Provided	Location	Contact
<b>General Academic Advising</b>	Help with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- understanding degree requirements and academic regulations</li> <li>- choosing your major</li> <li>- achieving your educational or career goals</li> <li>- dealing with academic or other difficulties</li> </ul>	<b>Killam Library Ground floor</b> Rm G28 <b>Bissett Centre for Academic Success</b>	In person: Killam Library Rm G28 By appointment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- e-mail: <a href="mailto:advising@dal.ca">advising@dal.ca</a></li> <li>- Phone: (902) 494-3077</li> <li>- Book online through MyDal</li> </ul>
<b>Dalhousie Libraries</b>	Help to find books and articles for assignments Help with citing sources in the text of your paper and preparation of bibliography	<b>Killam Library Ground floor</b>  Librarian offices	In person: Service Point (Ground floor)  By appointment: Identify your subject librarian (URL below) and contact by email or phone to arrange a time: <a href="http://dal.beta.libguides.com/sb.php?subject_id=34328">http://dal.beta.libguides.com/sb.php?subject_id=34328</a>
<b>Studying for Success (SFS)</b>	Help to develop essential study skills through small group workshops or one-on-one coaching sessions  Match to a tutor for help in course-specific content (for a reasonable fee)	<b>Killam Library 3<sup>rd</sup> floor</b>  Coordinator Rm 3104  Study Coaches Rm 3103	To make an appointment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visit main office (Killam Library main floor, Rm G28)</li> <li>- Call (902) 494-3077</li> <li>- email Coordinator at: <a href="mailto:sfs@dal.ca">sfs@dal.ca</a> or</li> <li>- Simply drop in to see us during posted office hours</li> </ul> <b>All information can be found on our website: <a href="http://www.dal.ca/sfs">www.dal.ca/sfs</a></b>
<b>Writing Centre</b>	Meet with coach/tutor to discuss writing assignments (e.g., lab report, research paper, thesis, poster) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Learn to integrate source material into your own work appropriately</li> <li>- Learn about disciplinary writing from a peer or staff member in your field</li> </ul>	<b>Killam Library Ground floor</b> Learning Commons & Rm G25	To make an appointment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visit the Centre (Rm G25) and book an appointment</li> <li>- Call (902) 494-1963</li> <li>- email <a href="mailto:writingcentre@dal.ca">writingcentre@dal.ca</a></li> <li>- Book online through MyDal</li> </ul> We are open six days a week <b>See our website: <a href="http://writingcentre.dal.ca">writingcentre.dal.ca</a></b>