The economic history of the Canadian economy from the colonial era to approximately the end of the Second World War represents the foundations of modern Canada. Economic analysis is used to explain the pace and pattern of Canadian economic development. In particular, we will study Canada's transition from a primarily natural resource economy to a manufacturing economy. The course aims to impart both knowledge of Canada's economic past, a theoretical framework to interpret it and an understanding of the methods and techniques used to study the economic past.

A. Texts & Resources:

I. Recommended


II. Miscellaneous Supplementary Sources

Marr, William L. and Donald G. Paterson Canada: An Economic History, Gage, 1980.

III. Data Sources

Historical Statistics of Canada. Available on-line at:
http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/11-516-x/3000140-eng.htm
B. Course Requirements:

Mid-Term Tests - 2X20%
Term Paper - 20%.
Final Exam - 40%

C. Office Hours
Mondays & Wednesdays 10:30-11:30.

D. Learning Outcomes
- Knowledge on economic growth and development theories and their application to Canadian economic performance
- Statistical and empirical knowledge on the thematic and chronological development of the Canadian economy with applications to economic analysis and business conditions.
- Knowledge synthesis and critical thinking culminating in a research essay.
- Acquisition and application of measures and tools of quantitative data assessment including linear regression and inequality measures.

E. Thematic Outline and Readings

I. Introduction

Topics:  
(1) What is economic history?
(2) 'Old' vs. 'New' economic history.
(3) Overview-Approaches to Economic History

** Norrie and Owram, pp.ix-xxx. 

II. The Staples Approach to Economic History

(1) Staples' Approach/ Booming Sector Models/ Export-Led Growth

III. Rostow’s Stages of Growth Approach to Economic History

IV. Neoclassical Economic Approaches to Economic History

(1) Neoclassical Growth

(2) New Institutional Approach

(3) Overall View of Canadian Development

V. Economic Development Prior to 1850

Topics:
(i) The Fisheries.
(iii) Timber Trade, Agriculture & Commerce: A quick survey of some of the features of these areas.

Innis, H.A. The Fur Trade in Canada.
**Norrie, Owram, Emery, pp. 1-183.

VI. Statistical Evidence on Canadian Economic Growth

Topics:
(1) General Evidence e.g. GNP, exports etc.
(2) Staple/Export Led Growth vs. Neoclassical Growth
(3) Classical (Spurt) Growth vs. Gradual (Revisionist) Growth

**Norrie, Owram, Emery, 185-192.
Pomfret, R. Chapter 4, pp. 62-89.
VII. The Industrialization of Central Canada

Topics: (1) Manufacturing Development in Ontario and Quebec
       (2) Saving and Industrialization

**Norrie, Owram and Emery pp.212-231.
Pomfret, R. Chapter 7, pp. 151-181.

VIII. The Prairie Wheat Economy

Topics: (1) The Relevance of the Wheat Boom to Canadian Economic Growth

Pomfret, R. Chapter 8, pp. 182-211.
**Norrie, Owram and Emery, 193-211.

IX. Government Policy and the Economy

Topics: (1) Tariffs
       (2) Transportation
       (3) Land Policy
       (4) The Role of the Public Sector in a Staples Economy

**Norrie, Owram and Emery, 158-181; 232-254; 200-210, 261-301.
Pomfret, R. Chapter 5, pp.90-123; Chapter 6, 124-150; Chapter 12, pp. 262-290.

X. Regional Variations in Economic Development

Topics: (1) Regional Economic Variations in the Canadian Federation.
       (2) Case Study: Economic History of Northern Ontario.
       (3) Case Study: The Maritimes
       (4) Case Study: Economic History of the Lakehead

XI. Wealth Inequality in Canada in the Late 19th Century

Topics:  
(1) Measuring Inequality: Why and How.  
(2) Nova Scotia and Wentworth County: Case Studies.


XII. The Great Depression in Canada

Topics:  
(1) WWI and Interwar Period  
(2) Impact of the Great Depression on the Canadian Economy.  
(3) Explanations of the Great Depression.

**Norrie, Owram and Emery 256-301, 317-341**