

Reading List for Econ 341 - American Economic History

This bibliography contains readings relevant for Econ 341. The bibliography is divided into two main sections, one for books and one for articles and excerpts of larger works. Readings that are required are designated with a \diamond . Note that this is a dynamic document; it may be updated throughout the semester with new readings in response to student interests, class pace, or newly published research. Any changes to the required readings will be made at least a full week before that reading is covered in class. If a required reading is added, I will remove another required reading to keep the total number of required readings the same. You will receive updates in lecture as to which readings are required for the upcoming lectures. Study guides for the required readings will be posted on Blackboard.

1 Recommended books for general reading

- Atack, J., Passell, P., & Lee, S. P. (1994). *A New Economic View of American History: From Colonial Times to 1940*. Norton New York
- Walton, G. M., & Rockoff, H. (2013). *History of the American Economy*. Cengage Learning
- Hughes, J. R., & Cain, L. P. (2011). *American Economic History*. Prentice Hall
- Cain, E., Fishback, E., & Rhode, E. (2018). *The Oxford Handbook of American Economic History*. No. v. 2 in Oxford Handbooks. Oxford University Press

2 Articles and book excerpts for class

2.1 The Study of Economic History

- Davis, L. (1966). II. Professor Fogel And The New Economic History. *Economic History Review*, 19(3), 657–663
- \diamond Abramitzky, R. (2015). Economics and the Modern Economic Historian. *Journal of Economic History*, 75(4), 1240–1251

2.2 A Brief Economic History of the United States

- Costa, D., & Steckel, R. H. (1997). Long-term Trends in Health, Welfare, and Economic Growth in the United States. In *Health and Welfare During Industrialization*, (pp. 47–90). University of Chicago Press
- Crafts, N. (2009). Solow and Growth Accounting: A Perspective from Quantitative Economic History. *History of Political Economy*, 41(Suppl.1), 200–220
- Wright, G. (1990). The Origins of American Industrial Success, 1879-1940. *American Economic Review*, (pp. 651–668)

2.3 The Economics of Native American societies

- Diamond, J. (2002). Evolution, Consequences and Future of Plant and Animal Domestication. *Nature*, 418(6898), 700
- Diamond, J. (2004). Economics: The Wealth of Nations. *Nature*, 429(6992), 616
- Maggiano, I. S., Schultz, M., Kierdorf, H., Sosa, T. S., Maggiano, C. M., & Tiesler Blos, V. (2008). Cross-Sectional Analysis of Long Bones, Occupational Activities and Long-distance Trade of the Classic Maya from Xcambó—Archaeological and Osteological Evidence. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 136(4), 470–477
- Axtell, R. L., Epstein, J. M., Dean, J. S., Gumerman, G. J., Swedlund, A. C., Harburger, J., Chakravarty, S., Hammond, R., Parker, J., & Parker, M. (2002). Population Growth and Collapse in a Multiagent Model of the Kayenta Anasazi in Long House Valley. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 99(suppl 3), 7275–7279
- Salisbury, N. (2017). The Indians’ Old World: Native Americans and the Coming of Europeans. In *Colonial America and the Early Republic*, (pp. 1–24). Routledge
- Carlos, A. M. (2022). The country that they built: The dynamic and complex indigenous economies in north america before 1492. Tech. rep., QUCEH Working Paper Series
- ◇ Feir, D., Gillezeau, R., & Jones, M. (2017). The Slaughter of the North American Bison and Reversal of Fortunes on the Great Plains. Tech. rep., Department of Economics, University of Victoria

2.4 The Colonial Economy and the Costs of Empire Membership

- Thomas, R. P. (1965). A Quantitative Approach to the Study of the Effects of British Imperial Policy upon Colonial Welfare: Some Preliminary Findings. *Journal of Economic History*, 25(4), 615–638
- McClelland, P. D. (1969). The Cost to America of British Imperial Policy. *American Economic Review*, 59(2), 370–381
- Walton, G. M. (1971). The New Economic History and the Burdens of the Navigation Acts. *Economic History Review*, 24(4), 533–542
- ◇ Sawers, L. (1992). The Navigation Acts Revisited. *Economic History Review*, 45(2), 262–284

2.5 Forging a New National Economy

- McGuire, R. A., & Ohsfeldt, R. L. (1984). Economic Interests and the American Constitution: A Quantitative Rehabilitation of Charles A. Beard. *Journal of Economic History*, 44(2), 509–519
- McGuire, R. A., & Ohsfeldt, R. L. (1986). An Economic Model of Voting Behaviour over Specific Issues at the Constitutional Convention of 1787. *Journal of Economic History*, 46(1), 79–111
- Continental Congress (1781). Articles of Confederation
- ◇ Hamilton, A. (1787a). Federalist No. 11. *November 24*
- ◇ Hamilton, A. (1787b). Federalist No. 30. *December 28*
- ◇ Hamilton, A. (1788). Federalist No. 35. *January 5*
- United States Constitution (1787). Articles I through VII and Amendments I through X

2.6 The Evolution of the Banking Sector

- Hammond, B. (1967). *Banks and Politics in America from the Revolution to the Civil War*, vol. 99. Princeton University Press
- Temin, P. (1968). The Economic Consequences of the Bank War. *Journal of Political Economy*, 76(2), 257–274
- Engerman, S. L. (1970). A Note on the Economic Consequences of the Second Bank of the United States. *Journal of Political Economy*, 78(4, Part 1), 725–728

- Rousseau, P. L. (2002). Jacksonian Monetary Policy, Specie Flows, and the Panic of 1837. *Journal of Economic History*, 62(2), 457–488
- Richardson, G., & Troost, W. (2009). Monetary Intervention Mitigated Banking Panics during the Great Depression: Quasi-Experimental Evidence from a Federal Reserve District Border, 1929–1933. *Journal of Political Economy*, 117(6), 1031–1073
- ◇ Ziebarth, N. L. (2013). Identifying the Effects of Bank Failures from a Natural Experiment in Mississippi during the Great Depression. *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 5(1), 81–101

2.7 The Transportation Revolution

- Fishlow, A. (1965). *American Railroads and the Transformation of the Ante-bellum Economy*, vol. 127. Harvard University Press Cambridge, MA
- Fogel, R. W. (1964). *Railroads and American Economic Growth: Essays in Econometric History*, vol. 296. Johns Hopkins Press Baltimore
- Engerman, S. L., & Sokoloff, K. L. (2006). Digging the Dirt at Public Expense: The Erie Canal and Other Public Works. In *Corruption and Reform: Lessons from America's Economic History*, (pp. 95–122). University of Chicago Press
- Donaldson, D., & Hornbeck, R. (2016). Railroads and American Economic Growth: A “Market Access” Approach. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 131(2), 799–858
- ◇ Berger, T. (2019). Railroads and Rural Industrialization: Evidence from a Historical Policy Experiment. *Explorations in Economic History*, 74, 101277

2.8 Labor Markets through the Nineteenth Century

- ◇ Galenson, D. W. (1981). The Market Evaluation of Human Capital: The Case of Indentured Servitude. *Journal of Political Economy*, 89(3), 446–467
- Fogel, R. W., & Engerman, S. L. (1995). *Time on the Cross: The Economics of American Negro Slavery*, vol. 1. WW Norton & Company
- Fenoaltea, S. (1981). The slavery debate: A note from the sidelines. *Explorations in Economic History*, 18(3), 304

- Fenoaltea, S. (1984). Slavery and supervision in comparative perspective: a model. *The Journal of Economic History*, 44(3), 635–668
- Steckel, R. H. (1986). A Peculiar Population: The Nutrition, Health, and Mortality of American Slaves from Childhood to Maturity. *Journal of Economic History*, 46(3), 721–741
- ◇ Logan, T. D. (2018). Do Black Politicians Matter? Working Paper 24190, National Bureau of Economic Research
- Carruthers, C. K., & Wanamaker, M. H. (2017). Separate and Unequal in the Labor Market: Human Capital and the Jim Crow Wage Gap. *Journal of Labor Economics*, 35(3), 655–696
- Baker, R. B. (2014). Finding the Fat: The Relative Impact of Budget Fluctuations on African-American Schools. *Unpublished working paper*

2.9 Demographic Change: Birth, Death and Migration

- Haines, M. R., & Hacker, J. D. (2011). Spatial Aspects of the American Fertility Transition in the Nineteenth Century. In *Navigating time and space in population studies*, (pp. 37–63). Springer
- Haines, M. R., Craig, L. A., & Weiss, T. (2003). The Short and the Dead: Nutrition, Mortality, and the “Antebellum Puzzle” in the United States. *Journal of Economic History*, 63(2), 382–413
- Carter, S. B., & Sutch, R. C. (1997). Historical Perspectives on the Economic Consequences of Immigration into the United States
- ◇ Abramitzky, R., Boustan, L. P., & Eriksson, K. (2014). A Nation of Immigrants: Assimilation and Economic Outcomes in the Age of Mass Migration. *Journal of Political Economy*, 122(3), 467–506
- Carter, S. B. (2011). America’s first culinary revolution, or how the girl from gopher prairie came to dine on egg fooyung. In P. Rhode, J. Rosenbloom, & D. Weiman (Eds.) *Economic Evolution and Revolution in Historical Time*, (pp. 419–46). Stanford University Press
- Kosack, E., & Ward, Z. (2020). El sueño americano? the generational progress of mexican americans prior to world war ii. *The Journal of Economic History*, 80(4), 961–995
- ◇ Collins, W. J., & Wanamaker, M. H. (2014). Selection and Economic Gains in the Great Migration of African Americans: New Evidence from Linked Census Data. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 6(1), 220–52

2.10 The Transition to Industrial Superpower

- Hounshell, D. (1985). *From the American System to Mass Production, 1800-1932: The Development of Manufacturing Technology in the United States*. 4. JHU Press
- Boff, R. B. D. (1967). The Introduction of Electric Power in American Manufacturing. *Economic History Review*, 20(3), 509–518
- ◇ Gray, R. (2013). Taking Technology to Task: The Skill Content of Technological Change in Early Twentieth Century United States. *Explorations in Economic History*, 50(3), 351–367
- Goldin, C., & Katz, L. (2008). *The Race Between Education and Technology*. Harvard University Press
- Goldin, C., & Katz, L. F. (1998). The Origins of Technology-Skill Complementarity. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 113(3), 693–732

2.11 A Stumble Along the Way

- ◇ Eichengreen, B. (2004). Understanding the Great Depression. *Canadian Journal of Economics/Revue canadienne d'économique*, 37(1), 1–27
- Eichengreen, B., & O'Rourke, K. H. (2009). A Tale of Two Depressions. *VoxEU.org*, 1
- Eichengreen, B. (2014). *Hall of Mirrors: The Great Depression, the Great Recession, and the Uses-and Misuses-of History*. Oxford University Press

2.12 The State of Economic History

- Whaples, R. (1995). Where is There Consensus Among American Economic Historians? The Results of a Survey on Forty Propositions. *Journal of Economic History*, 55(1), 139–154
- Fuller, D., & Geide-Stevenson, D. (2003). Consensus Among Economists: Revisited. *Journal of Economic Education*, 34(4), 369–387
- Fuller, D., & Geide-Stevenson, D. (2014). Consensus Among Economists—An Update. *Journal of Economic Education*, 45(2), 131–146

References

- Abramitzky, R. (2015). Economics and the Modern Economic Historian. *Journal of Economic History*, 75(4), 1240–1251.
- Abramitzky, R., Boustan, L. P., & Eriksson, K. (2014). A Nation of Immigrants: Assimilation and Economic Outcomes in the Age of Mass Migration. *Journal of Political Economy*, 122(3), 467–506.
- Atack, J., Passell, P., & Lee, S. P. (1994). *A New Economic View of American History: From Colonial Times to 1940*. Norton New York.
- Axtell, R. L., Epstein, J. M., Dean, J. S., Gumerman, G. J., Swedlund, A. C., Harburger, J., Chakravarty, S., Hammond, R., Parker, J., & Parker, M. (2002). Population Growth and Collapse in a Multiagent Model of the Kayenta Anasazi in Long House Valley. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 99(suppl 3), 7275–7279.
- Baker, R. B. (2014). Finding the Fat: The Relative Impact of Budget Fluctuations on African-American Schools. *Unpublished working paper*.
- Berger, T. (2019). Railroads and Rural Industrialization: Evidence from a Historical Policy Experiment. *Explorations in Economic History*, 74, 101277.
- Boff, R. B. D. (1967). The Introduction of Electric Power in American Manufacturing. *Economic History Review*, 20(3), 509–518.
- Cain, E., Fishback, E., & Rhode, E. (2018). *The Oxford Handbook of American Economic History*. No. v. 2 in Oxford Handbooks. Oxford University Press.
- Carlos, A. M. (2022). The country that they built: The dynamic and complex indigenous economies in north america before 1492. Tech. rep., QUCEH Working Paper Series.
- Carruthers, C. K., & Wanamaker, M. H. (2017). Separate and Unequal in the Labor Market: Human Capital and the Jim Crow Wage Gap. *Journal of Labor Economics*, 35(3), 655–696.
- Carter, S. B. (2011). America’s first culinary revolution, or how the girl from gopher prairie came to dine on egg fooyung. In P. Rhode, J. Rosenbloom, & D. Weiman (Eds.) *Economic Evolution and Revolution in Historical Time*, (pp. 419–46). Stanford University Press.
- Carter, S. B., & Sutch, R. C. (1997). Historical Perspectives on the Economic Consequences of Immigration into the United States.

- Collins, W. J., & Wanamaker, M. H. (2014). Selection and Economic Gains in the Great Migration of African Americans: New Evidence from Linked Census Data. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 6(1), 220–52.
- Continental Congress (1781). Articles of Confederation.
- Costa, D., & Steckel, R. H. (1997). Long-term Trends in Health, Welfare, and Economic Growth in the United States. In *Health and Welfare During Industrialization*, (pp. 47–90). University of Chicago Press.
- Crafts, N. (2009). Solow and Growth Accounting: A Perspective from Quantitative Economic History. *History of Political Economy*, 41(Suppl.1), 200–220.
- Davis, L. (1966). II. Professor Fogel And The New Economic History. *Economic History Review*, 19(3), 657–663.
- Diamond, J. (2002). Evolution, Consequences and Future of Plant and Animal Domestication. *Nature*, 418(6898), 700.
- Diamond, J. (2004). Economics: The Wealth of Nations. *Nature*, 429(6992), 616.
- Donaldson, D., & Hornbeck, R. (2016). Railroads and American Economic Growth: A “Market Access” Approach. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 131(2), 799–858.
- Eichengreen, B. (2004). Understanding the Great Depression. *Canadian Journal of Economics/Revue canadienne d'économique*, 37(1), 1–27.
- Eichengreen, B. (2014). *Hall of Mirrors: The Great Depression, the Great Recession, and the Uses-and Misuses-of History*. Oxford University Press.
- Eichengreen, B., & O'Rourke, K. H. (2009). A Tale of Two Depressions. *VoxEU.org*, 1.
- Engerman, S. L. (1970). A Note on the Economic Consequences of the Second Bank of the United States. *Journal of Political Economy*, 78(4, Part 1), 725–728.
- Engerman, S. L., & Sokoloff, K. L. (2006). Digging the Dirt at Public Expense: The Erie Canal and Other Public Works. In *Corruption and Reform: Lessons from America's Economic History*, (pp. 95–122). University of Chicago Press.
- Feir, D., Gillezeau, R., & Jones, M. (2017). The Slaughter of the North American Bison and Reversal of Fortunes on the Great Plains. Tech. rep., Department of Economics, University of Victoria.

- Fenoaltea, S. (1981). The slavery debate: A note from the sidelines. *Explorations in Economic History*, 18(3), 304.
- Fenoaltea, S. (1984). Slavery and supervision in comparative perspective: a model. *The Journal of Economic History*, 44(3), 635–668.
- Fishlow, A. (1965). *American Railroads and the Transformation of the Ante-bellum Economy*, vol. 127. Harvard University Press Cambridge, MA.
- Fogel, R. W. (1964). *Railroads and American Economic Growth: Essays in Econometric History*, vol. 296. Johns Hopkins Press Baltimore.
- Fogel, R. W., & Engerman, S. L. (1995). *Time on the Cross: The Economics of American Negro Slavery*, vol. 1. WW Norton & Company.
- Fuller, D., & Geide-Stevenson, D. (2003). Consensus Among Economists: Revisited. *Journal of Economic Education*, 34(4), 369–387.
- Fuller, D., & Geide-Stevenson, D. (2014). Consensus Among Economists—An Update. *Journal of Economic Education*, 45(2), 131–146.
- Galenson, D. W. (1981). The Market Evaluation of Human Capital: The Case of Indentured Servitude. *Journal of Political Economy*, 89(3), 446–467.
- Goldin, C., & Katz, L. (2008). *The Race Between Education and Technology*. Harvard University Press.
- Goldin, C., & Katz, L. F. (1998). The Origins of Technology-Skill Complementarity. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 113(3), 693–732.
- Gray, R. (2013). Taking Technology to Task: The Skill Content of Technological Change in Early Twentieth Century United States. *Explorations in Economic History*, 50(3), 351–367.
- Haines, M. R., Craig, L. A., & Weiss, T. (2003). The Short and the Dead: Nutrition, Mortality, and the “Antebellum Puzzle” in the United States. *Journal of Economic History*, 63(2), 382–413.
- Haines, M. R., & Hacker, J. D. (2011). Spatial Aspects of the American Fertility Transition in the Nineteenth Century. In *Navigating time and space in population studies*, (pp. 37–63). Springer.
- Hamilton, A. (1787a). Federalist No. 11. *November 24*.
- Hamilton, A. (1787b). Federalist No. 30. *December 28*.

- Hamilton, A. (1788). Federalist No. 35. *January 5*.
- Hammond, B. (1967). *Banks and Politics in America from the Revolution to the Civil War*, vol. 99. Princeton University Press.
- Hounshell, D. (1985). *From the American System to Mass Production, 1800-1932: The Development of Manufacturing Technology in the United States*. 4. JHU Press.
- Hughes, J. R., & Cain, L. P. (2011). *American Economic History*. Prentice Hall.
- Kosack, E., & Ward, Z. (2020). El sueño americano? the generational progress of mexican americans prior to world war ii. *The Journal of Economic History*, 80(4), 961–995.
- Logan, T. D. (2018). Do Black Politicians Matter? Working Paper 24190, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Maggiano, I. S., Schultz, M., Kierdorf, H., Sosa, T. S., Maggiano, C. M., & Tiesler Blos, V. (2008). Cross-Sectional Analysis of Long Bones, Occupational Activities and Long-distance Trade of the Classic Maya from Xcambó—Archaeological and Osteological Evidence. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 136(4), 470–477.
- McClelland, P. D. (1969). The Cost to America of British Imperial Policy. *American Economic Review*, 59(2), 370–381.
- McGuire, R. A., & Ohsfeldt, R. L. (1984). Economic Interests and the American Constitution: A Quantitative Rehabilitation of Charles A. Beard. *Journal of Economic History*, 44(2), 509–519.
- McGuire, R. A., & Ohsfeldt, R. L. (1986). An Economic Model of Voting Behaviour over Specific Issues at the Constitutional Convention of 1787. *Journal of Economic History*, 46(1), 79–111.
- Richardson, G., & Troost, W. (2009). Monetary Intervention Mitigated Banking Panics during the Great Depression: Quasi-Experimental Evidence from a Federal Reserve District Border, 1929–1933. *Journal of Political Economy*, 117(6), 1031–1073.
- Rousseau, P. L. (2002). Jacksonian Monetary Policy, Specie Flows, and the Panic of 1837. *Journal of Economic History*, 62(2), 457–488.
- Salisbury, N. (2017). The Indians' Old World: Native Americans and the Coming of Europeans. In *Colonial America and the Early Republic*, (pp. 1–24). Routledge.
- Sawers, L. (1992). The Navigation Acts Revisited. *Economic History Review*, 45(2), 262–284.

- Steckel, R. H. (1986). A Peculiar Population: The Nutrition, Health, and Mortality of American Slaves from Childhood to Maturity. *Journal of Economic History*, 46(3), 721–741.
- Temin, P. (1968). The Economic Consequences of the Bank War. *Journal of Political Economy*, 76(2), 257–274.
- Thomas, R. P. (1965). A Quantitative Approach to the Study of the Effects of British Imperial Policy upon Colonial Welfare: Some Preliminary Findings. *Journal of Economic History*, 25(4), 615–638.
- United States Constitution (1787). Articles I through VII and Amendments I through X.
- Walton, G. M. (1971). The New Economic History and the Burdens of the Navigation Acts. *Economic History Review*, 24(4), 533–542.
- Walton, G. M., & Rockoff, H. (2013). *History of the American Economy*. Cengage Learning.
- Whaples, R. (1995). Where is There Consensus Among American Economic Historians? The Results of a Survey on Forty Propositions. *Journal of Economic History*, 55(1), 139–154.
- Wright, G. (1990). The Origins of American Industrial Success, 1879-1940. *American Economic Review*, (pp. 651–668).
- Ziebarth, N. L. (2013). Identifying the Effects of Bank Failures from a Natural Experiment in Mississippi during the Great Depression. *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 5(1), 81–101.