

**ECONOMICS 210C / ECONOMICS 236A
MACROECONOMIC HISTORY**

PAPER REQUIREMENT

Nature of the Paper

The key requirement for the course is preparation of a serious research paper. The paper should seek to be a genuine contribution to knowledge, not a summary of the existing literature. Such contributions to knowledge can take many forms—a self-contained empirical study, a substantive comment on an important paper, or a theoretical analysis (although we would prefer empirics to theory). They can also vary greatly in length—from perhaps 15 pages to 25 pages or more. The paper can be about any topic in economic history or macroeconomics. It does not have to be about material covered in class, and it does not have to be about the United States.

You may, after consulting with us, submit a paper that also satisfies another requirement, such as the econometrics paper or a thesis chapter. However, we expect papers for multiple purposes to reflect a proportionately greater amount of effort. If the paper satisfies another requirement, you must also obtain permission from the instructor in charge of that requirement.

Timetable

1. Proposal

You must run your topic by one or both of us by Friday, October 12. If you cannot make it to our office hours, please schedule an appointment. You should email both of us a written proposal of 1 to 3 pages at least two days before coming to see us. (Our email addresses are cromer@econ.berkeley.edu and dromer@econ.berkeley.edu.)

2. Presentations

Registered students will give 20-minute presentations of their research ideas and progress to date on November 7 and November 14. If you want to use slides, you should e-mail them to us (in either PowerPoint or pdf) by the day before your presentations.

3. Due Date

The final paper is due on Monday, December 10th at 5 p.m. Handing in the paper after the deadline will result in a stiff penalty.