



A Brief History of Economics: Artful Approaches to the Dismal Science

By E Ray Canterbury

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Blending past and present, this brief history of economics is the perfect book for introducing students to the field. A Brief History of Economics illustrates how the ideas of the great economists not only influenced societies but were themselves shaped by their cultural milieu. Understanding the economists' visions - lucidly and vividly unveiled by Canterbury - allows readers to place economics within a broader community of ideas. Magically, the author links Adam Smith to Isaac Newton's idea of an orderly universe, F Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby to Thorstein Veblen, John Steinbeck's Grapes of Wrath to the Great Depression, and Tom Wolfe's The Bonfire of the Vanities to Reaganomics. The second edition is right up-to-date with a lively discussion of the economic crises of 2007-2010. Often humorous, Canterbury's easy style will make the student's first foray into economics lively and relevant. Readers will dismiss "dismal" from the science.

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Editorial Review

Review

"No one interested in economics -- and it's an interest all shrewd citizens should cultivate -- will want to miss Ray Canterbury ... He has established himself as an incisive and interesting scholar who greatly prefers truth to the orthodox applause ... Canterbury always has a good foundation of fact, analysis and judgement to support his positions." ---- John Kenneth Galbraith, Harvard University

"Canterbury's unique style of presentation and breadth of vision manages to breathe new life into the study of dead economists ... Really helps the reader conjure up a vision of the economic times ... A fine addition to the history of thought literature." ---- Journal of Economic Issues

"There is much in A Brief History of Economics to provide pleasant reading for a wide audience. Specialists in economic thought will be attracted by the easy writing style combined with the coherent historical development of post-Keynesian notions ... Nonspecialists will be pleased to find coherent discussions of various economic subjects that may, prior to reading the book, have been confusing ... the book is highly recommended for both specialist and nonspecialist alike." -- The Historian

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From the Inside Flap

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Often humorous, Canterbury's easy style will make the student's first foray into economics lively and relevant. Readers will dismiss "dismal" from the science.

About the Author

In January 1996, Prentice-Hall, Inc. selected E Ray Canterbury for their Hall of Fame Economist Baseball Cards for "significant contributions to the economics discipline," including "developing one of the first

complete mathematical theories of foreign exchange; a new theory of the labor market and of personal incomes (vita theory), which later was integrated into international trade theory; independently of Pasinetti, developing a production model of the total value added required in both labor and profits, proving also that profit margins equal price markups; several policy ideas that have become real world economic policies." Active in many economics associations, Canterbury served as President of the Eastern Economics Association in 1986-1987 and President of the International Trade and Finance Association in 1998-1999. He is an elected member of the New York Academy of Sciences. Canterbury was one of the earliest critics of Alan Greenspan's monetary policy. Canterbury wrote of how Greenspan, as the most influential cheerleader of the "New Economy," helped to hype the American stock market into a giant bubble destined to burst. Canterbury was correct: Greenspan was wrong. Only now have other economists and financial experts jumped on this prescient critic's bandwagon as it now passes before their delayed perceptions! The International Biography Centre in Cambridge, England includes Canterbury among 500 persons worldwide in its *Living Legends* (2002), among 2000 scholars worldwide in their *Outstanding Scholars* in the 21st Century, and among the select *One Thousand Great Americans* (2002). The American Biographical Institute includes Canterbury in its *Great Minds of the 21st Century* (2003).

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