Historical Perspectives on Innovation: 
Introducing the Centre for Economic Cultures

Seminar Series 2018 - 19
Monday 04 March 15:00 - 16:30

Speakers: Dr Patrick Doyle, Dr Chris Godden, Dr Sarah Roddy (introducing the Centre),
Dr Alexia Yates and Mr Xuan Zhao (all Department of History, University of Manchester).
Chair: Dr Catherine Casson (IMP)

This seminar showcases current research projects undertaken in the Centre for Economic Cultures at The
University of Manchester, a new research and teaching centre dedicated to investigating the cultural
assumptions and social relationships that shape and have shaped economic activity, from the medieval
period to the present day. The Centre draws together a broad range of scholars based in History, English
and American Studies, Business, Economics and Law to advance an interdisciplinary agenda focused
around the following themes:

- Capitalism from below;
- Capitalism in the long durée;
- Communication of economic knowledge;
- Economic imaginaries;
- Alternative economic systems.

In this seminar, Dr Roddy (Co-director) will introduce the new Centre and members will provide 10
minute introductions to current projects. Dr Godden examines the University of Manchester’s role in
regional economic development in c. 1930-c.1970. Dr Yates discusses her project on the historical
business archives of the John Ryland’s Library, and the research questions they can inform on. Dr Doyle
and Mr Zhao outline theoretical approaches that they would welcome feedback on.

The Manchester Institute of Innovation Research holds a series of regular seminars given by visiting
speakers to Manchester, discussing key issues in science, technology and innovation policy and
management. All are welcome.

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