



# Should economic growth be our priority?

**Department of Economics Visiting Speakers: Dr. Tyler Cowen & Mr. Matt Bufton**

Tyler Cowen is the Holbert L. Harris Chair of Economics at George Mason University and serves as chairman and faculty director of the Mercatus Center at George Mason University. A dedicated writer and communicator of economic ideas, Cowen has contributed extensively to publications such as the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal*. His research has been published in the *American Economic Review*, the *Journal of Political Economy*, *Ethics*, and *Philosophy* and *Public Affairs*.

*Foreign Policy* named Cowen as one of 2011's "Top 100 Global Thinkers," and a *The Economist* survey counted him as one of the most influential economists of the last decade. Cowen graduated from George Mason University with a BS in economics and received his PhD in economics from Harvard University. He is coauthor of the popular economics blog *Marginal Revolution* and cofounder of the online educational platform Marginal Revolution University.

**September 12, 2022, 5:00-6:30 PM  
Bruneau Centre - Rm IIC 2001**

Throughout history, economic growth in particular has alleviated human misery, improved human happiness and opportunity, and lengthened human lives. Wealthier societies are more stable, offer better living standards, produce better medicines, and ensure greater autonomy, greater fulfillment, and more sources of fun. If we want to continue our trend of growth—and the overwhelmingly positive outcomes for societies that come with it—every individual must become more concerned with the welfare of those around us. So how do we proceed? Tyler Cowen argues that our reason and common sense can help free us of the faulty ideas that hold us back as people and as a society, allowing us to set our sights on the long-term struggles that maximize sustainable economic growth while respecting human rights. Cowen makes the contemporary moral case for economic growth and delivers a great dose of inspiration and optimism about our future possibilities.

**Event Sponsored by the Institute of Liberal Studies (ILS) in Ottawa.**



The Institute for Liberal Studies is a non-partisan educational non-profit based in Ottawa. We host seminars, conferences, and guest speakers at universities across Canada, in order to explore the classical liberal tradition and the encourage debate about political and economic freedom.

[www.mun.ca/econ](http://www.mun.ca/econ)



Matt Bufton is co-founder and Executive Director of the Institute for Liberal Studies. After graduating from the University of Windsor's Odette School of Business, he worked in marketing and project management in the insurance and software industries before returning to school to study Political Science at the University of Windsor and Public Policy at the University of Michigan.