

## TOPICS IN ECONOMIC HISTORY

RAN ABRAMITZKY

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### Instructor:

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### Class time and location: TBD

### Course Description:

Topics in Economic History: covers topics in Economic History from the Middle Ages to the twentieth century (but does not cover detailed economic history of particular European countries). Topics include competing hypotheses in explaining long term trends in economic growth and cross-country differences in long-term economic growth; the diffusion of knowledge; the formation, function, and persistence of institutions and organizations; the role of institutions and organizations (for example, apprenticeship, partnerships, cooperatives, social networks, share cropping, and communes) as solutions to contractual problems; the causes and consequences of income inequality; the economics of migration; the changing economic role of the family. The course will highlight the use of economic theory in guiding hypothesis testing, as well as the construction of new datasets and the execution of empirical analysis.

A main goal of the course is to involve students in research, from identifying and posing interesting research questions in economic history and in other applied economic fields, to presenting these ideas.

The course will give opportunity for students to give a *15-minutes presentation of a recent job market paper in economic history*. If you are interested to present, please email me with your choice of a paper from the list of recent job market papers below. Papers will be assigned based on a first comes first served basis, so pick your paper early.

You are not expected to read in advance of class, but you will benefit more from the class if you read in advance some papers from the reading list. The readings for each class are detailed in this syllabus. Of course you are not expected to read all of the reading list before class - it is simply designed to give you references to more reading on each topic. Papers that are available online.

### Schedule of Readings and Assignments

#### **1. Introduction: why economic history? What is this course about?**

*What are the big questions in economic history? What can economics learn from economic history, and what can economic history learn from economics? Are there jobs in economic history? What are the advantages and disadvantages to becoming an economic historian? We*

*will also discuss: what is this class about? How should an academic presentation look? Presentation tips, etc.*

- Abramitzky, Ran, “Economics and the Modern Economic Historian,” *Journal of Economic History*, 75:4,1240-1251, December 2015 [[link](#)]
- McCloskey, Donald, “Does the Past Have Useful Economics?” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 14(2), pp. 434-461 (1976). [[link](#)]
- McCloskey, Donald, “The Rhetoric of Economics,” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 21(2), pp. 481-517 (1985). [[link](#)]
- Mokyr, Joel, Preface of *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Economics History*, Oxford University Press, pp. xxi-xxvii (2005).
- Greif, Avner, “Cliometrics After 40 years,” *American Economic Review*, 87(2), pp. 400-403 (1997). [[link](#)]

## **2. What is to be explained: Long term trends in economic growth and the demographic transition**

*What has happened to income, population, fertility, mortality, health, human capital, and urbanization over the last millennium? Malthus’ grim predictions have been refuted since the 18<sup>th</sup> century, when Western Europe started to experience sustained economic growth and a demographic transition. Mortality has declined, followed by a decline in birth rates.*

- De La Croix, David, Mathias Doepke, and Joel Mokyr, “Clans, Guilds, and Markets: Apprenticeship Institutions and Growth in the Pre-Industrial Economy,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2018. [[link](#)]
- Jones Charles and Pete Klenow, “Beyond GDP: Welfare Across Countries and Time,” *American Economic Review* (2016). [[link](#)]
- Boyer, George R. “Malthus Was Right After All: Poor Relief and Birth Rates in Southeastern England,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 97(1), pp. 93-114 (1989). [[link](#)]
- Clark, Gregory, “The Condition of the Working-Class in England, 1209-2004,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 113(6), pp. 1307-1340 (2005). [[link](#)]
- Andorka, R. *Determinants of Fertility in Advanced Societies*. Free Press, New York (1978).
- Barro, Robert and Jong-Wha Lee, “International Data on Educational Attainment: Updates and Implications,” Harvard University; NBER Working Paper No. 7911 (2000). [[link](#)]
- Chesnais, Jean-Claude, *The Demographic Transition: Stages, Patterns and Economic Implications*. Clarendon Press, Oxford (1993).
- Clark, Gregory, “Land Rental Values and Agrarian Economy: England and Wales, 1500–1914,” *European Review of Economic History*, 6(3), pp. 281–308 (2002). [[link](#)]
- De Vries, Jan, *European Urbanization, 1500–1800*. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, (1984).

- Feinstein, Charles, *National Income, Expenditure and Output of the United Kingdom 1855–1965*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge (1972).
- Flora, Peter, F. Kraus, and W. Pfenning, *State, Economy and Society in Western Europe 1815–1975*, vol. 1. St. James Press, Chicago (1983).
- Fogel, Robert, *The Escape from Hunger and Premature Death, 1700-2100: Europe, America, and the Third World*, Cambridge University Press, (2004).
- Galor, Oded, “From Stagnation to Growth: Unified Growth Theory,” *Handbook of Economic Growth*, pp. 171-293 (2005). [[link](#)]
- Livi-Bacci, Massimo, *A Concise History of World Population*. Blackwell Publishers (1997).
- Lee, Ronald, “The Demographic Transition: Three Centuries of Fundamental Change,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 17(4) pp. 167-190 (2003). [[link](#)]
- Maddison, Angus, *The World Economy: A Millennial Perspective*, Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development (2001). [[link](#)]
- Maddison, Angus, *The World Economy: Historical Statistics*, Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development (2003).
- Mitchell, B. *European Historical Statistics, 1750–1975*, second ed. New York University Press (1981).
- World Development Indicators. The World Bank (2008). [[link](#)]
- Wrigley, Edward and Roger Schofield, *The Population History of England 1541–1871: A Reconstruction*, Harvard University Press (1981).
- Abramitzky, Ran and Fabio Braggion, “Malthusian and Neo-Malthusian Theories,” *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Economic History* (Editor: Joel Mokyr), Oxford University Press, Vol 3, pp. 423-427 (2003).
- Nico Voigtlander and Joachim Voth, “How the West Invented Fertility Restriction,” *American Economic Review*, 2013, 103(6): 2227-2264.
- Fresh Adriane, “Industrial Revolution and Political Change: Evidence from the British Isles” (2016) [[link](#)]

### 3. Why did growth start in England/Europe and why in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century?

*What factors improved living standards so much starting in the 18<sup>th</sup> century? What caused the drop in fertility and demographic transitions? How did the drop in fertility affect economic growth? What was the role of the industrial revolution in sustaining economic growth? What exactly was the industrial revolution? Why did the industrial revolution occur in Europe, and why in England? And, why did it happen in the 18<sup>th</sup> century rather than earlier or later?*

- Squicciarini Mara, and Nico Voigtlander, “Human Capital and Industrialization: Evidence from the Age of Enlightenment,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2015, 130(4): 1825- 1883. [[link](#)]

- Nico Voigtlander and Joachim Voth, “The Three Horsemen of Riches: Plague, War and Urbanization in Early Modern Europe,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 2013, 80(2): 774-811. [\[link\]](#)
- Galor, Oded and David Weil, “Population, Technology and Growth: From the Malthusian Regime to the Demographic Transition,” *American Economic Review*, 90(4), pp. 806–828 (2000). [\[link\]](#)
- Kremer, Michael, “Population Growth and Technological Change: One Million B.C. to 1990,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 108(3), pp. 681-716 (1993). [\[link\]](#)
- DeVries, Jan, “The Industrial Revolution and the Industrious Revolution,” *Journal of Economic History*, 54(2), pp. 249-270 (1994). [\[link\]](#)
- Mokyr, Joel, (editor), *The British Industrial Revolution: An Economic Perspective*, Westview Press (1999).
- Habakkuk H., *American and British Technology in the Nineteenth Century*, Cambridge University Press (1962).
- Temin, Peter, “Two Views of the British Industrial Revolution,” *Journal of Economic History*, 57(1) pp. 63-82 (1997). [\[link\]](#)
- Williamson, Jeffrey, “Why Was Growth So Slow during the Industrial Revolution?” *Journal of Economic History*, 44(3), pp.687-712 (1984). [\[link\]](#)
- Mokyr, Joel, *The Lever of Riches: Technological Creativity and Economic Progress*, Oxford University Press (1990).
- Jones, Eric, *The European Miracle: Environments, Economies and Geopolitics in the History of Europe and Asia*. Cambridge University Press (1981).
- Galor, Oded and Moav, Omer, “Natural Selection and the Origin of Economic Growth,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 117(4), pp. 1133–1192 (2002). [\[link\]](#)
- Rosenberg, Nathan and L Birdzell, Jr., *How the West Grew Rich: the Economic Transformation of the Industrial World*. Basic Books (1987). [\[link\]](#)
- Lucas, Robert, “The Industrial Revolution: Past and Future,” In Robert E. Lucas, *Lectures on Economic Growth* (Harvard, 2002) and *The Region* (May 2005). [\[link\]](#)
- Hansen, Gary and Edward Prescott, “Malthus to Solow,” *American Economic Review*, 92(4), pp. 1205-1217 (2002). [\[link\]](#)
- Acemoglu, Daron and James Robinson, *Economic Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*, Cambridge University Press (2005). [\[link\]](#)

#### **4. Why are some countries rich and others poor? Geography, institutions, and culture**

*Are there ultimate reasons that explain why US and Europe are so rich while Africa is so poor? Can better geography, ecology, and factor endowment explain this? Can better institutions in Europe and US explain why they are so much richer than African countries? Can the inheritance of better European institutions explain the relative development in countries that were European colonies? Can differences in work attitudes and the quality of labor explain the wealth of countries?*

## Geography:

- Diamond, Jared, *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies*, pp. 53-92, W. W. Norton and Company (1997).
- Gallup, John, Andrew Mellinger, and Jeffrey Sachs, “Geography and Economic Development,” NBER Working Paper #6849 (1998). [\[link\]](#)
- Sachs, Jeffrey, “Tropical Underdevelopment,” NBER Working Paper #8119 (2001). [\[link\]](#)
- Engerman, Stanley and Kenneth Sokoloff, “Factor Endowments, Institutions, and Differential Paths of Growth Among New World Economies: A View from Economic Historians of the United States,” in Steven Haber ed., *How Latin America Fell Behind*, Stanford University Press (1997).
- Sokoloff, Kenneth and Stanley Engerman, “History Lessons: Institutions, Factor Endowments, and Paths of Development in the New World,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 14(3), pp. 217-232 (2000). [\[link\]](#)
- Dell Melissa, Ben Jones, and Ben Olken, “Temperature Shocks and Economic Growth: Evidence from the Last Half Century” *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 4(3) (2012). [\[link\]](#)
- Dell Melissa, Ben Jones, and Ben Olken, “What Do We Learn from the Weather? The New Climate-Economy Literature,” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 52(3), 2014 [\[link\]](#).
- Daron Acemoglu and Melissa Dell, “Productivity Differences Between and Within Countries,” *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics* (2009). [\[link\]](#)
- Dell Melissa, Ben Jones, and Ben Olken, “Temperature and Income: Reconciling New Cross-Sectional and Panel Estimates,” *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings* (2009). [\[link\]](#)
- Nunn, Nathan, and Diego Puga, “Ruggedness: The Blessing of Bad Geography in Africa,” *Review of Economics and Statistics* (2012). [\[link\]](#)

## Institutions:

- Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson, and James Robinson, “The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation,” *American Economic Review*, 91(5), pp.1369-1401 (2001). [\[link\]](#)
- Acemoglu, Daron, James Robinson and Simon Johnson, “Reversal of Fortune: Geography and Institutions in the Making of the Modern World,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 117, pp. 1231-1294 (2002). [\[link\]](#)
- Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson, and James Robinson, “The Rise of Europe: Institutional Change and Economic Growth,” *American Economic Review*, 95(3), pp. 546-579 (2005). [\[link\]](#)
- Acemoglu, Daron and Simon Johnson, “Unbundling Institutions,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 118(5), pp.949-995 (2005). [\[link\]](#)

- Dell, Melissa. "The persistent effects of Peru's mining mita." *Econometrica* 78.6 (2010) [\[link\]](#)
- Glaeser, Edward, Rafael La Porta, Florencio Lopez-de-Silanes, and Andrei Shleifer, "Do Institutions Cause Growth?" *Journal of Economic Growth*, 9(3) pp. 271-303 (2004). [\[link\]](#)
- McArthur, John and Jeffrey Sachs, "Institutions and Geography: Comment on Acemoglu, Johnson, and Robinson," NBER Working Paper #8114 (2001). [\[link\]](#)
- Rodrick, Dani, Arvind Subramanian, and Francesco Trebbi, "Institutions Rule: The Primacy of Institutions over Geography and Integration in Economic Development," *Journal of Economic Growth*, 9(2), pp.131-165 (2004). [\[link\]](#)
- Greif, Avner, *Institutions and the Path to the Modern Economy: Lessons from Medieval Trade*, Cambridge University Press, Chapter. 2, pp. 29-55 (2006).
- North, Douglass, "Institutions," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 5(1), pp.97-112 (1991). [\[link\]](#)
- Nunn, Nathan, "The Long-Term Effects of Africa's Slave Trades," *Quarterly Journal of Economics* (2008). [\[link\]](#)
- Nunn, Nathan and Leonard Wantchekon, "The Slave Trade and the Origin of Mistrust in Africa," *American Economic Review* (2011) [\[link\]](#)

#### **Culture:**

- Clark, Gregory, "Why Isn't the Whole World Developed? Lessons from the Cotton Mills," *Journal of Economic History*, 47(1), pp. 141-174 (1987). [\[link\]](#)
- Clark, Gregory, *A Farewell to Alms: A Brief Economic History of the World*, Princeton University Press (2007).
- Wolcott, Susan and Clark, Gregory, "Why Nations Fail: Managerial Decisions and Performance in Indian Cotton Textiles, 1890-1938," *Journal of Economic History*, 59(2), pp. 397-423 (1999). [\[link\]](#)

#### **5. The economics of knowledge and idea flows and their role in economic growth**

*How important are knowledge and ideas for growth and development? How do economic incentives shape the international diffusion of knowledge? How do institutions and policies affect the flow of ideas? How can we measure the flow of ideas?*

- Dittmar Jeremiah, and Skipper Seabold, "New Media and Competition: Printing and Europe's Transformation After Gutenberg," working paper (2018)[\[link\]](#)
- Bloom Nick, Charles Jones, John Van-Reenen, Michael Webb, "Are Ideas Getting Harder to Find?" (2017)[\[link\]](#)
- Jones, Charles, and Paul Romer, "The New Kaldor Facts: Ideas, Institutions, Population, and Human Capital," *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics* (2010).

- Mokyr, Joel, *The Gifts of Athena: Historical Origins of the Knowledge Economy*, Princeton University Press, (2003).
- Mokyr, Joel, *The Enlightened Economy: an Economic History of Britain 1800-1950*, Yale University Press, (2010).
- Mokyr, Joel, “The Past and the Future of Innovation: some lessons from Economic History,” forthcoming in *Explorations in Economic History* (2018).
- Gordon Robert, *The rise and fall of American growth: The US standard of living since the civil war*. Princeton University Press (2017).
- Gordon, Robert, “Declining American Economic Growth Despite Ongoing Innovation,” forthcoming in *Explorations in Economic History* (2018).
- Romer, Paul, “Which Parts of Globalization Matter for Catch-Up Growth,” NBER Working Paper (2010).
- Jaffe, Adam, and Manuel Trajtenberg, “International Knowledge Flows: Evidence from Patent Citations,” *Economics of Innovation and New Technology* (1999).
- Jaffe, Adam, and Manuel Trajtenberg, *Patents, Citations and Innovations: A Window on the Knowledge Economy*, Cambridge: MIT Press (2002).
- Jones, Charles, “Growth and Ideas” in P. Aghion and S. Durlauf (eds.) *Handbook of Economic Growth*, pp. 1063-1111 (2005).
- Helpman, Elhanan, *The Mystery of Economic Growth*, Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2004
- Keller, Wolfgang, “Geographic Localization of International Technology Diffusion,” *American Economic Review* (2002).
- Klenow, Pete, and Andrés Rodríguez-Clare, “Externalities and Growth,” *Handbook of Economic Growth*, volume 1A, P. Aghion and S. Durlauf, eds., chapter 11 (2005).
- Abramitzky, Ran, and Isabelle Sin, “Book Translations as Idea Flows: The Effects of the Collapse of Communism on the Diffusion of Knowledge,” forthcoming *Journal of European Economic Association* (2014) [[link](#)]
- Mara Squicciarini, “Devotion and Development: Religiosity, Education, and Economic Progress in 19th-century France,” job market paper 2017
- Yang, David, “The Impact of Media Censorship: Evidence from a Field Experiment in China,” job market paper 2018.

## 6. The economics of migration in historical perspective

*The last 300 hundreds years have been characterized by mass migration from Europe to the new world, especially between 1850-1913. Migrants bring their human capital, which can be important to economic growth. What drives migration? Are immigrants positively or negatively selected in their skills from their origin country? How do immigrants perform in the host country? What is the effect of migration on the sending and receiving countries?*

- Abramitzky, Ran, Leah Boustan, and Katherine Eriksson, “Europe’s Tired, Poor, Huddled Masses: Self-Selection and Economic Outcomes in the Age of Mass Migration,” *American Economic Review*, 102:5, 1832-1856, August 2012 [[link](#)]
- Abramitzky Ran and Leah Boustan “Immigration in American History,” with Leah Boustan, *Journal of Economic Literature* (forthcoming) [[link](#)]
- Abramitzky, Ran, Leah Boustan, and Katherine Eriksson, “A Nation of Immigrants: Assimilation and Economic Outcomes in the Age of Mass Migration,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 122:3, 467-717, June 2014. [[link](#)]
- Abramitzky, Ran, Leah Boustan, and Katherine Eriksson, “Have the poor always been less likely to migrate? Evidence from Inheritance Practices during the Age of Mass Migration,” *Journal of Development Economics*, 102, 2-14, 2013 [[link](#)]
- Sequeira, Sandra, Nathan Nunn, and Nancy Qian, “Immigrants and the Making of America,” *Review of Economic Studies* (forthcoming) [[link](#)]
- Perez Santiago, “The (South) American Dream: Mobility and Economic Outcomes of First and Second Generation Immigrants in 19th Century Argentina,” working paper (2016). [[link](#)]
- Borjas, George, “Self-Selection and the Earnings of Immigrants,” *The American Economic Review*, 77(4), pp. 531—553 (1987). [[link](#)]
- Borjas, George, “The Economics of Immigration,” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 32(4), pp. 1667—1717 (1994). [[link](#)]
- Chiquiar, Daniel, and Gordon Hanson, “International Migration, Self-Selection, and the Distribution of Wages: Evidence from Mexico and the United States,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 113(2), pp. 239—281 (2005). [[link](#)]
- Chiswick, Barry, “Are Immigrants Favorably Self-Selected?” *American Economic Review*, 89(2), pp. 181—185 (1999). [[link](#)]
- Card, David and John Di Nardo, “Do Immigrant Inflows Lead to Native Outflows?” *American Economic Review*, 90(2), pp. 360-67 (2000). [[link](#)]
- Chiswick, Barry and Timothy Hatton, “International Migration and the Integration of the Labor Markets,” in *Globalization in Historical Perspective* (2003).
- Hatton, Timothy and Jeffrey Williamson, *The Age of Mass Migration: Causes and Economic Impact*, Oxford University Press (1998). [[link](#)]
- Abramitzky, Ran, “The Effect of Redistribution on Migration: Evidence from the Israeli Kibbutz,” *Journal of Public Economics*, 93, 498-511 (2009). [[link](#)]
- Borjas, George, and Kirk Doran, “The Collapse of the Soviet Union and the Productivity of American Mathematicians,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics* (2012). [[link](#)]
- Santiago Perez (my former student who graduated from Stanford in 2017, now an Assistant Professor in UC Davis), “Railroads and the Rural to Urban Transition: Evidence from 19th-Century Argentina” (2017). [[link](#)]
- Ferrie, Joseph and Jason Long, “Intergenerational Occupational Mobility in Britain and the U.S. Since 1850,” *American Economic Review* (2013). [[link](#)]



### **Indentured servitude**

- Grubb, Farley, “The Market Evaluation of Criminality: Evidence from the Auction of British Convict Labor in America, 1767-1775,” *American Economic Review*, 91(1), pp. 295-304 (2001). [[link](#)]
- Abramitzky, Ran and Fabio Braggion, “Migration and Human Capital: Self-Selection of Indentured Servants to the Americas,” *Journal of Economic History*, 66(4), pp. 882-905 (2006). [[link](#)]
- Galenson, David, *White Servitude in Colonial America: An Economic Analysis*, Cambridge University Press (1981).
- Galenson, David, “White Servitude and the Growth of Black Slavery in Colonial America,” *Journal of Economic History*, 41(1), pp. 39-47 (1981). [[link](#)]
- Galenson, David, “The Market Evaluation of Human Capital: The Case of Indentured Servitude,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 89(3), pp. 446-467 (1981). [[link](#)]
- Galenson, David, “The Rise and Fall of Indentured Servitude in the Americas: An Economic Analysis,” *Journal of Economic History*, 44(1), pp. 1-26 (1984). [[link](#)]
- Grubb, Farley, “Redemptioner Immigration to Pennsylvania: Evidence on Contract Choice and Profitability,” *Journal of Economic History*, 46(2), pp. 407-418 (1986). [[link](#)]
- Grubb, Farley, “The Auction of Redemptioner Servants, Philadelphia, 1771-1804: An Economic Analysis,” *Journal of Economic History*, 48(3), pp. 583-603 (1988). [[link](#)]
- Grubb, Farley, “Fatherless and Friendless: Factors Influencing the Flow of English Emigrant Servants,” *Journal of Economic History*, 52(1), pp. 85-108 (1992). [[link](#)]
- Menard, Russell, “From Servant to Freeholder: Status Mobility and Property Accumulation in Seventeenth-Century Maryland,” *William and Mary Quarterly*, 30(1), pp. 37-64 (1979). [[link](#)]

### **7. The economics of marriage and the family and their changing nature**

*What does economics have to say about marriage, divorce, family, and career? How responsive are marriage, divorce, family, and career to economic incentives? How have these changed over time? How have these contributed to and been influenced by the demographic transition and economic growth?*

- Goldin, Claudia and Lawrence Katz, “The Power of the Pill: Oral Contraceptives and Women’s Career and Marriage Decisions,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 110(4), pp. 730-70 (2002). [[link](#)]
- Bailey, Martha, “More Power to the Pill: The Impact of Contraceptive Freedom on Women’s Lifecycle Labor Supply,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics* (2006).
- Goldin, Claudia, *Understanding the Gender Gap: An Economic History of American Women*, University of Chicago Press (1990).

- Goldin Claudia, “The ‘Quiet Revolution’ That Transformed Women’s Employment, Education, and Family,” *American Economic Review* (Ely Lecture), 96, pp. 1-21 (2006). [\[link\]](#)
- Lundberg, Shelly and Robert Pollak, “The American Family and Family Economics,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 21(2), pp. 3-26 (2007). [\[link\]](#)
- Becker Gary, *A Treatise on the Family*, Harvard University Press (1991).
- Gronau Reuben, “Leisure, Home Production, and Work—the Theory of the Allocation of Time Revisited,” *Journal of Political Economy* 85(6), pp. 1099-124. (1977). [\[link\]](#)
- Lundberg, Shelly and Robert Pollak, “Bargaining and Distribution in Marriage,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 10(4), pp. 139-58 (1996). [\[link\]](#)
- Stevenson, Betsey and Justin Wolfers, “Marriage and Divorce: Changes and Their Driving Forces,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 21(2), pp. 27-52 (2007). [\[link\]](#)
- Easterlin, Richard, *Birth and Fortune, the Impact of Numbers on Personal Welfare*, University of Chicago Press, chaps. 3, 4, 5, (1987). [\[link\]](#)
- Goldin, Claudia and Lawrence Katz, “Career and Marriage in the Age of the Pill,” *American Economic Review Papers & Proceedings*, 90(2), pp. 461-65 (2000). [\[link\]](#)
- Goldin, Claudia, “The Role of World War II in the Rise of Women’s Employment,” *American Economic Review*, 81(4), pp. 741-56 (1991). [\[link\]](#)
- Botticini, Maristella, “A Loveless Economy? Intergenerational Altruism and the Marriage Market in a Tuscan Town, 1415-1436,” *Journal of Economic History*, 59(1), pp. 104-121 (1999). [\[link\]](#)
- Botticini, Maristella and Aloysius Siow, “Why Dowries?” *American Economic Review*, 93(4), pp. 1385-1398 (2003). [\[link\]](#)
- Angrist, Joshua, “How Do Sex Ratios Affect Marriage and Labor Markets: Evidence from America’s Second Generation.” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 117, pp. 997-1038 (2002). [\[link\]](#)
- Abramitzky, Ran, Adeline Delavande and Luis Vasconcelos, “Marrying Up: the Role of Sex Ratio in Assortative Matching,” *American Economic Journal: Applied* (2011). [\[link\]](#)
- Boehnke Jorn, and Victor Gay, “The Missing Men: World War I and Female Labor Force Participation,” working paper (2018) [\[link\]](#)
- Weiss, Yoram, “The Formation and Dissolution of Families: Why Marry? Who Marries Whom? And What Happens Upon Divorce,” in *The Handbook of Population and Family Economics*, Mark R. Rosenzweig and Oded Stark, ed. Amsterdam (1993). [\[link\]](#)

## 8. Economic theory and economic history

*What institutions facilitated long distance trade? How did merchants solve the inherent commitment problem (to not behave opportunistically) intrinsic to merchant/agent relationship? How could merchants trust oversee agents to sell their products? We will study these issues with a methodological emphasis on how to use game theory in economic history.*

- Greif, Avner, “Cultural Beliefs and the Organization of Society: A Historical and Theoretical Reflection on Collectivist and Individualist Societies,” *Journal of Political Economy* (1994). [[link](#)]
- Greif, Avner, “On the Political Foundations of the Late Medieval Commercial Revolution: Genoa During the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries,” *The Journal of Economic History*, 54(2), pp. 271-287 (1994). [[link](#)]
- Greif, Avner, “Self-Enforcing Political Systems and Economic Growth: Late Medieval Genoa,” in Bates, Robert, Avner Greif, Margaret Levi, and Jean-Laurent Rosenthal, *Analytic Narratives*, Princeton University Press, pp. 3-23 (1998). [[1997 version](#)]
- Greif, Avner, “Reputation and Coalitions in Medieval Trade: Evidence on the Maghribi Traders,” *Journal of Economic History*, 49(4), pp. 857-882 (1989). [[link](#)]
- Greif, Avner, “Contract Enforceability and Economic Institutions in Early Trade: The Maghribi Trader’s Coalition,” *American Economic Review*, 83(3), pp. 525-548 (1993). [[link](#)]
- Greif, Avner, “Economic Theory and Game Theory: A Survey,” in Robert Aumann and Sergio Hart eds: *Handbook of Game theory*, Vol. 3, pp. 1989-2024 (2002). [[1997 version](#)]

## **A LIST OF SOME RECENT GREAT JOB MARKET PAPERS IN ECONOMIC HISTORY**

*Choose a recent economic history job market papers from the following list (or feel free to suggest others).*

Jaime Arellano-Bover. Jaime is my student on the job market this year. His job market paper is in labor economics but his history paper “Displacement, Diversity, and Mobility: Career Impacts of Japanese American Internment” started in this class. [[link](#)]

Ellora Derenoncourt. Ellora is a graduate student from Harvard currently on the job market. Her job market paper is titled: “Can you move to opportunity? Evidence from the Great Migration” [[link](#)]

Huiren Tan. Huiren is a graduated student from Boston University currently on the job market. His job market paper is titled “A Different Land of Opportunity: The Geography of Intergenerational Mobility in the Early 20th-Century US” [[link](#)]

David Yang. My former student who graduated from Stanford in 2018, now an Assistant Professor at Harvard. “The Impact of Media Censorship: 1984 or Brave New World,” (with Chen Yuyu) *American Economic Review* (forthcoming). [[link](#)]

Sara Lowes and Eduardo Montero. Sara graduated from Harvard in 2017 and is now an Assistant Professor at Bocconi. “The Legacy of Colonial Medicine in Central Africa” (2018) [[link](#)]

Eduardo Montero. Eduardo graduated from Harvard in 2017 and is now an Assistant Professor at Michigan policy school. “Cooperative Property Rights and Development: Evidence from Land Reform in El Salvador” (2018). [[link](#)]

Santiago Perez. My former student who graduated from Stanford in 2017, now an Assistant Professor in UC Davis, “Railroads and the Rural to Urban Transition: Evidence from 19th-Century Argentina” (2017). [[link](#)]

Adriane Fresh. My former student who graduated from Stanford in 2017, now a post-doc in Vanderbilt, “Industrial Revolution and Political Change: Evidence from the British Isles,” (2018). [[link](#)]

Michela Giorcelli. My former student graduated from Stanford in 2016, now an Assistant Professor in UCLA. Her job market paper entitled “The Long-Term Effects of Management and Technology Transfers” can be found here:  
[http://www.giorcellimichela.com/uploads/8/3/7/0/83709646/giorcelli\\_jmp.pdf](http://www.giorcellimichela.com/uploads/8/3/7/0/83709646/giorcelli_jmp.pdf)

James Feigenbaum. Graduated from Harvard in 2016, now an Assistant Professor at Boston University. His job market paper entitled “Intergenerational Mobility during the Great Depression” can be found here:  
[http://scholar.harvard.edu/files/jfeigenbaum/files/feigenbaum\\_jmp.pdf](http://scholar.harvard.edu/files/jfeigenbaum/files/feigenbaum_jmp.pdf)

Ariell Zimran. Graduated from Northwestern University in 2016, now an Assistant Professor at Vanderbilt University. His job market paper is entitled “Explaining the Antebellum Puzzle: Market Access, Food Prices, and Stature in the United States, 1820-1847.”

Vicky Fouka. Graduated from Pompeu Fabra in 2015, now Assistant Professor at Stanford Poli Science. Her job market paper entitled “Backlash: The Unintended Effects of Language Prohibition in US Schools after World War I” can be found here:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B14lb5A63-xkS1hKb0czcmxSejg/view>.

Reka Juhasz. Graduated from LSE in 2015, now Assistant Professor at Columbia. Her job market paper is entitled “Temporary Protection and Technology Adoption: Evidence from the Napoleonic Blockade,” can be found here:  
[http://www.rjuhasz.com/research/juhasz\\_blockade.pdf](http://www.rjuhasz.com/research/juhasz_blockade.pdf).

Claudia Steinwender. Graduated from LSE in 2014, now Assistant Professor at Harvard Business School. Her job market paper (Reka Juhasz) is entitled “The Impact of Information along the Supply Chain: Evidence from the 19th Century Telegraph Expansion.”

Marcella Alsan. Graduated from MIT in 2013, now Assistant Professor at Stanford Medical School. Her job market paper is entitled “The Effect of the TseTse Fly on African Development” and is now published at the *American Economic Review* (2015):  
[https://people.stanford.edu/malsan/sites/default/files/alsan\\_tsetse.pdf](https://people.stanford.edu/malsan/sites/default/files/alsan_tsetse.pdf)

Jose Espin. Graduated from Northwestern in 2013, and is now Assistant Professor in Yale. His job market paper, entitled “The Illiquidity of Water Markets,” can be found here:  
[http://economics.stanford.edu/files/Espoin9\\_24.pdf](http://economics.stanford.edu/files/Espoin9_24.pdf).

Josh Lewis. Graduated from Toronto in 2013, and is now Assistant Professor in Montreal. His job market paper “Fertility, Child Health, and the Diffusion of Electricity into the Home” can be found here:  
<https://www.webdepot.umontreal.ca/Usagers/lewisj/MonDepotPublic/fertilityhealth.pdf>

Roy Mill. Graduated from Stanford in 2013, now in Ancestry.com. His job market paper “Race, Skin Color, and Economic Outcomes in Early Twentieth-Century America,”  
<http://www.public.asu.edu/~lstein2/research/mill-stein-skincolor.pdf>

Laura Salisbury. Graduated from Boston University in 2013, now in York. Her job market paper, entitled “Women’s Income and Marriage Markets in the United States: Evidence from the Civil War Pension,” can be found here:

<http://www.nber.org/papers/w20201.pdf>

Melissa Dell. Graduated from MIT in 2012, and is now an Assistant Professor in Harvard. Her job market paper, entitled, “Trafficking Networks and the Mexican Drug War,” is R&R in the *American Economic Review*, and can be found here:

[http://scholar.harvard.edu/files/dell/files/121113draft\\_0.pdf](http://scholar.harvard.edu/files/dell/files/121113draft_0.pdf)

Walker Hanlon. Graduated from Columbia in 2012, and is now Assistant Professor at UCLA. His job market paper, “Necessity is the Mother of Invention: Input Supplies and Directed Technical Change,” is forthcoming in *Econometrica*.

[http://www.econ.ucla.edu/whanlon/papers/hanlon\\_dtc.pdf](http://www.econ.ucla.edu/whanlon/papers/hanlon_dtc.pdf)

Christian Dippel, graduated from Toronto in 2011, and is now Assistant Professor in UCLA. His job market paper, entitled “Forced Coexistence and Economic Development: Evidence from Native American Reservations”, is forthcoming in *Econometrica* and can be found in:

<http://www.anderson.ucla.edu/faculty/christian.dippel/NAIpaper1406.pdf>.

Peter Koudijs. Graduated from Pompeu Fabra in 2011, and is now Assistant Professor at Stanford GSB. His job market paper entitled “The boats that did not sail: asset price volatility and market efficiency in a natural experiment,” can be found at [http://faculty-gsb.stanford.edu/koudijs/documents/Boats\\_main.pdf](http://faculty-gsb.stanford.edu/koudijs/documents/Boats_main.pdf)

Noam Yuchtman. Graduated from Harvard in 2010, now Assistant Professor in Berkeley Haas. His job market paper “Coercive Contract Enforcement: Law and the Labor Market in 19th Century Industrial Britain” was published in the *American Economic Review* (2012).

[http://faculty.haas.berkeley.edu/yuchtman/Noam\\_Yuchtman\\_files/ms\\_2012\\_complete.pdf](http://faculty.haas.berkeley.edu/yuchtman/Noam_Yuchtman_files/ms_2012_complete.pdf)

Richard Hornbeck. Graduated from MIT in 2009, is now Assistant Professor in Harvard,. His job market paper “Barbed Wire: Property Rights and Agricultural Development” was published in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* (2010).

[http://scholar.harvard.edu/files/hornbeck/files/hornbeck\\_barbedwire.pdf](http://scholar.harvard.edu/files/hornbeck/files/hornbeck_barbedwire.pdf)

Dave Donaldson, graduated from LSE in 2009, was Assistant Professor in MIT, and now Associate Professor here at Stanford. His job market paper: “Railroads of the Raj: Estimating the Impact of Transportation Infrastructure,” is forthcoming in the *American Economic Review*:

<http://economics.mit.edu/files/6038>

Suresh Naidu. Graduated from Berkeley in 2008, now Assistant Professor in Columbia. Job market paper: Suffrage, Schooling, and Sorting in the Post-Bellum U.S. South,”

[http://tuvalu.santafe.edu/~snaidu/papers/suffrage\\_may\\_25\\_2012\\_combined.pdf](http://tuvalu.santafe.edu/~snaidu/papers/suffrage_may_25_2012_combined.pdf)