

RAN ABRAMITZKY

Department of Economics

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Professor, Department of Economics, Stanford University, 2019 - present

Senior Associate Dean of the Social Sciences, Stanford University, 2020 -

Associate Professor (with tenure), Department of Economics, Stanford University, 2013-2019

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Stanford University, 2005- 2013

OTHER AFFILIATIONS

Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), 2013 - present

Senior Fellow, Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR), 2015 - present

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 2005

Dissertation: *The Limits of Equality: an Economic Analysis of the Israeli Kibbutz*

Supervised by Joel Mokyr (Chair), Joseph Ferrie, Rob Porter, Kathy Spier, Bill Rogerson

M.A. Economics, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 2000

B.A. Economics and Business, Hebrew University, Israel, 1998, *Summa cum laude*

I. RESEARCH

Books

The mystery of the kibbutz: Egalitarian principles in a capitalist world, Princeton University Press (February 2018)

Winner of the Ranki Biennial Prize for the best book in European Economic History in 2018/2019 (Economic History Association)

Streets of Gold: Immigration and The American Dream Over Two Centuries, with Leah Boustan, under contract with PublicAffairs (in progress)

Published Papers

1. “Automated Linking of Historical Data,” with Leah Boustan, Katherine Eriksson, James Feigenbaum, and Santiago Perez, *Journal of Economic Literature* (forthcoming)
2. “Were Jews in Interwar Poland More Educated?” with Hanna Halaburda, *Journal of Demographic Economics* (forthcoming)
3. “Discrimination and the Returns to Cultural Assimilation in the Age of Mass Migration,” with Leah Boustan, Katherine Eriksson, and Stephanie Hao, *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, 110, 340-346, May 2020

4. “Do immigrants assimilate more slowly today than in the past?” with Leah Boustan and Katherine Eriksson, *American Economic Review: Insights*, 2:1, 125-141, March 2020
5. “Linking Records Across Historical Sources: a Fully Automated Approach,” with Roy Mill and Santiago Perez, *Historical Methods*, 53:2, April 2020
6. “Immigration in American History,” with Leah Boustan, *Journal of Economic Literature*, 55:4, December 2017
7. “To the New World and Back Again: Return Migrants in the Age of Mass Migration,” with Leah Boustan and Katherine Eriksson, *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, 1-23, August 2017
8. “Economics and the Modern Economic Historian,” *Journal of Economic History*, 75:4, 1240-1251, December 2015
9. “Book Translations as Idea Flows: The Effects of the Collapse of Communism on the Diffusion of Knowledge,” with Isabelle Sin, *Journal of European Economic Association*, 12:6, 1453-1520, December 2014
10. “How Responsive is Investment in Schooling to Changes in Redistribution Policies and in Returns?” with Victor Lavy, *Econometrica*, 82:4, 1241-1272, July 2014
11. “A Nation of Immigrants: Assimilation and Economic Outcomes in the Age of Mass Migration,” with Leah Boustan and Katherine Eriksson, *Journal of Political Economy*, 122:3, 467-717, June 2014 (lead article)
12. “Have the poor always been less likely to migrate? Evidence from Inheritance Practices during the Age of Mass Migration,” with Leah Boustan and Katherine Eriksson, *Journal of Development Economics*, 102, 2-14, 2013
13. “Europe’s Tired, Poor, Huddled Masses: Self-Selection and Economic Outcomes in the Age of Mass Migration,” with Leah Boustan and Katherine Eriksson, *American Economic Review*, 102:5, 1832-1856, August 2012
14. “On the Optimality of Line Call Challenges in Professional Tennis,” with Liran Einav, Shimon Kolkowitz, and Roy Mill, *International Economic Review*, 53:3, 939-964, August 2012
15. “Marrying Up: the Role of Sex Ratio in Assortative Matching,” with Adeline Delavande and Luis Vasconcelos, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 3:3, 124-157, July 2011
16. “Lessons from the Kibbutz on the Equality-Incentives Trade-Off,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 25:1, 185-208, Winter 2011

17. “On the (lack of) Stability of Communes: An Economic Perspective,” in *Oxford Handbook of the Economics of Religion* (edited by Rachel McCleary), Oxford University Press, Chapter 9, 169-189, 2011
18. “Risk, Incentives and Contracts: Partnerships in Rio De Janeiro, 1870-1891,” with Zephyr Frank and Aprajit Mahajan, *Journal of Economic History*, 70:3, 686-715, September 2010
19. “Is Hanukkah Responsive to Christmas?” with Liran Einav and Oren Rigbi, *Economic Journal*, 120, 612-630, June 2010
20. “The Effect of Redistribution on Migration: Evidence from the Israeli kibbutz,” *Journal of Public Economics*, 93, 498-511, 2009
21. “The Limits of Equality: Insights from the Israeli Kibbutz,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 123:3, 1111-1159, August 2008
22. “The Limits of Equality: An Economic Analysis of the Israeli Kibbutz,” *Journal of Economic History*, 67(2), 495-499, 2007 [dissertation summary]
23. “Migration and Human Capital: Self-Selection of Indentured Servants to the Americas,” with Fabio Braggion, *Journal of Economic History*, 66(4), 882-905, December 2006
24. “Du Pont Family”, “Kettering Charles”, “Lenin Vladimir Ilich”, “Lewis John L.”, “Malthusian and neo-Malthusian Theories” (with Fabio Braggion), “Vanderbilt Family”, in *Oxford Encyclopedia of Economic History*, Oxford University Press, 2004

Working Papers

“Leaving the Enclave: Historical Evidence on Immigrant Mobility from the Industrial Removal Office,” with Leah Boustan and Dylan Connor

“The Effects of Immigration on the Economy: Lessons from the 1920s Border Closure,” with Philipp Ager, Leah Boustan, Elior Cohen, and Casper Worm Hansen

“Intergenerational Mobility of Immigrants in the U.S. over Two Centuries,” with Leah Boustan, Elisa Jacome, and Santiago Perez, *American Economic Review* (conditionally accepted)

“The Effect of Changes in the Skill Premium on College Degree Attainment and the Choice of Major,” with Victor Lavy and Maayan Segev

“The Long-Term Spillover Effects of Changes in the Return to Schooling,” with Victor Lavy and Santiago Perez

Current Projects

“Do refugees assimilate faster than economic immigrants? Evidence from immigrant interviews at Ellis Island,” with Leah Boustan, Peter Catron, and Dylan Connor

“Race, Skin Color, and Economic Outcomes in Early Twentieth-Century America” with Jacob Conway, Roy Mill, and Luke Stein

“More evidence on self selection in the age of mass migration: Sweden, Britain, Ireland, and Canada,” with Leah Boustan, Katherine Eriksson, and Helen Kissel

A project on immigrants in the media and congress over the last two centuries (with Chris Becker, Leah Boustan, and Dan Jurafsky)

A project on the effects of the shift away from equal sharing in kibbutzim on assortative matching in marriage and on divorces (with Victor Lavy, Magne Mogstad and Yannay Shannan)

Research Grants

Russell Sage Foundation, “Cultural Assimilation during the Age of Mass Migration,” #93-16-04, with Leah Boustan and Katherine Eriksson, Award amount and duration: \$105,000 2016–17

National Science Foundation #0961456 , “Economic Outcomes and Self-selection in the Age of Mass Migration: A Micro Approach,” with Leah Boustan, Award amount and duration: \$447,750, 2010-13

National Science Foundation Grant No. SES-0720901, “The Selection and Incentive Effects of Equal-Sharing,” Award amount and duration: \$219,342, 2007-2010

Fellowships and Awards

Ranki Biennial Prize for the best book in European Economic History in 2018/2019 (Economic History Association)

Excellence in Refereeing Award, *American Economic Review*, 2013, 2016

Stanford Faculty Scholar, 2013-2014

Dean’s Award for Distinguished Teaching, Stanford, 2012

Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow, 2012

Excellence in Refereeing Award, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2012

Economics Distinguished Faculty Teaching Award, Stanford, 2009

Alexander Gerschenkron Prize for the best dissertation in economic history (European, Asian, and comparative topics) awarded by the Economic History Association, 2006

Graduate Research Grant, Mellon Foundation, 2005

Dissertation Fellowship, Crown Family Center for Jewish Studies, Northwestern, 2004-2005

Economic History Association Dissertation Award, 2004

Teaching Assistant Fellow, Searle Center for Teaching Excellence, Northwestern, 2004-2005

Dissertation Fellowship, Northwestern University, 2003-2004

Graduate Research Fellowship, Northwestern University, summer 2003

Graduate Research Grant, Northwestern University, 2003

Economic History Association Pre-Dissertation Award, 2003

Teaching Assistant Awards, Northwestern University, 2001, 2002, 2003
University Fellowship, Northwestern University, 1999-2000
Department of Economics Award, Hebrew University, 1998-1999
Rector's Fellowship, School of Business Administration, Hebrew University, 1998-1999
Program for Outstanding Students, Economics Department, Hebrew University, 1996-1999
Dean's List, Hebrew University, 1996, 1997, 1998

Invited Seminars

2019-2020 (scheduled): Berkeley, Northwestern, Stanford Psychology, Bocconi, Pompeu Fabra, Mannheim, LSE, UCLA, Hebrew University, Tel Aviv University, IDC Herzliya
2018-2019: Baruch College, University of Milan, Harvard, Copenhagen Business School, University of Copenhagen, Munich, Bergen
2017-2018: Atlanta Fed, University of Sydney, University of New South Wales, University of Melbourne, Pittsburgh/Carnegie Mellon, Yale
2016-2017: Montreal, Queens, Santa Clara (Civil Society Institute)
2015-2016: Columbia, UCSD
2014-2015: UCLA, Yale, Warwick, Arizona, Irvine
2013-2014: Harvard, Berkeley, Berkeley Institute for Jewish Law, Cal Poly
2012-2013: Toronto, UCLA department seminar, MIT, University of Chicago Booth economics, Stanford Center for International Development
2011-2012: Vanderbilt, Simon Fraser, UC Davis, Berkeley, Higher School of Economics (Moscow), Hebrew University, Tel Aviv University, Duke, Northwestern, Epstein Lecture at LSE
2010-2011: University of Colorado at Boulder, Brown, LSE, Warwick, Harvard Kennedy School
2009-2010: NYU Stern, UCLA Anderson, Bar-Ilan University, Tel-Aviv University, Ben-Gurion University, Berkeley public policy, Boston University, UC Merced, George Mason, Chapman
2008-2009: Yale, Harvard, Berkeley, Berkeley demography, Northwestern
2007-2008: UCLA, UCSD, UC Davis, Tel-Aviv University, Hebrew University
2006-2007: Tel-Aviv University, Hebrew University, Ben-Gurion University, Haifa University, Bar-Ilan University
2005-2006: University of British Columbia, University of Chicago (Booth Economics), UCLA, UC Berkeley Haas, LSE, UC Berkeley, University of Colorado at Boulder, University of Toronto, University of Western Ontario
2004-2005: Harvard, Harvard Business School, Stanford, Yale SOM, Northwestern, Kellogg School of Management (Management and Strategy), UC San Diego, Maryland, UC Irvine, University of Illinois at Chicago, Tel Aviv University, Hebrew University

Conference Presentations

IZA Annual Migration Meeting, Bonn, keynote lecture, May 2020 (scheduled)
The Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture's Annual conference, Chapman CA, keynote lecture, March 2020 (scheduled)
Kibbutz Leadership Conference, keynote lecture, February 2020
American Economic Association, San Diego, January 2020
Kibbutz Fund Award ceremony, keynote lecture, December 2019

Israeli Economic History Association Annual conference, Tel Aviv Israel, keynote lecture, December 2019

The Chicagoland Friends of Economic History, keynote lecture, October 2019

Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics (SITE), September 2019

Economic history conference, Galatina Italy, August 2019

Economic history conference, Bergen Norway, August 2019

Intergenerational Mobility, Gender, and Family Formation in the Long Run, Oslo Norway, keynote lecture, June 2019

Book event, *The Mystery of the Kibbutz*, Tel Aviv University, June 2019

The World Bank and the Center for Global Development, 12th International conference on migration and development, Madrid, June 2019

Migration and Development Conference Centro Studi Luca d'Agliano, Collegio Carlo Alberto, and FIERI, Conference on Immigrants' Long-Term Integration Outcomes, Turin, January 2019

Yale Interdisciplinary Conference on Migration and South Asia, October 2018

Long Run Institutional Development, Nepal, June 2018

Stanford in Government's policy lunch, May 2018

Policy Forum on U.S. Immigration: An Uncertain Future, Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, May 2018

Public Affairs Forum, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, featured speaker, April 2018

Book event, *The Mystery of the Kibbutz*, The Europe Center, March 2018

Liberal arts economic history conference, Mount Holyoke College, keynote lecture, February 2018

Canadian Network of Economic Historians (CNEH) meeting, Toronto Canada, keynote lecture, October 2017

Annual Meeting of the Chilean Economy Society (SECHI), Santa Cruz Chile, keynote lecture, September 2017

European Economic Association and European Meeting of the Econometric Society, Lisbon Portugal, invited session, August 2017

Lectures on the Economics of Migration, Kiel Germany, July 2017

10th Migration and Development Conference, Clermont-Ferrand France, June 2017

Migration Policy day, Agence Francaise De Development (AFD), June 2017

Bergen-Stavanger Workshop in Applied Microeconomics, Bergen Norway, May 2017

The Long Reach of Institutions, Cide and El Colegio de México, Mexico City, March 2017

A Workshop on Complete Census Count Data and Record Linkage Techniques, Berkeley Population Center and Department of Demography, December 2015

Economic History Association Meetings, Nashville, 75th anniversary of EHA Panel on the future of economic history, September 2015

NBER, Development of the American Economy, Summer Institute, July 2015

International conference on migration and development, keynote lecture, June 2015

The Long Shadow of History - Mechanisms of Persistence in Economics and the Social Sciences, Munich November 2014

Economic Workshop, IDC Herzliya June 2014

Networks, Institutions, and Economic History, Cambridge UK June 2014

Climbing the Social Ladder: Social and Geographic Mobility over Time, Toulouse June 2014

The Long Shadow of History - Mechanisms of Persistence in Economics and the Social Sciences, Munich November 2013

Migration and Integration: Global and Local Dimensions, Stanford, September 2013
Association of Israel Studies, UCLA, June 2013
Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics (SITE), July 2012
AFD, the World Bank and the Center for Global Development, 5th International conference on migration and development, June 2012
All-UC Group in Economic History and UCLA (school of management and economics department), conference on The Long-Term Persistence of Economic Outcomes, May 2012
Association for the Study of Religion, Economics & Culture, Orange county, March 2012
Economic History Association Meetings, Boston, September 2011
NBER, Development of the American Economy, Summer Institute, July 2011
Harvard's Center for International Development, June 2011
NBER, Education program, Spring meetings, May 2011
Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics (SITE), July 2010
Firm Governance: Law in History, Tel-Aviv University, June 2010
All-UC Group in Economic History, UC Davis, May 2010
Economic History Association Meetings, Tucson, September 2009
Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics (SITE), Stanford, July 2008
NBER, Development of the American Economy, Summer Institute, July 2008
All-UC Group in Economic History, Pasadena, May 2008
NBER, Public Economics program, Spring meetings, Boston, April 2008.
NBER, empirical personnel economics workshop, Summer Institute, Boston, July 2007
Economic History Association Meetings, Pittsburgh, September 2006
Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics (SITE), July 2006
American Economic Association Meetings, Boston, January 2006
The Structure and Evolution of Institutions, Stanford University, November 2005
Economic History Association Meetings (Poster Presentation), St. Louis, September 2004
Fifth World Congress in Cliometrics, Venice, Italy, July 2004
Illinois Economic Association Meetings, October 2003
Association for Israel Studies' Annual Conference, San Diego, California, April 2003

II. TEACHING AND ADVISING

Graduate: European Economic History, Topics in Economic History

Undergraduate: Economics of Immigration, Intermediate Microeconomics

Ph.D. Students

Yiming He (current), co-primary advisor

Jonas Mueller-Gastell (current), co-primary advisor

Alejandro Martinez Marquina (current), co-primary advisor

Chris Becker (current), primary advisor

Boaz Abramson (current)

Tom Zohar (current), primary advisor

Hugh Wu (current), committee member

Joshua Kim (2020, primary advisor, economist, Facebook)

Thomas Ginn (2019, economist at Center for Global Development), co-primary advisor

Jaime Arellano-Bover (2019, post-doc at Yale), committee member

Travis Baseler (2019, Cornell University), committee member
Oriol Pons-Benaiges (2018, Cornerstone Research), primary advisor
David Yang (2018, Prize Fellowship and Harvard economics), co-primary advisor with Matt Gentzkow and Muriel Niederle
Adriane Fresh (post-doc at Vanderbilt political science), committee member
Santiago Perez (2017, UC Davis), primary advisor
Zoe Cullen (2016, Harvard Business School), committee member
Igor Popov (2016, Airbnb; 2018, Chief Economist at Apartment List), committee member
Issac Opper (2016, RAND), primary advisor
Michela Giorcelli (2016, UCLA), primary advisor
Nicola Bianchi (2015, Northwestern Kellogg strategy), committee member
Scott Baker (2014, Northwestern Kellogg finance), committee member
Rebecca Dizon-Ross (2013, Prize Fellow at Harvard; 2015 University of Chicago - Booth), committee member
Roy Mill (2013, Ancestry.com; 2018 VP Product at At-Bay), primary advisor
Shirlee Lichtman (2013, Ben Gurion University), committee member
William Gui Woolston (2013, Boston Consulting Group; 2015 VP of Network Products at Nuna Inc), committee member
Luke Stein (2013, Arizona State University finance), committee member
George Bulman (2013, UC Santa Cruz), committee member
Michael Bailey (2012, manager economic research group on the Data Science team, Facebook), committee member
Jennifer Doleac (2012, University of Virginia Public Policy school), committee member
Arthur van Benthem (2012, Wharton), committee member
Nadeem Karmali (2011, World Bank), committee member
Isabelle Sin (2011, Motu Economics and Public Policy research, NZ), primary advisor
Christopher Paik (2010-2012, Postdoc at Princeton Woodrow Wilson School; 2013 NYU Abu Dhabi), committee member
Natalie Chun (2009, Asian Development Bank), committee member
Oren Rigbi (2009, Ben Gurion University, Economics, tenured), committee member
Itai Ater (2008, Tel Aviv University, Recanati School of Management, tenured), committee member
Assaf Eilat (2008-2012, Compass LexEcon; 2013, Chief Economist at Israel Antitrust Authority; 2017 Chairman of the Israeli Electricity Authority), committee member
Stephan McBride (2008, Analysis group; 2018 Economist and Director and Netflix), committee member
Jared Rubin (2007-2011, Cal State, Fullerton; 2011, Chapman, tenured), committee member

Mini Courses

Norwegian School of Economics, August 2019
Tel Aviv University, Department of Economics, February 2007

III. OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Co-director, Summer Institute for High School Economics Teachers, 2013 - present

Scientific committee, World Bank and the Center for Global Development, International conference on migration and development, 2012 - present
Co-editor, *Explorations in Economic History*, 2015-2019
Editorial Board, *Journal of Economic History*, 2013-2017
Committee on education in economic history, Economic History Association, 2013-2016
Program committee, European Economic Association (EEA) annual meetings, 2013
Program committee, Economic History Association (EHA) annual meetings, 2012
Economic History Association (EHA) representative to the Allied Social Science Association (ASSA), 2009-2011
Co-Organizer, Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics on “Economic History “Immigration” on 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2015, 2019
Referee for *American Economic Review*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Econometrica*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Science*, *Journal of Economic History*, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Quantitative Economics*, *International Economic Review*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Economic Journal*, *Journal of European Economic Association*, *European Economics Review*, *Games and Economic Behavior*, *Demography*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, *Journal of Population Economics*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, *Population and Development Review*, *Population Research and Policy Review*, *B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy*, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, *Journal of Sports Economics*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics*, *Social Forces*, *Economic Quarterly [Hebrew]*, *National Science Foundation*, *Israel Science Foundation*, *Falk Institute*

Department and University Service

Economics department vice chair, 2014-2020
Faculty Senate, 2014-2016
Job market placement director, 2013
Undergraduate policy committee, 2012-2013
Transfer credit policy, 2012-2013
Graduate admission committee, 2006-2007
Junior recruiting committee, 2005-2006

Past Positions

Faculty Fellow, Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR), 2007-2015
Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), 2011-2013
Visiting Lecturer, Department of Economics, Tel-Aviv University, February 2007
Trainer of new economic Teaching Assistants, Northwestern University, 2004
Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University, Department of Economics, 2000-2003:
Public Finance, Introductory Microeconomics, Intermediate Microeconomics
Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University, MMSS program, 2003:
Game Theory, Turbo Microeconomics
Lecturer, Jerusalem College, 1997-1999: Introductory Micro, Macroeconomics and Finance

Teaching Assistant, Hebrew University, Department of Economics, 1997-1999:

Intermediate Macroeconomics #1, #2

Top Sergeant, IDF, 1992-1995

Personal Information: US citizen, Israeli citizen, born in Jerusalem, Israel, February 1974, married with three children