

**Economics 2325**  
**Comparative Historical Economic Development**  
**Spring 2021**  
**Syllabus – March 30, 2021**

**Time:** Fridays: 9:00am–11:45am EST (with 15 mins break)

**Instructor:** Nathan Nunn

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## **Course Description**

The course uses a historical and comparative approach to investigate the evolution and development of societies. We will examine research that asks whether differences in economic development today have historical roots. In addition, we will study different mechanisms and channels through which history matters. Particular attention will be paid to the role of domestic institutions and culture in explaining historical persistence.

While the material covered in the course is grounded in the field of economic history, there is a natural overlap with other fields in economics, particularly development economics, political economy, and cultural economics, as well as overlap with other disciplines, such as history, psychology, political science, anthropology, archaeology, and geography.

The course is targeted to second-year Ph.D. students in economics. It is not open to Undergraduate or Masters students. The course fulfills the distribution requirement.

## **Requirements**

Enrolled students are required to complete the following assignments.

### **Assignments to help you learn the material**

1. **Reading summary for each class (10%):** Prior to the lectures on Friday, students are required to write a short summary of two of the required readings (one from each lecture) and upload the summary to the course website. The summaries are posted under the “assignments” tab

<https://canvas.harvard.edu/courses/84042/assignments>

or can be found at the bottom of the course home page. You have the option to upload either a PDF or word document. The summaries are due by 1:00am the night before the class and cannot be uploaded after that time.

Please write one summary for each lecture/paper. Each summary should cover the following: (i) Why is the paper important (or why not)? (ii) An overview of the core contributions of the paper. (iii) What you liked – or did not like – about the paper. (iv) How the paper is connected to other studies in the course.

2. **Final exam (20% total):** There will be an exam on April 23.
3. **Class participation (10%):** Students are expected to participate in class discussion. At a minimum, your goal should be to ask any questions that you raised in your reading summary during class at the appropriate time

#### Assignments to help you write a research paper

4. **GIS assignment (5%):** Students are required to complete one GIS assignment, which will facilitate an introduction to the software and help students learn its most useful functions and capabilities. The data needed for the assignment will be provided. Due March 8th by 5pm EST.
5. **Paper proposal (5%):** One page proposal of your research paper. This should state clearly (in one sentence) your research question. It should also explicitly report the regression equation, and the source of the data. If the proposed paper is theoretical, then a concise description of the basic of the model (players, actions, and preferences) should be provided. Due March 2nd by 5pm EST.
6. **Presentation of your research (15%):** Students are asked to prepare a 20-minute presentations on a new project related to the topics in the course (broadly defined). Presentations will take place at the end of the semester.
7. **Research paper (30%):** Following the second presentation, you will have three weeks to write up a short draft of the paper or proposal. The maximum length is 20 pages, inclusive of figures, tables, references, title page, etc. This is strictly enforced. It is harder to write in a short concise manner than to write something longer. Due May 10 at 5pm EST.

#### Assignments to introduce you to tasks that are common in the profession

8. **Being a referee (5%):** Students are required to choose one unpublished paper and write a “referee report” discussing the strengths and weaknesses of the paper, and suggestions for improvement. This will be due around the 9th week of the semester. Due March 29th by 5pm EST.

#### **Software**

ArcGIS software is available to Harvard students for download. See <http://gis.harvard.edu>.

# Reading List (\* indicates required readings)

## 1 Introduction: Why Bother with History? (Jan 29a)

- Nunn, Nathan. 2009. “The Importance of History for Economic Development,” *Annual Review of Economics*, 1 (1), 65–92.
- Enrico Spolaore and Romain Wacziarg. 2013. “How Deep are the Roots of Economic Development?” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 51 (2): 325–369.
- Nunn, Nathan. 2014. “Historical Development,” *Handboook of Economic Growth, Volume 2*. Philippe Aghion and Steven Durlauf (eds). North Holland, 347–402.
- Stelios Michalopoulos and Elias Papaioannou. 2020. “Historical Legacies and African Development,” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 58 (1): 53–128.
- Nunn, Nathan. 2020. “The Historical Roots of Economic Development,” *Science*, 367 (6485): eaaz9986.
- Nunn, Nathan. 2021. “History as Evolution,” *Handbook of Historical Economics*, Alberto Bisin and Giovanni Federico (eds). North Holland, forthcoming.

## 2 Globalization and the Divergence of Economic Prosperity (Jan 29b)

- (\*) Pascali, Luigi. 2017. “The Wind of Change: Maritime Technology, Trade, and Economic Development,” *American Economic Review*, 107(9), 2821–2854.
- (\*) Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson, and James Robinson. 2005. “The Rise of Europe: Atlantic Trade, Institutional Change, and Economic Growth,” *American Economic Review*, 95(3), 546–579.
- Nunn, Nathan and Nancy Qian. 2011. “The Potato’s Contribution to Population and Urbanization: Evidence from a Historical Experiment,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 126 (2), 593–650.
- Nunn, Nathan and Nancy Qian. 2010. “The Columbian Exchange: A History of Disease, Food, and Ideas,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 24 (2), 163–188.
- Inikori, Joseph. 2002. *Africans and the Industrial Revolution in England*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Eltis, David and Stanley L. Engerman. 2000. “The Importance of Slavery and the Slave Trade to Industrializing Britain,” *Journal of Economic History*, 60(1): 123–144.

- Puga, Diego and Daniel Trefler. 2014. “International Trade and Institutional Change: Medieval Venice’s Response to Globalization,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 129(2), 753–821.

### 3 Feb 5: No class. Wellness day. Do something fun!

### 4 Africa’s Globalization I (Feb 12a)

- (\*) Nunn, Nathan. 2008. “The Long Term Effects of Africa’s Slave Trades,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 123 (1): 139–176.
- (\*) Heywood, Linda. 2009. “Slavery and its Transformation in the Kingdom of Kongo: 1491–1800,” *Journal of African History*, 50: 1–22.
- Nunn, Nathan and Leonard Wantchekon. 2011. “The Slave Trade and the Origins of Mistrust in Africa,” *American Economic Review*, 101(7): 3221–3252.
- Nunn, Nathan and Diego Puga. 2012. “Ruggedness: The Blessing of Bad Geography in Africa,” *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 94 (1): 20–36.
- Teso, Eduardo. 2018. “The Long-Term Effects of Demographic Shocks on the Evolution of Gender Roles: Evidence from the TransAtlantic Slave Trade,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 17 (2): 497–534.
- Inikori, Joseph. 2000. “Africa and the Trans-Atlantic Trade,” In Toyin Falola (ed.) *Africa: Volume I, African History Before 1885*. Durham: Carolina Academic Press.
- Fenske, James. and Namrata Kala. 2015. “Climate and the Slave Trade,” *Journal of Development Economics*, 112: 19–32.

### 5 Africa’s Globalization II (Feb 12b)

- (\*) Michalopoulos, Stelios and Elias Pappaioannou. 2016. “The Long-Run Effects of the Scramble for Africa,” *American Economic Review*, 106 (7), 1802–1848.
- (\*) Lowes, Sara and Eduardo Montero. 2021. “Concessions, Violence, and Indirect Rule: Evidence from the Congo Free State,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, forthcoming.
- (\*) Wantchekon, Leonard, Marko Klasnja, and Natalija Novta. 2015. “Education and Human Capital Externalities: Evidence from Colonial Benin,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 130: 703–757.

- Lowes, Sara and Eduardo Montero. 2021. “The Legacy of Colonial Medicine in Central Africa,” *American Economic Review*, forthcoming.
- Arthur Blouin. 2021. “Culture and Contracts: The Historical Legacy of Forced Labour,” *Economic Journal*, forthcoming.
- Mamdani, Mahmood. 2001. *When Victims Become Killers*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Michalopoulos, Stelios and Elias Pappaioannou. 2014. “National Institutions and Sub-national Development in Africa,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 129 (1): 151–213.
- Huillery, Elise. 2009. “History Matters: The Long-Term Impact of Colonial Public Investments in French West Africa,” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 1 (2): 176–215.
- Jedwab, Remi and Alexander Moradi. 2016. “The Permanent Effects of Transportation Revolutions in Poor Countries: Evidence from Africa,” *Review of Economics and Statistics* 98 (2): 268–284.
- Nunn, Nathan. 2014. “Gender and Missionary Influence in Colonial Africa,” In Emmanuel Akyeampong, Robert H. Bates, Nathan Nunn, and James A. Robinson (eds) *Africa’s Development in Historical Perspective*. Cambridge University Press, pp. 249–512.
- Archibong, Belinda and Nonso Obikili. 2021. “Prison Labor: The Price of Prisons and the Lasting Effects of Incarceration,” Working paper, Columbia University.
- Acemoglu, Daron, Francisco A. Gallego, and James A. Robinson. 2014. “Institutions, Human Capital, and Development,” *Annual Review of Economics*, 6: 875–912.
- Woodberry, Robert. “The Shadow of Empire: Christian Missions, Colonial Policy, and Democracy in Postcolonial Societies,” Dissertation. University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.
- Cage, Julia and Valeria Rueda. 2016. “The Long-Term Effects of the Printing Press in sub-Saharan Africa,” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 8 (3): 69–99.

## 6 Deeper Determinants of European Exceptionalism? Human Capital and Innovation (Feb 19a)

- (\*) Becker, Sascha O. and Ludger Woessmann. 2009. “Was Weber wrong? A Human Capital Theory of Protestant Economic History,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 124(2): 531–596.

- (\*) Botticini, Maristella and Zvi Eckstein. 2005. "Jewish Occupational Selection: Education, Restrictions, or Minorities?" *Journal of Economic History*, 65(4): 1–27.
- (\*) Squicciarini, Mara P. and Nico Voigtlaender. 2015. "Human Capital and Industrialization: Evidence from the Age of Enlightenment," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 130 (4): 1825–1883.
- Botticini, Maristella and Zvi Eckstein. 2007. "From Farmers to Merchants, Conversions, and Diaspora: Human Capital and Jewish History" *Journal of Economic History*, 5(5): 885–926.
- Becker, Sascha O., Erik Hornung, and Ludger Woessmann. 2011. "Education and Catch-Up in the Industrial Revolution," *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 3(3): 92–126.
- Caicedo, Felipe Valencia. 2019. "The Mission: Economic Persistence, Human Capital Transmission and Culture in South America," *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 134 (1): 507–556.
- Dittmar, Jeremiah E. 2011. "Information Technology and Economics Change: The Impact of the Printing Press," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 126: 1133–1172.
- Koyama, Mark and Noel Johnson. 2017. "Jewish Communities and City Growth in Pre-Industrial Europe," *Journal of Development Economics*, 127: 339–354.
- Pascali, Luigi. 2016. "Banks and Development: Jewish Communities in the Italian Renaissance and Current Economic Performance," *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 98 (1): 140–158.
- Andersen, Thomas Barnebeck et al. 2017. "Pre-Reformation Roots of the Protestant Ethic," *Economic Journal*, 127(604): 1756–1793.
- Norenzayan, Ara. 2013. *Big Gods: How Religion Transformed Cooperation and Conflict*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Rubin, Jared. 2014. "Printing and Protestantism: An Empirical Test of the Role of Printing in the Reformation," *Review of Economics and Statistics* 96(2): 270–286.
- Cantoni, Davide. 2015. "The Economic Effects of the Protestant Reformation: Testing the Weber Hypothesis in the German Lands," *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 13(4): 561–598.
- Hornung, Erik. 2014. "Immigration and the Diffusion of Technology: The Huguenot Diaspora in Prussia," *American Economic Review*, 104 (1): 84–122.
- Becker, Sascha O., Steven Pfaff, and Jared Rubin. 2016. "Causes and Consequences of the Protestant Reformation," *Explorations in Economic History*, 62: 1–25.

## 7 Deeper Determinants of European Exceptionalism? Kinship, Individualism, and WEIRD Psychology (Feb 19b)

- (\*) Goody, Jack. 1983. *The Development of the Family and Marriage in Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Chapter 3.
- (\*) Gorodnichenko, Yuriy and Gerard Roland. 2017. “Culture, Institutions, and the Wealth of Nations,” *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 99(3): 402–416.
- (\*) Schulz, Jonathan, Duman Bahrami-Rad, Jonathan P. Beauchamp, and Joseph Henrich. 2019. “The Church, Intensive Kinship, and Global Psychological Variation,” *Science*, 366(6466): eaau5141.
- (\*) Enke, Benjamin. 2019. “Kinship, Cooperation, and the Evolution of Moral Systems,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 134(2): 953–1019.
- Henrich, Joseph. 2020. *The WEIRDest People in the World: How the West Became Psychologically Peculiar and Particularly Prosperous*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
- Goody, Jack. 1983. *The European Family*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers.
- Mokyr, Joel. 2018. *A Culture of Growth*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Todd, Emmanuel. 1989. *The Explanation of Ideology: Family Structure and Social Systems*. New York: Blackwell Publishers.
- Nisbett, Richard E. 2003. *The Geography of Thought: How Asians and Westerns Think Differently... and Why*. New York: Free Press.
- MacFarlane, Alan. 1978. *The Origins of English Individualism*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Matsuda, T., and R. Nisbett. 2001. “Attending Holistically vs. Analytically: Comparing the Context Sensitivity of Japanese Americans,” *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 81: 922–934.
- Nisbett, Richard. 2003. *The Geography of Thought*. New York: The Free Press.
- Gorodnichenko, Yuriy and Gerard Roland. 2013. “Individualism, Innovation, and Long-Run Growth,” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 108, 21316–21319.
- Greif, Avner and Guido Tabellini. 2010. “Cultural and Institutional Bifurcation: China and Europe Compared,” *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*, 100 (2), 135–140.

- Schulz, Jonathan. 2016. “The Church’s Ban on Consanguineous Marriages, Kin-Networks, and Democracy,” CeDEx Discussion Paper 2016-16.
- Akbari, Mahsa, Duman Bahrami-Rad, and Erik Kimbrough. 2016. “Kinship, Fractionalization, and Corruption,” Working paper.

## 8 Kinship, Religion, and Social Structure: Non-European Examples from Africa (Feb 26a)

- (\*) Alsan, Marcella. 2015. “The Effect of the TseTse Fly on African Development,” *American Economic Review*, 105(1), 382–410.
- (\*) Moscona, Jacob, Nathan Nunn, and James A. Robinson. 2017. “Segmentary Lineage Organization and Conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa,” *Econometrica*, 88 (5): 1999–2036.
- (\*) Squires, Munir. 2018. “Kinship Taxation as a Constraint to Microenterprise Growth: Experimental Evidence from Kenya,” Working paper, University of British Columbia. [Sections 4 & 5 are optional.]
- Foster, George. 1965. “Peasant Society and the Image of Limited Good,” *American Anthropologist*, 67 (2): 293–315.
- Jakiela, Pamela and Owen Ozier. 2016. “Does Africa Need a Rotten Kin Theorem? Experimental Evidence from Village Economies,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 83 (1): 231–268.
- Jakiela, Pamela. 2011. “Social Preferences and Fairness Norms as Informal Institutions: Experimental Evidence,” *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*, 101 (3): 509–513.
- Michalopoulos, Stelios and Elias Pappaioannou. 2013. “Pre-colonial Ethnic Institutions and Contemporary African Development,” *Econometrica*, 81 (1), 113–152.
- Gennaioli, Nicola, and Ilia Rainer. 2007. “The Modern Impact of Precolonial Centralization in Africa,” *Journal of Economic Growth*, 12 (3), 185–234.
- Moscona, Jacob, Nathan Nunn, and James A. Robinson. 2017. “Keeping It in the Family: Lineage Organization and the Scope of Trust in Sub-Saharan Africa,” *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*, 107 (5), 565–571.
- Jack Goody. 1969. “Inheritance, Property and Marriage in Africa and Eurasia,” *Sociology*, 3(1), 55–76.



## 9 The Americas (Feb 26b)

- (\*) Engerman, Stanley L. and Kenneth L. Sokoloff. 1997. “Factor Endowments, Institutions, and Differential Paths of Growth among New World Economies: A View from Economic Historians of the United States,” In *How Latin America Fell Behind*, Stephen Haber (ed.), Stanford University Press, pp. 260–304.
- (\*) Dell, Melissa. 2010. “The Persistent Effects of Peru’s Mining Mita,” *Econometrica*, 78(6), 1863–1903.
- Acemolgu, Daron, Maria Angelica Bautista, Pablo Querubin and James A. Robinson. 2008. “Economic and Political Inequality in Development: The Case of Cundinamarca, Colombia,” E. Helpman (ed.), *Institutions and Economic Performance*. Harvard University Press, pp. 181–248.
- Nunn, Nathan. 2008. “Slavery, Inequality, and Economic Development in the Americas: An Examination of the Engerman-Sokoloff Hypothesis,” E. Helpman (ed.), *Institutions and Economic Performance*. Harvard University Press, pp. 148–180.
- Bruhn, Miriam and Francisco Gallego. 2012. “Good, Bad, and Ugly Colonial Activities: Do They Matter for Economic Development?” *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 94(2), 433–461.
- Caceido, Felipe Valencia, Thomas Fujiwara, and Humberto Laudares. 2018. “Tordesillas, Slavery and the Origins of Brazilian Inequality,” Working paper.
- Engerman, Stanley L. and Kenneth L. Sokoloff. 2005. “The Evolution of Suffrage Institutions in the New World,” *Journal of Economic History*, 65(4): 891–921.
- Musacchio, Aldo, Andre M. Fritscher, and Martina Viarengo. 2014. “Colonial Institutions, Trade Shocks, and the Diffusion of Elementary Education in Brazil, 1889–1930,” *Journal of Economic History*, 74(3), 730–766.
- Naritomi, Joana, Rodrigo R. Soares, and Julian J. Assuncao. 2012. “Institutional Development and Colonial Heritage Within Brazil,” *Journal of Economic History*, 72(2), 393–422.

## 10 Understanding the Roots of ‘American Exceptionalism’: Migration and Mobility (Mar 5a)

- (\*) Bazzi, Samuel, Martin Fiszbein, and Mesay Gebresilasse. 2020. “Frontier Culture: The Roots and Persistence of “Frontier Culture: The Roots and Persistence of “Rugged Individualism” in the United States,” *Econometrica*, 88 (6): 2319–2368.

- (\*) Sequeira, Sandra, Nathan Nunn, and Nancy Qian. 2020. “Immigrants and the Making of America,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 87 (1): 382–419.
- (\*) Ferrie, Joseph. 2005. “History Lessons: The End of American Exceptionalism? Mobility in the United States Since 1850,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 19(3): 199–215.
- (\*) Alesina, Alberto, Edoardo Teso, and Stefanie Stantcheva. 2018. “Intergenerational Mobility and Preferences for Redistribution,” *American Economic Review*, 108(2): 521–554.
- Turner, Frederick Jackson. 1893. “The Significance of the Frontier in American History,” *Annual Report of the American Historical Association*, 197–227.
- Turner, Frederick Jackson. 1920. *The Frontier in American History*, New York: H. Holt and Co.
- Long, Jason and Joseph Ferrie. 2013. “Intergenerational Occupational Mobility in Great Britain and the United States since 1850,” *American Economic Review*, 103(4): 1109–1137.
- Garcia-Jimeno, Camilo and James A. Robinson. 2011. “The Myth of the Frontier,” *Understanding Long-Run Economic Growth: Geography, Institutions, and the Knowledge Economy*. Dora Costa and Naomi Lamoreaux (eds.) Chapter 2.
- Chetty et al. 2017. “The Fading American Dream: Trends in Absolute Income Mobility Since 1940,” *Science*, 356 (6336): 398–406.
- Beck Knudsen, Anne Sofie. 2019. “Those Who Stayed: Selection and Cultural Change During the Age of Mass Migration,” Working paper, Harvard University.
- Abramitzky, Ran, Leah Platt Boustan, Elisa Jacome, and Santiago Perez. 2019. “Intergenerational Mobility of Immigrants in the U.S. Over Two Centuries,” NBER Working Paper 26408.
- Burchardi, Konrad, Thomas Chaney, and Tarek Hassan. 2018. “Migrants, Ancestors, and Foreign Investments,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 86 (4): 1448–1486.
- Hornung, Erik. 2014. “Immigration and the Diffusion of Technology: The Huguenot Diaspora in Prussia,” *American Economic Review*, 104 (1): 84–122.
- Abramitzky, Ran and Leah Platt Boustan. 2016. “Immigration in American Economic History,” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 55(4): 1311–1345.

- Abramitzky, Ran, Philipp Ager, Leah Platt Boustan, Elicor Cohen, and Casper W. Hansen. 2019. “The Effects of Immigration on the Economy: Lessons from the 1920s Border Closure,” NBER Working Paper 26536.
- Fulford, Scott L., Ivan Petkov, and Facio Schiantarelli. 2017. “Does it Matter Where You Come From? Ancestry Composition and Economic Performance of U.S. Counties, 1850–2010,” Working paper.
- Eriksson, Katherine and Zachary A. Ward. 2018. “The Ethnic Segregation of Immigrants in the United States from 1850 to 1940,” NBER Working Paper No. 24764.
- Nisbett, Richard E. and Dov Cohen. 1996. *Culture of Honor: The Psychology of Violence in the South*, Westview Press.
- Grosjean, Pauline. 2014. “A History of Violence: The Culture of Honor as a Determinant of Homicide in the US South,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 12(5), 1285–1316.
- Fischer, David Hackett. 1989. *Albion’s Seed: Four British Folkways in America*. New York: Oxford University Press.

## 11 Understanding the Roots of ‘American Exceptionalism’: Race and Ethnicity (March 5b)

- (\*) Acharya, Avidit, Matthew Blackwell, and Maya Sen. 2016. “The Political Legacy of American Slavery,” *Journal of Politics*, 78 (3), 621–641.
- (\*) Derenoncourt, Ellora. 2019. “Can You Move to Opportunity? Evidence from the Great Migration,” Working paper, Princeton University.
- (\*) Alsan, Marcella and Marianne Wanamaker. 2018. “Tuskegee and the Health of Black Men,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 133 (1), 407–455.
- Albright, Alex, James Feigenbaum, and Nathan Nunn. 2021. “After the Burning: The Economic Effects of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre,” Working paper, Harvard University.
- Derenoncourt, Ellora and Clair Montialoux. 2021. “Minimum Wages and Racial Inequality,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, forthcoming.
- Boustan, Leah Platt. 2010. “Was Postwar Suburbanization ‘White Flight’? Evidence from the Black Migration,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 417–443.
- Tabellini, Marco. 2021. “Gifts of the Immigrants, Woes of the Natives: Lessons from the Age of Mass Migration,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 87 (1): 454–486.

- Fouka, Vasiliki, Soumyajit Mazumder, and Marco Tabellini. 2021. “From Immigrants to Americans: Race and Assimilation during the Great Migration,” *Review of Economic Studies*, forthcoming.
- Akbar, Prottoy A., Sijie Li, Allison Shertzer, and Randall P. Walsh. 2019. “Racial Segregation in Housing Markets and the Erosion of Black Wealth,” NBER Working Paper No. 25805.
- Aaronson, Daniel, Daniel Hartley, and Bhashkar Mazumder. 2019. “The Effects of the 1930s HOLC ‘Redlining’ Maps,” Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago WP 2017-12.
- Fouka, Vasiliki, Soumyajit Mazumder, and Marco Tabellini. 2018. “From Immigrants to Americans: Race and Assimilation During the Great Migration,” Working paper, Stanford University.
- Cook, Lisa D., Trevon D. Logan and John M. Parman. 2018. “Racial Segregation and Southern Lynching,” *Social Science History*, 42 (4): 635–675.
- Cook, Lisa D., Trevon D. Logan and John M. Parman. 2016. “The Mortality Consequences of Distinctively Black Names,” *Explorations in Economic History*, 59: 114–125.
- Chetty, Raj, Nathaniel Hendren, Maggie R. Jones, and Sonya R. Porter. 2018. “Race and Economic Opportunity in the United States,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 135 (2): 711–783.
- Fryer, Roland G. and Steven D. 2012. “Hatred and Profits: Under the Hood of the Ku Klux Klan,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 127 (4): 1883–1925.
- Acharya, Avidit, Matthew Blackwell, and Maya Sen. 2016. *Deep Roots: How Slavery Still Shapes Southern Politics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Nunn, Nathan. 2008. “Slavery, Inequality, and Economic Development in the Americas: An Examination of the Engerman-Sokoloff Hypothesis,” E. Helpman (ed.), *Institutions and Economic Performance*. Harvard University Press, pp. 148–180.
- Sacerdote, Bruce. 2005. “Slavery and the Intergenerational Transmission of Human Capital,” *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 87 (2), 217–234.
- Boustan, Leah Platt. 2016. *Competition in the Promised Land: Black Migrants in Northern Cities and Labor Markets*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Dippel, Christian. 2014. “Forced Coexistence and Economic Development: Evidence from Native American Reservations,” *Econometrica*, 82 (6), 2131–2165.

## 12 Culture: Definition and Theory (March 12a)

- (\*) Henrich, Joseph. 2015. *The Secret of Our Success: How Culture is Driving Human Evolution, Domesticating our Species, and Making us Smarter*, Princeton: Princeton University Press. Chapters 2 & 3.
- (\*) Nunn, Nathan. 2021. “History as Evolution,” *Handbook of Historical Economics*, Alberto Bisin and Giovanni Federico (eds). North Holland, forthcoming.
- Boyd, Robert and Peter J. Richerson. 2005. *The Origin and Evolution of Cultures*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapters 1, 2, 5.
- Nisbett, Richard. 2003. *The Geography of Thought*. New York: The Free Press.
- Rogers, Alan. 1988. “Does Biology Constrain Culture?” *American Anthropologist*, 90(4): 819–831.
- Katz et al. 1974. “Traditional Maize Processing Techniques in the New World: Traditional Alkali Processing Enhances the Nutritional Quality of Maize,” *Science*, 184: 765–773.
- Sherman, Paul W., and Jennifer Billing. 1999. “Darwinian Gastronomy,” *BioScience*, 49(6): 453–463.
- Gorodnichenko, Yuriy and Gerard Roland. 2013. “Individualism, Innovation, and Long-Run Growth,” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 108, 21316–21319.
- Gorodnichenko, Yuriy and Gerard Roland. 2017. “Culture, Institutions, and the Wealth of Nations,” *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 99 (3), 402–416.
- Guiso, Luigi, Paola Sapienza, and Luigi Zingales. 2008. “Long-Term Persistence,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 14 (6), 1401–1436.
- Henrich, Joseph, Robert Boyd, Sam Bowles, Colin Camerer, Herbert Gintis, Richard McElreath and Ernst Fehr. 2001. “In Search of Homo Economicus: Experiments in 15 Small-Scale Societies,” *American Economic Review*, 91(2), 73–79.

## 13 Cultural Persistence and Change (March 12b)

- (\*) Nunn, Nathan and Leonard Wantchekon. 2011. “The Slave Trade and the Origins of Mistrust in Africa,” *American Economic Review*, 101(7): 3221–3252.
- (\*) Giuliano, Paola and Nathan Nunn. 2021. “Understanding Cultural Persistence and Change,” *Review of Economic Studies*, forthcoming.

- (\*) Bursztyn, Leonardo, Alessandra Gonzalez, and David Yanagizawa-Drott. 2021. “Misperceived Social Norms: Female Labor Force Participation in Saudi Arabia,” *American Economic Review*, 110 (10): 2997–3029.
- Rogers, Alan. 1988. “Does Biology Constrain Culture?” *American Anthropologist*, 90 (4): 819–831.
- Boyd, Robert and Peter J. Richerson. 2005. *The Origin and Evolution of Cultures*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapters 1, 2, 5.
- Fouka, Vasiliki, Soumyajit Mazumder, and Marco Tabellini. 2018. “From Immigrants to Americans: Race and Assimilation During the Great Migration,” Working paper.
- Fouka, Vasiliki. 2020. “Backlash: The Unintended Effects of Language Prohibition in U.S. Schools after World War I,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 87 (1): 204–239.
- Grosjean, Pauline. 2014. “A History of Violence: The Culture of Honor as a Determinant of Homicide in the US South,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 12 (5), 1285–1316.
- Fischer, David Hackett. 1989. *Albion’s Seed: Four British Folkways in America*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Kupperman, Karen Ordahl. 1993. *Providence Island, 1630–1641: The Other Puritan Colony*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Bau, Natalie. 2019. “Can Policy Change Culture? Government Pension Plans and Traditional Kinship Practices,” 2019. Working paper, University of California Los Angeles.
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- Guiliano, Paola and Antonio Spilimbergo. 2014 “Growing Up in a Recession,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 81 (3): 787–817.
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## 14 Institutions (March 19a)

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## 15 The Interplay of Culture and Institutions (March 19b)

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## 16 Gender, Reproduction, and their Consequences (April 2a)

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## 17 How History Informs Policy (April 2b)

- (\*) Lowes, Sara and Eduardo Montero. 2017. “The Legacy of Colonial Medicine in Central Africa,” *American Economic Review*, forthcoming.
- (\*) Ashraf, Nava, Natalie Bau, Nathan Nunn, and Alessandra Voena. 2020. “Bride Price and Female Education,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 128 (2): 591–641.
- McGuirk, Eoin and Nathan Nunn. 2021 “Transhumance, Climate Change, and Conflict in Africa,” Working paper.
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## 18 Conflict and Group-Selection (April 9a)

- (\*) Nunn, Nathan and Raul Sanchez de la Sierra. 2017. “Why Being Wrong can be Right: Magical Warfare Technologies and the Persistence of False Beliefs,” *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*, 107 (5), 582–587.
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## 19 Genetics (April 9b)

- (\*) Henrich, Joseph. 2015. *The Secret of Our Success: How Culture is Driving Human Evolution, Domesticating our Species, and Making us Smarter*, Princeton: Princeton University Press. Chapters 5 and 6.
- (\*) Cesarini, David, Christopher T. Dawes, James H. Fowler, Magnus Johannesson, and Paul Lichtenstein. 2008. "Heritability of Cooperative Behavior in the Trust Game," *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 105: 3721–3726.
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- Wrangham, Richard. 2009. *Catching Fire*. New York: Basic Books, Introduction.
- Cesarini, David, Christopher T. Dawes, Magnus Johannesson, Paul Lichtenstein and Bjorn Wallace. 2009. "Genetic Variation in Preferences for Giving and Risk Taking," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 124 (2): 809–842.
- Ashraf, Quamrul and Oded Galor. 2018. "The Macrogeneconomics of Comparative Development," *Journal of Economic Literature*, 56 (3): 1119–1155.
- Arbatli, Cemal Eren, Quamrul H. Ashraf, Oded Galor, and Marc Klemp. 2020. "Diversity and Conflict," *Econometrica*, 88 (2): 727–797.
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## 20 Final presentations (April 16, 23)

- **April 16:** Andres, Grace, Tilman, Drew, Shin, Daniel, Yuan Pei
- **April 23:** Pariroo, Raphael, Kartik, Shreya, Ernesto, Jie Zhou

## 21 Final exam (April 30): 9:00am EST