George Mason University

Department of Economics

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Current Affiliations

2014-Present Associate Professor, Economics Department, George Mason University 2008-Present Center for the Study of Public Choice, George Mason University Research Fellow, Mercatus Center at George Mason University

2018-Present Affiliate Member, CESifo Research Network

Previous Appointments

2008-2014	Assistant Professor, George Mason University
2007-2008	Visiting Assistant Professor, SUNY at Buffalo
2006 - 2007	Visiting Assistant Professor, The Hobart and William Smith Colleges
2004-2007	Assistant Professor, California State University–Long Beach (on leave 2006-2007)

Editorial Positions

2020- Editorial Board, Journal of Economics, Management, and Religion

Education

1998-2004 Ph.D, Economics, Washington University in St. Louis 1991-1995 B.A., Economics and History, Kenyon College

Research Interests

Primary: Economic History Secondary: Applied Econometrics

Economic Growth and Development

Books

Johnson, N. D. and Koyama, M. (2019). Persecution & Toleration: The Long Road to Religious Freedom. Cambridge University Press

Refereed Publications

2019	Jedwab, R., Johnson, N. D., and Koyama, M. (Forthcoming). Negative shocks and
	mass persecutions: Evidence from the Black Death. Journal of Economic Growth

- 2017 Anderson, R. W., Johnson, N. D., and Koyama, M. (2017). Jewish persecutions and weather shocks: 1100–1800. The Economic Journal, 127(602):924–958 (Awarded Best Paper of the Year)
- Johnson, N. D. and Koyama, M. (2017b). States and economic growth: Capacity and constraints. *Explorations in Economic History*, 64:1–20
- Johnson, N. D. and Koyama, M. (2017a). Jewish communities and city growth in preindustrial Europe. *Journal of Development Economics*, 127:339 354
- Franck, R. and Johnson, N. D. (2016). Can public policies lower religiosity? Evidence from school choice in France, 1878-1902. *The Economic History Review*, 69(3):915–944
- Johnson, N. D. and Koyama, M. (2014b). Taxes, lawyers, and the decline of witch trials in France. *Journal of Law & Economics*, 57(1)
- Johnson, N. D. and Koyama, M. (2014a). Tax farming and the origins of state capacity in England and France. *Explorations in Economic History*, 51:1–20 (*Lead Article*)
- Johnson, N. D., Ruger, W., Sorens, J., and Yamarik, S. (2014). Corruption, regulation, and growth: An empirical study of the United States. *Economics of Governance*, 15(1):51–69
- Franck, R., Johnson, N. D., and Nye, J. V. C. (2014). From internal taxes to national regulation: Evidence from a French wine tax reform at the turn of the twentieth century. *Explorations in Economic History*, 51:77–93
- Johnson, N. D. and Koyama, M. (2013). Legal centralization and the birth of the secular state. *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 41(4):959–978 (*Lead Article*)
- Johnson, N. D. and Mislin, A. (2012). How much should we trust the world values survey trust question? *Economics Letters*, 116:110–112
- Johnson, N. D. and Mislin, A. (2011). Trust games: A meta-analysis. *Journal of Economic Psychology*, 32:865–889
- Johnson, N. D. and Nye, J. V. C. (2011). Does fortune favor dragons? *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 78(1-2)
- Johnson, N. D., Lafountain, C. L., and Yamarik, S. (2011). Corruption is bad for growth (even in the United States). *Public Choice*, 147(3-4):377–393

2010	Compton, R., Johnson, N. D., and Yamarik, S. (2010b). War! What is it good for? BE Press: Peace Economics, Peace Science, and Public Policy, 16(1)
2010	Compton, R., Giedeman, D., and Johnson, N. D. (2010a). Investing in institutions. Economics and Politics, 22(3)
2009	Balla, E. and Johnson, N. D. (2009). Fiscal crisis and institutional change in the Ottoman Empire and France. <i>Journal of Economic History</i> , 69(03):809–845
2006	Johnson, N. D. (2006a). Banking on the king: The evolution of the royal revenue farms in Old Regime France. <i>Journal of Economic History</i> , 66(4):963–91
2006	Johnson, N. D. (2006b). The cost of credibility: The company of general farms and fiscal stagnation in eighteenth century France. Essays in Economic and Business History, 24:16–28

Other Publications

2018	Johnson, N. D. and Koyama, M. (2018). The state, toleration, and religious freedom. In Iyer, L., Rubin, J., and Carvalho, JP., editors, <i>Advances in the Economics of Religion</i> . Palgrave MacMillan
2018	Johnson, N. D. (2018). Geospatial information systems. In Blum, M. and Colvin, C. L., editors, An Economist's Guide to Economic History. Palgrave MacMillan
2016	Johnson, N. D. (2016). Review of Vincent J. Pitts, 'Embezzlement and High Treason in Louis XIV's France: The Trial of Nicolas Fouquet'. <i>EH.net Economic History Services</i>
2015	Johnson, N. D., Koyama, M., and Nye, J. V. C. (2015). Establishing a new order: The growth of the state and the decline of witch trials in France. In Greif, A., Kiesling, L., and Nye, J. V. C., editors, <i>Institutions, Innovation, and Industrialization</i> . Princeton University Press
2014	Johnson, N. D. (2014). Review of Guy Rowlands, 'The financial decline of a great power: War, influence, and money in Louis XIV's France'. <i>Journal of Economic History</i> , 74(4):1225–1226
2012	Johnson, N. D. (2012b). Review of Jan Luiten Van Zanden, 'The long road to the industrial revolution: The european economy in a global perspective, 1000-1800'. <i>Journal of Economic History</i> , 72(3)
2012	Johnson, N. D. (2012c). Review of Mark Dincecco, 'Political transformations and

public finances: Europe, 1650-1913'. Journal of Economic History, 72(4)

2012	Johnson, N. D. (2012a). Review of James Simpson, 'creating wine: The emergence of a world industry, 1840-1914'. <i>EH.net Economic History Services</i>
2007	Johnson, N. D. (2007). Review of Jeff Horn, 'The path not taken: French industrialization in the age of revolution'. <i>EH.net Economic History Services</i>
2003	Johnson, N. D. (2003). Banking on bureaucrats: The emergence of bureaucracy in old regime france. In <i>Proceedings of the National Tax Association</i>
2001	Johnson, N. D. (2001). Committing to civil service reform: The performance of pre-shipment inspection under differing institutional regimes. World Bank Policy Research Paper No. 2594

Working Papers & Research in Progress

2020	Jedwab, R., Johnson, N. D., and Koyama, M. L. The effects of historical pandemics: The black death. In preparation for a forum in The Journal of Economic Literature, In Progress
2020	Jedwab, R., Johnson, N. D., and Koyama, M. (2020b). Medieval Cities Through the Lens of Urban Economic Theories. CEPR Discussion Paper DP14828, Under Review – Draft Available
2020	Johnson, N. D. and Rapoport, H. (2020). Markets & Minorities: Jewish Persecution and Market Access, 1100–1850, Research in Progress
2019	Jedwab, R., Johnson, N. D., and Koyama, M. (2019). Pandemics, Places, and Populations: Evidence from the Black Death, <i>Under Review – Draft Available</i>
2018	Finley, T., Franck, R., and Johnson, N. D. (2018). The long-run effects of land redistribution during the French Revolution, Revision Requested
2019	Johnson, N. D. (2019). Taxes, national identity, and nation building: Evidence from France, Research in Progress – Draft Available

Invited Presentations and Visiting Positions

University of Colorado, Fall 2020 (invitation accepted)

Auburn University, Spring 2020

Tulane University, Spring 2020

Bocconi University, Milan, Fall 2019

University of Manchester, Fall 2019

Paris School of Economics, Fall 2019 (Visitor)

NYU, Abu Dhabi, Spring 2019

Bocconi University, Milan, Spring 2019

Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne, Paris, Fall 2018 (Visitor)

Northwestern University, Fall 2018

CESifo, Munich, Spring, 2018 (Visitor)

University of Copenhagen, Spring, 2018

University of Southern Denmark, Spring, 2018

Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, Fall, 2017

American University, Fall 2017

Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Spring 2017 (Visitor)

Yale University, New Haven, Fall 2016

Humboldt University, Berlin, Summer 2016

IOEA, Corsica, Summer 2016

Brown University Conference on Deep Rooted Factors in Development, Spring 2016

American University, Spring 2016

Banque de France, Paris, Fall 2015

University of Maryland, History Dept., Spring 2015

Stellenbosch University, South Africa, Summer 2015

Columbia University/Barnard University Economic History Seminar, Fall 2014

Brown University Conference on Deep Rooted Factors in Development, Spring 2014

University of Vermont, Spring 2014

Northwestern University, Fall 2013

Rutgers University, Fall 2013

NES & HSE Conference on Culture and Diversity, Moscow, Fall 2013

Stanford University, Spring 2013

Chapman University, Spring 2013

The Elliott School of International Affairs, Spring 2013

Caltech, Spring 2013

Harvard University, Fall 2011

American University, Fall 2010

SUNY at Buffalo, Spring 2008

Guelph University, Fall 2007

University of California-Riverside, Spring 2006

University of Manitoba, Spring 2006

University of Vermont, Fall 2005

University of California-Los Angeles, Spring 2005

Washington University in St. Louis, Spring 2002

World Bank Tax and Policy Administration Group, Spring 2001

Teaching Experience

Empirical Techniques in Spatial Economics Text as Data European Economic History American Economic History Economic Growth and Development Intermediate Micro and Macro International Finance

Service

Organizer of Washington Area Economic History & Development Workshop, 2010-Present

Organizer of Washington Area Economic History Seminar, 2011-Present

College Study Leave Committee, 2019

College Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2017-18

College Curriculum Committee, Fall 2010, Spring 2011

Writing Assessment Evaluator, Spring 2013

Organizer of Economics Department Public Choice Seminar, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 (spring)

Economic History Field Exam Committee, 2009-Present

Referee for Quarterly Journal of Economics, National Science Foundation, The Economic Journal,

American Economic Journal: Policy, Journal of the European Economic Association,

Journal of Economic History, Journal of Economic Psychology, Contemporary Economic Policy,

Journal of Institutional Economics, Economics & Politics, American Political Science Review,

Essays in Business and Economic History, Public Choice, Journal of Development Economics,

Journal of Economic Growth

Presented at OLLI, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2014. 2015, 2017, 2018

Course Coordinator for Principles Classes, Spring 2006

Curriculum Committee, Spring 2004 to Fall 2005

Library Committee, Spring 2004 to Spring 2005

Elections Committee, Fall 2005 to Spring 2005

Awards, Honors, and Grants

Royal Economic Society Prize for best paper in the Economic Journal, 2017

Washington University Senior Teaching Fellow, (Fall 2002, 2003)

California State University, Competitive Research Grant, (Fall, Spring 2006)

Washington University Competitive Research Grant, (2002, 2001, 1999)

Center for New Institutional Social Sciences Competitive Research Grant, (2000)

Kenyon College, Baker Prize for historical writing, (Spring 1994)

Invited Participant, Lehrman Teaching Institute, Princeton, N.J., (Summer 2006)

METRANS Transportation Center Competitive Research Grant (with Kristen Monaco), (Spring 2006)

Sage Fellow, Cornell University, (Fall 1995)

Washington University Dissertation Completion Fellowship, (Summer 2002, 2003)

Phi Beta Kappa, (Spring 1995)

References

Professor Joel Mokyr Northwestern University Department of Economics Anderson 3214 2001 Sheridan Road Evanston, IL 60208 847-491-5693 j-mokyr@northwestern.edu

Professor Philip T. Hoffman California Institute of Technology Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences Pasadena, CA 91125 626-395-4085 pth@hss.caltech.edu

Professor John V.C. Nye George Mason University Department of Economics Fairfax, VA 22030 703-993-4272 jnye@gmu.edu Professor Nathan Nunn Harvard University Department of Economics Littauer Center Room 228 1805 Cambridge Street Cambridge, MA 02138 617-496-5079 nnunn@fas.harvard.edu

Professor John Wallis University of Maryland Department of Economics College Park, MD 20742 301-405-3552 wallis@econ.umd.edu

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