

**RAN ABRAMITZKY**  
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## Appointment

*Assistant Professor*, Department of Economics, Stanford University, August 2005-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*

**Research Interests:** Economic History, Applied Microeconomics

## Affiliations

Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), 2011-

Faculty Fellow, Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR), 2007-

## Book

*Kibbutz: The Economics of a Social Experiment*, under contract with Princeton University Press

## Published and Forthcoming Papers

“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*, forthcoming

“On the Optimality of Line Call Challenges in Professional Tennis,” with Liran Einav, Shimon Kolkowitz, and Roy Mill, *International Economic Review*, forthcoming

“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

“Lessons from the Kibbutz on the Equality-Incentives Trade-Off,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 25:1, 185-208, Winter 2011

“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

“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

“Is Hanukkah Responsive to Christmas?” with Liran Einav and Oren Rigbi, *Economic Journal*, 120, 612-630, June 2010

“The Effect of Redistribution on Migration: Evidence from the Israeli kibbutz,” *Journal of Public Economics*, 93, 498-511, 2009

“The Limits of Equality: Insights from the Israeli Kibbutz,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 123:3, 1111-1159, August 2008

“The Limits of Equality: An Economic Analysis of the Israeli Kibbutz,” *Journal of Economic History*, 67(2), 495-499, 2007 [dissertation summary]

“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

“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**

“How Responsive is Investment in Schooling to Changes in Redistribution Policies and in Returns?” with Victor Lavy [current draft: August 2011]

“Leaving the nest: Lessons from 19<sup>th</sup> century Norway on migration and the childhood environment,” with Leah Boustan and Katherine Eriksson [current draft: October 2011]

“A Nation of Immigrants: Assimilation and Economic Outcomes in the Age of Mass Migration,” with Leah Boustan and Katherine Eriksson [current draft: August 2011]

“Book Translations as Idea Flows: The Effects of the Collapse of Communism on the Diffusion of Knowledge,” with Isabelle Sin [current draft: November 2011]

## **Past Positions**

*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

## Research Grants

National Science Foundation, “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

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

2011-2012: Vanderbilt, Simon Fraser, UC Davis, Berkeley, Higher School of Economics (Moscow), Hebrew University (scheduled), Tel Aviv University (scheduled), Duke (scheduled), Northwestern (scheduled), Epstein Lecture at LSE (scheduled), Lucca IMT (scheduled), Rome EIEF (scheduled)

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 GSB, 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

2003: Northwestern

## Conference Presentations

Association for the Study of Religion, Economics & Culture, Orange county, March 2012  
(scheduled)  
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

## Other Professional Activities

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, "New Frontiers in Economic  
History," July 2010  
Co-Organizer, Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics, "Theory and History," July 2008  
Co-Organizer, Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics, "Risk, Contracts and Organizations:  
Evidence from History and the Present", July 2006  
*Referee for American Economic Review, Quarterly Journal of economics, Econometrica,  
Journal of Political Economy, Review of Economic Studies, Journal of Economic History,  
American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal:  
Macroeconomics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Public Economics,  
Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Economic Journal,  
Journal of European Economic Association, Games and Economic Behavior,  
Demography, Journal of Population Economics, B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis &  
Policy, Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics, Economic Quarterly  
[Hebrew], National Science Foundation, Falk Institute*

## **Teaching**

Graduate: European Economic History, Topics in Economic History

Undergraduate: Intermediate Microeconomics

## **Ph.D. Students**

Roy Mill (current), primary advisor

Vuong Nguyen (current), primary advisor

William Gui Woolston (current), committee member

George Bulman (current), committee member

Jennifer Doleac (current), committee member

Shirlee Lichtman (current), committee member

Rebecca Dizon-Ross (current), committee member

Arthur van Benthem (current), committee member

Nadeem Karmali (2011, World Bank), committee member

Isabelle Sin (2011, Motu Economics and Public Policy research, NZ), primary advisor

Marika Cabral (2011, UT Austin, Economics), committee member

Christopher Paik (2010, Postdoc at Princeton Woodrow Wilson School), committee member

Natalie Chun (2009, Asian Development Bank), committee member

Oren Rigbi (2009, Ben Gurion University, Economics, Israel), committee member

Itai Ater (2008, Tel Aviv University, Recanati School of Management), committee member

Assaf Eilat (2008, Compass LexEcon), committee member

Stephan Mcbride (2008, Analysis group), committee member

Jared Rubin (2007, California State University, Fullerton), committee member

## **Personal Information**

Israeli Citizen, US permanent resident

Born in Jerusalem, Israel, February 1974

Married with three children