

ARIELL ZIMRAN

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CURRENT ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of Economics, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, 2016-Present

Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research, Cambridge, MA, 2018-Present
Development of the American Economy Program

PAST ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

W. Glenn Campbell and Rita Ricardo-Campbell National Fellow and William C. Bark National Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, 2019-2020

Visiting Scholar, Opportunity and Inclusive Growth Institute, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN, 2020-2021

EDUCATION

PhD, Economics, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 2016
Dissertation: *Selection and Anthropometrics in Economic History*
Dissertation Committee: Joel Mokyr, Joseph Ferrie, Matthew Notowidigdo

MA, Economics, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 2011

BSFS *summa cum laude*, International Economics, Georgetown University, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Washington, DC, 2010

RESEARCH

Published and Forthcoming Papers in Peer-Reviewed Journals

Sichko, Christopher T., Ariell Zimran, and Aparna Howlader. "Environmental Migration and Race during the Great American Drought, 1935-1940." *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* Forthcoming.

Revised version of NBER Working Paper 33409.

Spitzer, Yannay, Gaspare Tortorici, and Ariell Zimran (2025). "International Migration Responses to Modern Europe's Most Destructive Earthquake: Messina and Reggio Calabria, 1908." *Journal of Economic History* Forthcoming.

Revised version of NBER Working Paper 27506 and CEPR Discussion Paper 15008.

Collins, William J. and Ariell Zimran (2025). "World War II Service and the GI Bill: New Evidence on Selection and Veterans' Outcomes from Linked Census Records." *Explorations in Economic History* 96, 101649. doi:10.1016/j.eeh.2024.101649.

Revised version of NBER Working Paper 32774 (featured September 6, 2024).

Zimran, Ariell (2024). "Internal Migration in the United States: Rates, Selection, and Destination Choice, 1850-1940." *Journal of Economic History* 84:3, pp. 727-766.
doi:10.1017/S0022050724000251.

Revised version of NBER Working Paper 30384.

Collins, William J. and Ariell Zimran (2023). “Working Their Way Up? US Immigrants’ Changing Labor Market Assimilation in the Age of Mass Migration.” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 15:3, pp. 238-269. doi:10.1257/app.20210008.

Revised version of NBER Working Paper 26414.

Zimran, Ariell (2022). “US Immigrants’ Secondary Migration and Geographic Assimilation during the Age of Mass Migration.” *Explorations in Economic History* 85, 101457. doi:10.1016/j.eeh.2022.101457.

Revised version of NBER Working Paper 28812.

Zimran, Ariell (2020). “Recognizing Sample-Selection Bias in Historical Data.” *Social Science History* 44:3, pp. 525-554. doi:10.1017/ssh.2020.11.

Zimran, Ariell (2020). “Transportation and Health in the Antebellum United States 1820–1847.” *Journal of Economic History* 80:3, pp. 670-709. doi:10.1017/S0022050720000315.

Revised version of NBER Working Paper 24943.

Collins, William J. and Ariell Zimran (2019). “The Economic Assimilation of Irish Famine Migrants to the United States.” *Explorations in Economic History* 74, 101302. doi:10.1016/j.eeh.2019.101302.

Revised version of NBER Working Paper 25287.

Zimran, Ariell (2019). “Sample-Selection Bias and Height Trends in the Nineteenth-Century United States.” *Journal of Economic History* 79:1, pp. 99-138. doi:10.1017/S0022050718000694.

Revised version of NBER Working Paper 24815.

Spitzer, Yannay and Ariell Zimran (2018). “Migrant Self-Selection: Anthropometric Evidence from the Mass Migration of Italians to the United States, 1907-1925.” *Journal of Development Economics* 134, pp. 226-247. doi:10.1016/j.jdeveco.2018.04.006.

Working Papers

Spitzer, Yannay and Ariell Zimran. “Like an Ink Blot on Paper: Testing the Diffusion Hypothesis of Mass Migration, Italy 1876-1920.” NBER Working Paper 30847 and CEPR Discussion Paper 17837. Submitted.

Escamilla-Guerrero, David, Andrea Papadia, and Ariell Zimran. “The Effects of Immigration in a Developing Country: Brazil in the Age of Mass Migration.” NBER Working Paper 32083 (featured February 15, 2024), IZA Discussion Paper 16741, and Oxford Economic and Social History Working Paper 211. Submitted.

Sasaki, Yuya and Ariell Zimran. “Using Discrepancies to Correct for False Matches in Historical Linked Data.”

Selected Work in Progress

Arroyo Abad, Leticia, José-Antonio Espín-Sánchez, Yannay Spitzer, and Ariell Zimran. “Gambling for America: The First Wave of Migration to the Americas, 1493-1539.”

Collins, William J. and Ariell Zimran. ““Be Very Particular to Distinguish Between Farmers and Farm Laborers’: Complete-Count Censuses and the Composition of the Nineteenth-Century Agricultural Labor Force.”

Collins, William J. and Ariell Zimran. “Internal Migration Patterns of Black and White Men in the United States, 1870-1950.”

Other Writing

Escamilla-Guerrero, David, Andrea Papadia, and Ariell Zimran. “The Effects of Immigration in Brazil.” *Cato Institute Research Briefs in Economic Policy* 426, March 26, 2025.

Escamilla-Guerrero, David, Andrea Papadia, and Ariell Zimran. “How Immigration Supported Agricultural Development and Structural Transformation in Brazil.” *VoxDev* February 14, 2025.

Collins, William J. and Ariell Zimran. “The Many John Kellys: Economic Assimilation of the Famine Irish in America.” *VoxEU* January 19, 2019.

Published Abstracts

Spitzer, Yannay and Ariell Zimran (2023). “Like an Ink Blot on Paper: Testing the Diffusion Hypothesis of Mass Migration, Italy 1876-1920.” *Journal of Economic History* (Abstracts of Papers Presented at the 2022 Annual Meeting) 83:2, pp. 613-614.

Collins, William J. and Ariell Zimran (2021). “Immigrants’ Changing Labor Market Assimilation in the United States during the Age of Mass Migration.” *Journal of Economic History* (Abstracts of Papers Presented at the 2020 Annual Meeting) 81:2, p. 618.

Zimran, Ariell (2019). “Transportation and Health in a Developing Country: The United States, 1820-1847.” *Journal of Economic History* (Abstracts of Papers Presented at the 2018 Annual Meeting) 79:2, p. 555.

Spitzer, Yannay and Ariell Zimran (2015). “Migrant Self-Selection: Anthropometric Evidence from the Mass Migration of Italians to the United States, 1907-1927.” *Journal of Economic History* (Abstracts of Papers Presented at the 2014 Annual Meeting) 75:2, p. 567.

Zimran, Ariell (2014). “Internal Migration in the United States Before 1940.” *Journal of Economic History* (Abstracts of Posters Presented at the Annual Meeting) 74:2, pp. 611-612.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

W. Glenn Campbell and Rita Ricardo-Campbell National Fellowship and William C. Bark

National Fellowship, Hoover Institution, Stanford University, 2019-2020

Research Scholar Fellowship, Vanderbilt University, 2019-2020

National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant No. 1425598: “Essays on

Migrant Self-Selection and Productivity,” with Joel Mokyr, 2014-2016

Economic History Association Dissertation Fellowship, 2015-2016

Northwestern University Dissertation Year Fellowship, 2015-2016

Northwestern University Career Development Grant, 2015

Economic History Association Exploratory Travel and Data Grant, 2014

Northwestern University Conference Travel Grant, 2013, 2014

Graduate Research Grant, Northwestern University, 2013

HONORS AND AWARDS

European Historical Economics Society Graduate Student Travel Bursary, 2015

SSHA/Tilly Graduate Student Travel Award, 2014

Distinguished Teaching Assistant Award, Northwestern University, 2012, 2013

William F. Notz Medal, Georgetown University, 2010
 Honors in International Economics, Georgetown University, 2010
 Dean's Citation, Georgetown University, 2010
 Phi Beta Kappa, Georgetown University, 2009
 Omicron Delta Epsilon, Georgetown University, 2008

SHORT-TERM VISITS

Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Opportunity and Inclusive Growth Institute, December 2020-January 2021
 University of Nottingham, March 2020
 Hebrew University of Jerusalem, June 2017
 Stanford Center for International Development, May 2016

PRESENTATIONS

Includes scheduled presentations. Italics are presentations cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- 2024 St. Olaf College; NBER Economics of World War II; NBER DAE Spring Meeting; Wake Forest University; RIDGE LACEA-EHN Workshop on Historical Development, Santiago, Chile; Cliometric Society Annual Conference, Washington, DC; IPUMS Data-Intensive Research Conference, Minneapolis, MN; Brandeis University; Harvard University
- 2023 Macalester College; NBER Economics of World War II Preconference; University of St. Andrews; Yale University
- 2022 NBER Immigrants and the US Economy; Economic History Association Annual Meetings, La Crosse, WI; University of Mississippi; The Columbian Shock: Explaining Long-Term Development of the Americas, New Haven, CT
- 2021 Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Opportunity and Inclusive Growth Institute; London School of Economics; Resilience Through History: The 2021 Economic History Conference at Yale
- 2020 Allied Social Sciences Association, San Diego, CA; University of Warwick; Oxford University; Queen's University Belfast; University of Nottingham; *London School of Economics; Georgetown University; Washington Area Economic History Seminar; Cliometric Society Annual Conference, Orange, CA*; NBER DAE Summer Institute; Economic History Association Annual Meetings
- 2019 Allied Social Sciences Association, Atlanta, GA; NBER DAE Spring Meeting; University of Michigan H2D2 Research Day, Ann Arbor, MI; Economic History Society Conference, Belfast, UK; Midwest International Economic Development Conference, Madison, WI; IZA Annual Migration Meeting, Dublin, Ireland; Northwestern University; Migration and Development Conference, Madrid, Spain; UC Davis; Stanford University
- 2018 Minnesota Population Center; University of Michigan H2D2 Research Day, Ann Arbor, MI; Midwest International Economic Development Conference, Minneapolis, MN; Economic History Association Annual Meetings, Montreal, QC; Auburn University
- 2017 Tel Aviv University; Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Ben Gurion University; NBER DAE Summer Institute
- 2016 Vanderbilt University; University of Colorado; University of Queensland; Australian National University; University of Melbourne; Stanford University; Social Science History Association Conference, Chicago, IL
- 2015 Allied Social Sciences Association, Boston, MA; Western Economic Association International Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI; European Historical Economics Society Conference, Pisa, Italy; Northwestern University; Illinois Economics Association Annual Meetings, Chicago, IL; Social Science History Association Conference, Baltimore, MD;

- University of Michigan H2D2 Research Day, Ann Arbor, MI; London School of Economics
- 2014 Warwick University Economics PhD Conference, Warwick, UK; Cliometric Society Annual Conference, Clemson, SC; Economic History Association Annual Meetings, Columbus, OH; Illinois Economics Association Annual Meetings, Chicago, IL; London School of Economics; Social Science History Association Conference, Toronto, ON
- 2013 Asian Meetings of the Econometric Society, Singapore; Economic History Association Annual Meetings (Poster), Washington, DC

TEACHING

Vanderbilt University. Includes scheduled courses.

Microeconomic Topics in Economic History (PhD), Fall 2021
 Introduction to Economic History (PhD), Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2021
 Economics Honors Seminar (Undergraduate), Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2025, Spring 2026
 Economic History of Europe (Undergraduate), Fall 2018, Fall 2020, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Fall 2025
 Economic History of the United States (Undergraduate), Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017
 Economic Statistics (Undergraduate), Fall 2024, Fall 2025

ADVISING

Graduate Students (* indicates primary or co-primary advisor; in Economics unless otherwise indicated)
 Danielle Drago Drory (JD/PhD in Law and Economics), 2018, placed at Skadden, Arps, Meagher & Flom LLP and Affiliates
 *Christopher Sichko, 2021, placed at USDA Economic Research Service
 *Colin Sharpe, 2023, placed at Cornerstone Research (finalist for Economic History Association Gerschenkron Prize for best dissertation in Economic History outside the US or Canada)
 Martin Schmitz, in progress
 *Anne Kruse, in progress
 *João Tampellini, in progress
 *Mike Feng, in progress

Selected Undergraduates (graduation year and placement)

Danielle Williamson, 2018, PhD in Economics, Boston University
 Sarah Robinson, 2019, PhD in Economics, Harvard University
 Jared Katz, 2023, Research Assistant, Federal Reserve Board, now PhD in Financial Economics, Northwestern University
 Nicholas Whitaker, 2023, Pre-Doctoral Research Assistant, Yale University Law School, now PhD in Economics, University of Texas at Austin
 Claire Chen, 2024, PhD in Economics, Vanderbilt University
 Nicholas Forster-Benton, 2025, PhD in Sociology, Harvard University

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Referee for *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*; *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*; *American Economic Review*; *Economic History Review*; *Economics and Human Biology*; *Economic Inquiry*; *Economic Journal*; *Essays in Economic and Business History*; *European Review of Economic History*; *Explorations in Economic History*; *Feminist Economics*; *Historical Methods*; *Journal of Applied Econometrics*; *Journal of Development Economics*; *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*; *Journal of Economic History*; *Journal of the European Economic Association*; *Journal of Health Economics*; *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization*; *Journal of Political Economy*; *Journal of Transport and Health*; *Quarterly Journal of Economics*; *Quarterly*

Journal of Political Science; Regional Science and Urban Economics; Review of Economics and Statistics

Co-Organizer, Vanderbilt University Economic History Network Research Network Conference, 2024

Local Arrangements Committee Member, 2022 Cliometrics Conference

Program Committee Member, 2021 Cliometrics Conference

Reviewer for the National Science Foundation and the Israel Science Foundation

Committee Member for the EHA Jones Prize for best book in North American Economic History, 2020-2025

Vanderbilt Service: Finegan Best Thesis Prize Committee (2024); Economics Honors Program Director (2022-2023, 2025-2027); Departmental Microeconomics Seminar Coordinator (2022-2023); Economics Librarian Search (2021-2022); PhD Admissions (2020-2021); Economic History Recruitment (2018-2019); Library Liaison (2019-); Economic History Tea Organizer (2021-2022)

Vanderbilt Center for Teaching Online Course Design Institute, 2020

Session Chair at Economic History Association Annual Meetings, San Jose, CA, 2017

Discussant at IPUMS Data-Intensive Research Conference 2021; Economic History Association Meetings, Atlanta, GA 2019; MIEDC, Madison, WI 2019; Allied Social Sciences Association, Atlanta, GA 2019; MIEDC, Minneapolis, MN 2018; TEAM-Fest, Knoxville, TN 2018; VEAM-Fest, Nashville, TN 2017; Social Science History Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL 2016

Western Economic Association International Graduate Student Workshop, Honolulu, HI, 2015

University of Chicago Summer Price Theory Camp, Chicago, IL, 2012

PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Northwestern University Center for Economic History, 2015-2016

Research Assistant to Professor Joel Mokyr, 2014

Research Assistant to Professor Igal Hendel, 2012-2014

US Federal Trade Commission, Bureau of Economics, Intern, 2009-2010