

Nathan Nunn

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Citizenship Canadian

Research Interests International Trade, Economic Development,
Political Economy, African History

Employment

Harvard University, Department of Economics
Assistant Professor: July 2007 to present

University of British Columbia, Department of Economics
Assistant Professor: July 2005 to July 2007

Professional Affiliations

National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), Faculty Research Fellow: April 2007 to present

Canadian Institute for Advance Research (CIFAR), Institutions, Organizations and Growth
Program Scholar: July 2005 to July 2007

Editorial Work

Associate Editor, Journal of International Economics, 2007 to present

Education

PhD, Economics, University of Toronto, 2005

Thesis Title: *Domestic Institutions, International Trade, and Economic Development*
Supervisors: Daniel Trefler, Martin Osborne, Diego Puga, Albert Berry

MA, Economics, University of Toronto, 2000

BA, Economics, Simon Fraser University, 1998

Research Awards and Honours

Warburg Fund, 2007
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), *An Examination of Why History Matters in Africa*, 2006-2009
Douglas Hartle Award, 2006
Ontario Graduate Scholarship, 2000-2002, 2003-2005
Economic History Association Travel Grant, 2003, 2004
Institute for Policy Analysis Summer Research Stipend, 2003, 2004
Social Science History Association-Rockefeller Graduate Student Travel Award, 2003
University of Toronto Fellowship, 1999, 2000

Publications

“Relationship-Specificity, Incomplete Contracts, and the Pattern of Trade,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 122, No. 2, May 2007, pp. 569-600.

“Historical Legacies: A Model Linking Africa’s Past to its Current Underdevelopment,” *Journal of Development Economics*, Vol. 83, No. 1, May 2007, pp. 157-175.

“The Long-Term Effects of Africa’s Slave Trades,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 123, No. 1, February 2008, 139-176. (previously titled “Slavery, Institutional Development and Long-Run Growth in Africa”).

“The Boundaries of the Multinational Firm: An Empirical Analysis,” (with Daniel Trefler), forthcoming in E. Helpman, D. Marin, and T. Verdier (eds.), *The Organization of Firms in a Global Economy*, Harvard University Press, 2008.

“Slavery, Inequality, and Economic Development in the Americas: An Examination of the Engerman-Sokoloff Hypothesis,” forthcoming in E. Helpman (ed.), *Institutions and Economic Performance*, Harvard University Press, 2008.

Working Papers

“Geography, History, and Institutional Change: The Causes and Consequences of Africa’s Slave Trades”, revise and resubmit at the *American Historical Review*.

“Ruggedness: The Blessing of Bad Geography in Africa” (with Diego Puga), revise and resubmit at the *Review of Economic Studies*.

“The Political Economy of Tariffs and Long-Term Growth” (with Daniel Trefler)

“Domestic Knowledge Spillovers and Strategic Trade Policy”

“A Model Explaining Simultaneous Payments of a Dowry and Bride-Price”

Invited Seminar and Conference Presentations

“Slavery, Inequality, and Economic Development in the Americas: An Examination of the Engerman-Sokoloff Hypothesis”

- Canadian Institute for Advance Research (CIFAR) – Institutions, Organizations and Growth Program Meeting (Toronto, March 2007)

“The Boundaries of the Multinational Firm: An Empirical Analysis”

- Globalization and the Organization of Firms and Markets CEPR conference (Munich, February 2007)
- Laurier Conference on Empirical International Trade (Waterloo, March 2008)
- NBER ITI Spring Meeting (Cambridge, March 2008)
- New York University School of Law Conference on Law, Commerce and Development (New York, April 2008)

“Ruggedness: The Blessing of Bad Geography in Africa”

- Canadian Institute for Advance Research (CIFAR) – Institutions, Organizations and Growth Program Meeting (Vancouver, June 2006)
- University of British Columbia (Vancouver, September 2006)
- University of California San Diego (La Jolla, September 2006)
- University of Southern California, Institute for Economic Research on Civilizations (Los Angeles, September 2006)
- Canadian Network for Economic History (Vancouver, October 2006)
- Harvard University (Cambridge, January 2007)
- Stanford University (Palo Alto, February 2007)
- Brown University (Providence, October 2007)
- University of California Berkeley (Berkeley, November 2007)
- New York University, Political Science (New York, November 2007)
- Research Group on Political Institutions and Economic Policy (Cambridge, December 2007)
- Paris School of Economics (Paris, December 2007)
- University of Toulouse I (Toulouse, December 2007)
- Yale University (New Haven, March 2008)

“The Long-Term Effects of Africa’s Slave Trades” (previously titled “Slavery, Institutional Development and Long-Run Growth”)

- University of Rochester (Rochester, April 2004)
- York University (Toronto, April 2004)
- Canadian Economics Association Annual Meetings (Toronto, June 2004)
- Canadian Institute for Advance Research (CIFAR) – Institutions, Organizations and Growth Program Meeting (Toronto, June 2004)

- Social Science History Association Annual Meetings (Chicago, November 2004)
- Pennsylvania State University (State College, May 2005)
- Society for Economic Dynamics Annual Meeting (Budapest, June 2005)
- NBER Summer Institute, Income Distribution and Macroeconomics (Cambridge, July 2005)
- ITAM – FBBVA – Banco De Mexico Summer Camp in Macroeconomics (Mexico City, August 2005)
- Harvard University (Cambridge, September 2005)
- New York University, joint Economics and Political Science (New York, October 2005)
- University of Michigan, joint Economics and Ford School for Public Policy (Ann Arbor, October 2005)
- University of California Los Angeles (Los Angeles, November 2005)
- American Economics Association Meeting (Boston, January 2006)
- International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C., June 2006)
- International Economic History Congress (Helsinki, August 2006)

“Relationship-Specificity, Incomplete Contracts, and the Pattern of Trade”

- Social Science History Association Annual Meetings (Chicago, November 2004)
- Concordia University (Montreal, December 2004)
- McMaster University (Hamilton, January 2004)
- University of Western Ontario (London, January 2005)
- University of British Columbia (Vancouver, January 2005)
- Simon Fraser University (Burnaby, January 2005)
- Boston University (Boston, January 2005)
- M.I.T. Sloan School of Management (Cambridge, January 2005)
- London School of Economics (London, January 2005)
- New York University (New York, February 2005)
- Stanford Graduate School of Business (Palo Alto, February 2005)
- University of Chicago Harris School (Chicago, February 2005)
- M.I.T. (Cambridge, February 2005)
- Wilfrid Laurier University (Waterloo, April 2005)
- NBER Institutions, Trade and Organizations Spring Working Group Meeting (Cambridge, April 2005)
- Canadian Economics Association Annual Meetings (Hamilton, May 2005)
- Canadian Institute for Advance Research (CIFAR) – Institutions, Organizations and Growth Program Meeting (Vancouver, June 2005)
- Stockholm University IIES (Stockholm, September 2005)
- University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh, September 2005)
- Harvard University (Cambridge, September 2005)
- Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona, May 2006)

“Domestic Knowledge Spillovers and Strategic Trade Policy”

- University of British Columbia (Vancouver, November 2006)
- Laurier Conference on Empirical International Trade (Waterloo, December 2006)
- World Bank and Sciences-Po Antidumping and Developing Countries Conference (Paris, December 2006)
- NBER Productivity lunch (Cambridge, November 2007)

“The Political Economy of Tariffs and Long-Term Growth”

- Canadian Economics Association Annual Meetings (Ottawa, June 2003)
- University of British Columbia (Vancouver, May 2006)
- Canadian Institute for Advance Research (CIFAR) – Institutions, Organizations and Growth Program Meeting (Vancouver, June 2006)
- Empirical Investigations in International Trade (Banff, October 2006)
- Harvard University (Cambridge, October 2006)
- Simon Fraser University (Burnaby, March 2007)
- Korea University (Seoul, Korea, May 2007)

“Historical Legacies: A Model Linking Africa’s Past to its Current Underdevelopment”

- Canadian Economics Association Annual Meetings (Ottawa, June 2003)
- The Future of Economic History Conference (Guelph, October 2003)
- Social Science History Association Annual Meetings (Baltimore, November 2003)

Professional Activities

Refereeing: *American Economic Review, Canadian Journal of Economics, Economic Inquiry, Economic Journal, Economics and Politics, Economics of Transition, International Regional Science Review, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, Journal of Economic Growth, Journal of International Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Public Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, MIT Press, National Science Foundation, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.*

Committees:

- University of Toronto: Graduate Appeals Committee, 2002-2004
- University of Toronto: Graduate Advisory Committee, 2004-2005
- University of British Columbia: Graduate Studies Committee, 2005-2007
- University of British Columbia: Graduate Admissions Committee, 2005-2007