

## Neil Cummins

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### EMPLOYMENT

2022- Professor of Economic History, London School of Economics  
2019- Centre for Economic Policy Research Research Fellow  
2016-22 Associate Professor of Economic History, LSE  
2013-16 Assistant Professor of Economic History, LSE  
2009-13 Assistant Professor of Economics, Queens College, City University of New York

### EDUCATION

2009 PhD in Economic History, LSE  
2004 MSc in Economic History, LSE  
2002 BA in Economics, University College Dublin

### ARTICLES

- Cummins, Neil and Cormac Ó Gráda. 2025.** "The Irish in England," forthcoming at *Journal of Economic History*. [Paper](#).
- Clark, Gregory, Neil Cummins, and Matthew Curtis. 2024.** How did the European Marriage Pattern persist? Social versus familial inheritance: England and Quebec, 1650-1850, *Economics & Human Biology*, 54 101383. [Paper](#).
- Clark, Gregory, Neil Cummins, and Matthew Curtis. 2024.** Three New Occupational Status Indices for England and Wales, 1800-1939, *Historical Methods: A Journal of Quantitative and Interdisciplinary History*, 57(1): 41-66. [Paper](#).
- Cummins, Neil. 2022.** "The Hidden Wealth of English Dynasties, 1892-2016," *Economic History Review*, 75(3): 667-702 [Paper](#).
- Cummins, Neil and Cormac Ó Gráda. 2022.** "Artisanal Skills, Apprenticeship, and The English Industrial Revolution: Prescott And Beyond," *Northern History*, 59(2): 216-38 [Paper](#).
- Cummins, Neil. 2021.** "Where is the Middle Class? Evidence from 60 million English Death and Probate Records, 1892-1992," *Journal of Economic History*, 81(2): 359-404. [Paper](#). AWARDED THE 2021 ARTHUR H. COLE PRIZE FOR THE BEST ARTICLE IN THE JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC HISTORY
- Cummins, Neil and Cormac Ó Gráda. 2021.** "On the Structure of Wealth-Holding in Pre-Famine Ireland," *Irish Economic and Social History*, 48(1): 108-134 [Paper](#).
- Cummins, Neil. 2020.** "The Micro-Evidence for the Malthusian System. France, 1670-1840," *European Economic Review*, 129:103544. [Paper](#).
- Clark, Gregory, Neil Cummins and Matthew Curtis. 2020.** "Twins Support Absence of Parity-Dependent Fertility Control in Pre-Transition Western European Populations" *Demography*, 57: 1571-1595. [Paper](#).

- Clark, Gregory, and Neil Cummins. 2019.** “Randomness in the Bedroom: There is No Evidence for Fertility Control in Pre-Industrial England,” *Demography*, 56(4): 1541-1555. [Paper](#).
- Cummins, Neil. 2017.** “Lifespans of the European Elite, 800-1800,” *Journal of Economic History*, 77(2): 406-439. [Blog](#). [Paper](#).
- Cummins, Neil, Cormac Ó Gráda and Morgan Kelly. 2016.** “Living Standards and Plague in London, 1560-1665,” *Economic History Review*, 69(1): 3-34. [Paper](#). [Data+Replication Files](#).
- Clark, Gregory and Neil Cummins. 2015.** “Is Most Wealth Inherited or Created? England, 1858-2012,” *Tax Law Review*, 68(3): 517-544. [Paper](#).
- Clark, Gregory and Neil Cummins. 2015.** “Surnames and Social Mobility,” *Human Nature*, 25(4): 517-37. [Link](#). [Paper](#).
- Clark, Gregory and Neil Cummins. 2015.** “Intergenerational Mobility in England, 1858-2012. Wealth, Surnames, and Social Mobility,” *Economic Journal*, 125(582): 61-85. [Link](#). [Paper](#). [Data+Replication Files](#).
- Clark, Gregory and Neil Cummins. 2015.** “Malthus to Modernity: Wealth, Status and Fertility in England, 1500-1879,” *Journal of Population Economics*, 28(1): 3-29. [Link](#). [Paper](#).
- Clark, Gregory, Neil Cummins, Yu Hao and Dan Diaz Vidal. 2015.** “Surnames: a New Source for the History of Social Mobility,” *Explorations in Economic History*, 55:3-24. [Link](#). [Paper](#).
- Cummins, Neil. 2013.** “Marital Fertility and Wealth during the Fertility Transition: Rural France, 1750-1850,” *Economic History Review*, 66(2): 449-76. [Link](#). [Paper](#).
- Cummins, Neil. 2011.** “Why Did Fertility Decline?” (PhD Summary), *Journal of Economic History*, 71(2): 465-8. [PhD Summary](#). [Complete PhD \(2009\)](#).
- Clark, Gregory, and Neil Cummins. 2009.** “Urbanization, Mortality, and Fertility in Malthusian England,” *American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings*, vol. 99(2): 242-7. [Link](#). [Paper](#).

## BOOKS

- Clark, Gregory, Neil Cummins, Dan Diaz Vidal, Yu Hao, Tatsuya Ishii, Zach Landes, Daniel Marcin, Kuk Mo Jung, Ariel Marek, and Kevin Williams. 2014.** *The Son Also Rises: Surnames and the History of Social Mobility: Surnames and the History of Social Mobility*, Princeton University Press.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

- Clark, Gregory, and Neil Cummins. 2014.** “Inequality and social mobility in the Era of the Industrial Revolution,” in Roderick Floud, Jane Humphries and Paul Johnson (eds.), *Cambridge Economic History of Modern Britain*, Vol. I: 211-236. [Ebook](#). [Chapter](#).
- Baines, Dudley, Neil Cummins and Max-Stephan Schulze. 2010.** “Population and Living Standards, 1945-2000,” in Steven Broadberry and Kevin O’Rourke (eds.), *The Cambridge Economic History of Modern Europe*, Vol. II: 390-420, Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. [Ebook](#). [Chapter](#).

## BOOK REVIEWS

- Cummins, Neil. 2024.** Review of “As Gods Among Men: A History of the Rich in the West by Guido Alfani” forthcoming at *Journal of Economic Literature*. [Link](#).
- Cummins, Neil. 2017.** Review of “Mortality, Marriage and Population Growth in England, 1550–1850. By Peter Razzell” *Journal of Economic History*, 77(3): 954-6. [Link](#).
- Cummins, Neil. 2016.** Review of “Population, Welfare and Economic Change in Britain 1290-1834. Edited by Chris Briggs, P. M. Kitson, and S. J. Thompson.” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 46(3): 436-7. [Link](#).

## WORKING PAPERS

- Clark, Gregory and Neil Cummins. 2024.** “Matriline versus Patriline: Social Mobility in England, 1754-2023,” *LSE Economic History Working Papers* No.366. [Paper](#).
- Clark, Gregory and Neil Cummins. 2023.** “Hypergamy Revisited: Marriage in England, 1837-2021,” *Centre for Economic Policy Research Working Paper* DP17914. [Paper](#).
- Clark, Gregory, Neil Cummins and Matt Curtis. 2023.** “Measuring Mobility: Intergenerational status mobility across time and place,” *Centre for Economic Policy Research Working Paper* DP17788. [Paper](#).
- Clark, Gregory, Neil Cummins and Matt Curtis. 2022.** “How did the European Marriage Pattern Persist? Social versus Familial Inheritance: England and Quebec, 1650-1850,” *Centre for Economic Policy Research Working Paper* DP17475. [Paper](#).
- Cummins, Neil. 2022.** “The Causal Effects of Education on Age at Marriage and Marital Fertility,” *Centre for Economic Policy Research Working Paper* DP17398. [Paper](#).
- Clark, Gregory, Neil Cummins and Matt Curtis. 2022.** “The Mismeasure of Man: Why Intergenerational Occupational Mobility is Much Lower than Conventionally Measured, England, 1800-2021,” *Centre for Economic Policy Research Working Paper* DP17346. [Paper](#).
- Clark, Gregory and Neil Cummins. 2022.** “Assortative Mating and the Industrial Revolution: England, 1754-2021,” *Centre for Economic Policy Research Working Paper* DP17074. [Paper](#).
- Clark, Gregory and Neil Cummins. 2020.** “Does Education Matter? Tests from Extensions of Compulsory Schooling in England and Wales 1919-22, 1947 and 1972,” *Centre for Economic Policy Research Working Paper*. [Paper](#)
- Clark, Gregory and Neil Cummins. 2019.** “The Child Quality-Quantity Tradeoff, England, 1780-1880: A Fundamental Component of the Economic Theory of Growth is Missing,” *Centre for Economic Policy Research Working Paper*. [Paper](#).
- Clark, Gregory and Neil Cummins. 2019.** “The Big Sort: Selective Migration and the Decline of Northern England, 1780-2018”, *Centre for Economic Policy Research Working Paper*. [Paper](#).
- In Production:*
- Cummins, Neil, Aurelius Noble and Ziming Zhu. 2024.** “The Economic Status of Women in England, 1258-1992”
- Cummins, Neil. 2024.** “The Political Economy of Dynastic Marriage”
- Cummins, Neil. 2024.** “Ethnic Wealth Inequality in England and Wales, 1858-2018” *Presented at EHS March 2021*

- Cummins, Neil. 2024.** “Ethnic Inequities in Infant Survival; in England and Wales, 1866-2007”  
*Presented at EHS March 2022*
- Cummins, Neil. 2024.** “The Last Will and Sentiment. Happiness, Affection, Charity, God and Romantic Love; 1066-2023”
- Cummins, Neil. 2024.** “The Evolution of Wealth Inequality, Social Mobility and Economic Growth in England, 1066-2023”
- Clark, Gregory, and Neil Cummins. 2024.** “Birth Order and Social Outcomes, England, 1680-2022”
- Clark, Gregory, and Neil Cummins. 2024.** “The Myth of Female Hypergamy: Marriage in England, 1837-2021”
- Clark, Gregory, and Neil Cummins. 2024.** “Family Matters? Do Relatives other than Parents Matter to Social Outcomes, England 1780-2018?”
- Clark, Gregory, and Neil Cummins. 2024.** “Opportunities in the New World versus the Old: Migration from England, 1780-1929”
- Cummins, Neil. 2023.** “Noble Savages” (Book Project)

## MEDIA

Research has been featured in the *Economist*, the *BBC*, the *Telegraph*, the *Guardian*, the *Observer*, the *Independent*, the *Daily Mail*, the *Huffington Post*, *CNBC*, *le Monde* and the *Washington Post* amongst others. See [my website](#) for an up-to-date list

## PHD STUDENTS

- 2016-2020 **Dr. Sijie Hu** “A New Examination of Chinese Fertility, 1400-1900”
- 2016-2022 **Dr. Jennifer Kohler** “Women, Social Capital and Development in African History”
- 2018-2023 **Dr. Juliana Jaramillo Echeverri** “Social Mobility and Fertility Decline in Columbia”
- 2019-2024 **Dr. Xizi Luo** “Social Mobility: evidence from Qing examination papers ”
- 2019-2024 **Dr. Aurelius Noble** “Elite Social Networks in Victorian England”
- 2020- **Ziming Zhu** “Occupational Mobility in England 1851-1911”
- 2022- **Noah Sutter** “Social Mobility and Wealth Inequality in France”

## TEACHING

- 2013- **EH238** *The Origins of Growth* [Undergraduate, LSE]
- 2015- **EC465** *Economic Growth, Development, and Capitalism in History* [MSc, LSE]
- 2022- **EH101** *The Internationalisation of Economic Growth* [Undergraduate, LSE]
- 2023- **EC103** *Inequality: Economic, Historical and Sociological Perspectives* [SS, LSE]
- 2019-2021 **EH520** *Approaches to Economic and Social History* [PhD, LSE]
- 2014-2018 **EH483** *The Development and Integration of the World Economy* [MSc, LSE]
- 2009-2013 **ECON101** *Principles of Macroeconomics* [Undergraduate, CUNY Queens]
- 2009-2013 **ECON222** *European Economic History* [Undergraduate, CUNY Queens]

## ADMINISTRATION and CITIZENSHIP

- 2023- Deputy Head of Department of Economic History - Teaching
- 2023- Co-Director (and co-founder) of [LSE Historical Economic Demography \(HED\) Group](#)
- 2017- Co-Organiser of the Annual LSE Historical Economic Demography Workshop
- 2022-3 Co-Chair of the LSE Seminar in Economic History (also 2014-9)
- 2019- Serve on International Inequalities Institute Research Committee
- 2019- Serve on LSE Data Science Committee
- 2019-21 Served on the Economic History Association Committee on Research Archives
- 2017-21 Director of the Doctoral Programme in Economic History, LSE

**PHD EXAMINATION**

**Joe Molitoris**, Lund University (2015), **Aine Doran**, Queen's University Belfast (2022), **Tom Eeckhout**, Ghent University (2023), **Christian Vedel**, University of Southern Denmark (2023).

**REFEREE**

I write 20-25 referee reports per year for journals such as *Journal of Economic History*, *Economic History Review*, *Explorations in Economic History*, *European Review of Economic History*, *Demography*, *American Sociological Review*, *Continuity and Change*, *Historical Methods*, *Journal of Economic Inequality*, *Labour Economics*, *Journal of Economic Growth*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Applied*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Economic Journal*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Econometrica*, and *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*

**PRESENTATIONS**

**2023** Economics Seminar, **Suffex** (26/4), Economic History Seminar, **Wadham College, Oxford** (26/4), 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium of the Centre for Fertility and Health, **Oslo** (16/5), All UC Conference in Economic History, **Dabib** (2/6), CEPR Economic History Conference, **Geneva** (10/6), World Cliometrics Congress, **Suffex** (21/7), European Historical Economics Society Conference, **Vienna** (1/9), Explorations in Economic History Workshop on Wealth and Income Inequality Around the World, Federal Reserve Bank of **Chicago** (6/10), **Research Showcase, ISE** (31/10), Economics Seminar, UC **Galway** (16/11), Economics Seminar, UC **Dublin** (17/11), Economics Seminar, Henley Business School **Reading** (17/11), Economics Seminar, Tor Vergata **Rome** (1/12). **2022** Irish Quantitative History meeting, **Zoom** (28/1), European Society of Historical Demography, **Madrid** (2/3), Economic History Society Conference, **Robinson College, Cambridge** (3/4), Faculty Seminar, **Bergen** (13/5), Economics Dept. Seminar, **York** (18/5), CEPR Economic History Conference, **Oviedo** (10/6), European Historical Economics Society Meetings, **Groningen** (17/6), **LSE Summer Festival, Londinium** (18/6), World Economic History Congress, **Paris** (27,28,29/7), CUNY Applied Economics Research Seminar, **Zoom** (3/11). **2021** Economic History Society Conference, **Zoom** (8/4), **Facing Inequality Seminar, The George Washington University** (28/4), Historical Economic Demography Workshop, **ISE** (18/6), British Society for Population Studies, **Zoom** (10/9), EconTribute Markets and Policy in History, **Bonn** (23/9), Cumberland Lodge, **Windsor Great Park** (2/10), LSE/UC Davis Economic History Coffee Hour, **Zoom** (8/10), Economic History Association Conference, **Tucson** (30/10), "Studying social mobility in past societies", **Bocconi** (8/11). **2020** **UC Dabib** Economic History Seminar (10/1), Irish Quantitative History meeting, **Trinity College Dublin** (24/1), **ISE** Economic History Dept. Seminar (4/6). **International Macro History Online Seminar Series, A consortium of 25 universities and institutions in collaboration with CEPR** (7/10). **2019** Economics Seminar, **University of Bath** (13/2), **ISE** Historical Economic Demography Workshop (18/2), Research Seminar, **University of Lucerne** (4/4), Research Seminar in Economic History, **Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin** (17/4), Joint Economics-Economic History Workshop, **ISE** (10/5), European Society of Historical Demography, **Pécs** (28/6), European Historical Economics Society Meetings, **Paris** (30/8), British Society for Population Studies, **Cardiff** (10/9), Applied Economics and Economic History seminar series, **Southzen Denmark University, Oviedo**, (12/11). **2018** School of Slavonic and East European Studies, **UCL** (24/1), Seminario d'Economia, **Universitat de València**(7/3), Economic and Social History Seminar, **Wadham College, Oxford** (8/5), Finance and Demography Workshop, **ISE** (31/5), One Bank Research Seminar, **Bank of England** (26/6), 6th International Symposium on Quantitative History, **Hantai, China** (14/7), Economics Seminar, **University of Luxembourg** (7/11), Economic History Workshop, **University of Hong Kong** (27/11), New Malthusian Symposium, **Jetut College, Cambridge** (13/12). **2017** **UC Berkeley** Economic History Seminar (30/1), **Yale** Economic History Workshop (20/2), World Congress of Cliometrics, **Strasbourg** (4/7), European Historical Economics Society Conference, **Tübingen** (2/9),

Faculty seminar in Economics, **Bergen** (25/10). **2016** Biological Anthropology Seminar, **University College London** (8/3), ‘The importance of elites and their demography for knowledge and development’, **Louvain-la-Neuve** (22/6), **UC Berkeley Demography Brown Bag Seminar** (2/11), **UC Davis** Economic History Seminar (8/11). **2015** Dynamics of Wealth Inequality Workshop (**Santa Fe**, 30/1), **Utrecht Social & Economic History Seminar** (12/2), **UC Davis** Economic History Coffee Hour (23/4), Population Association of America Meetings (**San Diego**, 30/4), Dondena Seminar (**Bocconi**, 23/5), ‘Longitudinal data in African history’ Workshop (**Stellenbosch**, 27/5), World Economic History Congress, (**Apoto**, 5/8), European Historical Economics Society Meetings, (**Pisa**, 5/9), Political Economy Seminar, King’s College (**London**, 30/9), First OWL Workshop in Economic History (**All Souls**, 5/10), PhD Defence of Joseph Molitoris (**Lund**, 23/10), “Institutions, Culture, and Long-Run Development,” **Ludwig-Maximilians Universität München** (13/11), “Long-term Processes of Socio-Economic Development: Stagnation, Growth, Divergence and Crises,” Herrenhausen Conference (**Hannover**, 21/11), “Economic history and economic policy,” Banque de France, (**Paris** (15/12). **2014** LSE Economic History Seminar (30/1), Scottish Economic Association Meetings (**Perth**, 28/4), CRASSH Seminar (**Cambridge**, 24/5), Economic History Seminar (**Queen’s University Belfast**, 3/10), Plague in the City conference (**Cambridge**, 5/12), Oxford Economic and Social History Seminar (**All Souls**, 25/11). **2013** FZID Research Seminar (**Universität Hohenheim**, 8/1), **Binghamton SUNY** Economics Seminar (15/3), Public Choice Workshop (**George Mason University**, 20/3), **UC Davis** Economic History Seminar (28/5). **2012** PSTC Colloquia (**Brown University**, 1/3). **2011** Cliometrics conference (**Boulder**, 22/5), European Historical Economics Society (**Dublin**, 3/9), **University of Michigan** Historical Demography Workshop (11/11), **UC Davis** Economic History Seminar (15/11), **UC Berkeley** Demography Brown Bag Seminar (16/11). Economic History Association Annual Meeting (**Charlottesville**, 9/26). **2009** Columbia Economic History Seminar (**New York**, 3/12), Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association (**Long Beach**, 14/11), “Fertility declines in the past, present and future” (**Cambridge**, 15/7), Economic History Society Annual Conference (**Warwick**, 3/4).