

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. 2025.** “The Causal Effects of Education on Age at Marriage and Marital Fertility,” forthcoming at *European Review of Economic History*. [Paper](#).
- Clark, Gregory and Neil Cummins. 2025.** “Hypergamy Reconsidered: Marriage in England, 1837-2021,” *PLOS One*, 20(2): e0316769. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0316769> [Paper](#).
- Cummins, Neil and Cormac Ó Gráda. 2025.** “The Irish in England,” *Journal of Economic History*, 85(1): 180-214. [Paper](#).
- Cummins, Neil. 2024.** “Ethnic Wealth Inequality in England and Wales, 1858-2018,” *Explorations in Economic History*, 94: 101617 [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, 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. “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”

2020-2025 **Ziming Zhu** “Occupational Mobility in England 1851-1911”

2022- **Noah Sutter** “Social Mobility and Wealth Inequality in France’

2022- **Marta Pagnini** “The Court Circular and the British Monarchy’

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

2025- Member of Council for the Economic History Society (2nd term)

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- Member of Trustees for the European Historical Economics Society

2022-5 Member of Executive for the Economic History Society

2022-5 Member of Council for the Economic History Society

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
2010-3	Co-Chair of the Columbia University Seminar in Economic History

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

2025 LSE EH Brown Bag, **London** (21/1), Applied Micro CEPR, **Heidelberg** (7/2), Economic History Society Conference, **Glasgow** (5/4), Inequality Workshop, **Utrecht** (25/4), LSE-PSE EH Workshop, **Paris** (29/4), **Centre for Quantitative History, HKU Business School**, **Online** (5/6), Workshop on Migration and Family Economics, **Paris** (16/6), Cliometrics Conference, **Williamstown** (20/6), European Historical Economics Society Conference, **Holtenham** (5/9), European Society of Historical Demography, **Online** (18/11), Carlos III Economics Seminar, **Madrid** (18/11). **2024** Economic History Seminar, **Mandchester** (8/2), Datini-Ester Study Week, **Prato** (15/5), Heriot-Watt Economics Seminar, **Edinburgh** (27/9). **2023** Economics Seminar, **Sussex** (26/4), Economic History Seminar, **Wadham College, Oxford** (26/4), 6th Annual Symposium of the Centre for Fertility and Health, **Oslo** (16/5), All UC Conference in Economic History, **Dabiv** (2/6), CEPR Economic History Conference, **Genova** (10/6), World Cliometrics Congress, **Dublin** (21/7), European Historical Economics Society Conference, **Vienma** (1/9), Explorations in Economic History Workshop on Wealth and Income Inequality Around the World, Federal Reserve Bank of **Chicago** (6/10), **Research Showcase, LSE** (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, **Dork** (18/5), CEPR Economic History Conference, **Oslo** (10/6), European Historical Economics Society Meetings, **Gronigen** (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, **LSE** (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 Dabiv** Economic History Seminar (10/1), Irish Quantitative History meeting, **Trinity College Dublin** (24/1), **LSE** 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), **LSE** 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, **LSE** (10/5), European Society of Historical Demography, **Paris** (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, **Southren Denmark University, Odense**, (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, **LSE** (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, **Jesuit College, Cambridge** (13/12). **2017** **UC Berkeley** Economic History Seminar (30/1), **Uale** 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', **Lontainla-Nenke** (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 Soult**, 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 (**Hanover**, 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 Soult**, 25/11). **2013** FZID Research Seminar (**Universität Pöfentym**, 8/1), **Binghamton SUN** 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 (**Camptown**, 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).