C. Hoyt Bleakley, Jr.

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Current Positions

University of Michigan
2019–present: Professor, Department of Economics
2019–present: Research Professor, Population Studies Center

National Bureau of Economic Research
2011–present: Research Associate

Previous Positions

Hoover Institution
2024–2025: Emma and Carroll Roush National Fellow
University of Michigan
2014–2019: Associate Professor, Department of Economics
2014–2019: Research Associate Professor, Population Studies Center

National Bureau of Economic Research
2007–2011: Faculty Research Fellow

Princeton University
2013–14: Visiting Associate Professor, Department of Economics
2013–14: Visiting Research Scholar, Research Program in Development Studies

University of Chicago, Booth School of Business
2009–14: Associate Professor of Economics
2007–14: Senior Investigator, Center for Population Economics
2005–09: Assistant Professor of Economics

University of California, San Diego
2003–2005: Assistant Professor of Economics and Hellman Faculty Fellow.
2004–2005: Visiting Fellow, Center for US/Mexican Studies.

Education/Training

University of Chicago, Population Research Center
2002–2003: NICHD Postdoctoral fellow.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Ph.D., Economics, June 2002.
Dissertation: "Three Empirical Essays on Investment in Physical and Human Capital."
S.B., Economics, 1995.

Fields of Interest

Economic History, Development, Labor Economics.

Publications

"Early United States History in Comparative Perspective", *Handbook of the Economic History of Colonialism*, 2026 (with Paul Rhode).

"Longevity, Education, and Income: How Large is the Triangle?" *Journal of Health Economics*, 2025, 103(September).

"Mind the Gap: Years of Schooling and Fiscal Externalities in Nepal," *World Bank Economic Review*, 2023, 37(4, November): 659-74 (with Bhanu Gupta).

"De Tocqueville, Population Movements, and Revealed Institutional Preferences," *Journal of Historical Political Economy*, 2023, 3(2, July): 179-210 (with Paul Rhode).

"When the Race between Technology and Education Goes Backwards: The Post-bellum Decline of White School Attendance in the Southern US," *Research in Economic History*, 2021 (with Sok Chul Hong).

"Health, Disease and Sanitation in American Economic History," 2018, in the *Oxford Handbook of American Economic History*, Louis Cain, Price Fishback, and Paul W. Rhode (eds.) (with Louis Cain and Sok Chul Hong).

"Adapting to the Weather: Lessons from U.S. History," *Journal of Economic History*, 2017, 77(3 September): 756-795. (with Sok Chul Hong.)

"Robots, Rebels, and Railroads," *Journal of Economic History*, 2017, 77(2, June): 537-43. (Introduction to 2016 Allan Nevins Prize Competition of the Economic History Association.)

"Shocking Behavior: Random Wealth in Antebellum Georgia and Human Capital Across Generations," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2016, 131(3): 1455-1495, with Joseph Ferrie.

"History and the Sizes of Cities", *American Economic Review, Paper and Proceedings*, 2015, 105(5): 558-63, with Jeffrey Lin.

"Amidst Poverty and Prejudice: Black and Irish Civil War Veterans," in *Institutions, Innovation, and Industrialization: Essays in Economic History and Development*, Avner Greif, Lynne Keisling, John V.C. Nye (eds.), 2015, with Louis Cain and Joseph Ferrie. (Festschrift volume for Joel Mokyr.)

"Health, Education, and Income in the United States, 1820-2000," in *Human Capital in History: The American Record*, Boustan, Frydman, and Margo (eds). 2014, with Dora Costa and Adriana Lleras-Muney. (Festschrift volume for Claudia Goldin.)

"Child Health and Educational Outcomes." Chapter 4 of *Education Policy in Developing Countries*, Glewwe, Paul (ed.), 2013, University of Chicago Press, joint work with Harold Alderman.

"Thick-Market Effects and Churning in the Labor Market: Evidence from U.S. Cities," *Journal of Urban Economics*, 2012, Volume 72, Issues 2-3, September-November, pp.87-103, joint work with Jeffrey Lin.

"Portage and Path Dependence." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, May 2012, pp 587-644, joint work with Jeffrey Lin. (2012 Award for Best Published Work using IPUMS-USA data.)

"The Effects of English Proficiency among Childhood Immigrants: Are Hispanics Different?" Chapter 13 of *Latinos and the Economy: Integration and Impact in Schools, Labor Markets, and Beyond*, Leal, David L.; Trejo, Stephen J. (Eds.), 2011, joint work with Mevlude Akbulut and Aimee Chin.

"Health, Human Capital, and Development." *Annual Review of Economics*, 2010, 2:283–310.

"Malaria in the Americas: A Retrospective Analysis of Childhood Exposure." *American Economic Journal: Applied*, April 2010, 2(2):1–45. (Lead Article. Awarded the 2010 Award for Best Published Work using IPUMS-International data. Awarded the 2011 Prize for the Best Paper in the *American Economic Journal: Applied*, 2009–10.)

"Maturity Mismatch and Financial Crises: Evidence from Emerging Market Corporations." *Journal of Development Economics*, 2010, 93:189–205, with Kevin Cowan.

"Age at Arrival, English Proficiency, and Social Assimilation Among U.S. Immigrants," *American Economic Journal: Applied*, January 2010, 2(1):165–192, with Aimee Chin.

"Economic Effects of Childhood Exposure to Tropical Disease", *American Economic Review, Paper and Proceedings*, May 2009, 99(2):218–23.

"When Does Improving Health Raise GDP? Comments on Ashraf, Lester, and Weil", *NBER Macroeconomics Annual*, 2009.

"Chronic Disease Burden and the Interaction of Education, Fertility and Growth." *Review of Economics and Statistics*, February 2009, 91(1):52-65, with Fabian Lange.

"Deworming and Development: Asking the Right Questions, Asking the Questions Right" *PLOS/NTD*, January 2009. (with Don Bundy, Michael Kremer, Matthew Jukes, and Edward Miguel)

"Corporate Dollar Debt and Devaluations: Much Ado About Nothing?" *Review of Economics and Statistics*, November 2008, 90(4):612–626, with Kevin Cowan.

"What Holds Back the Second Generation? The Intergenerational Transmission of Language Human Capital Among Immigrants." *Journal of Human Resources*, 43 (Spring 2008), pp267-298, with Aimee Chin. (lead article)

"Disease and Development: Evidence from Hookworm Eradication in the American South." *Quarterly Journal of Economics,* February 2007, 122:1. (Reprinted in "Health and Growth", 2009, Michael Spence and Maureen Lewis, eds.)

"Language Skills and Earnings: Evidence from Childhood Immigrants." *Review of Economics and Statistics*, with Aimee Chin, May 2004, 86(2):481-496. (Reprinted in "Recent Developments In The Economics Of International Migration", 2012, Barry Chiswick and Paul Miller, eds.)

"Descalce de plazos y crisis financiera: evidencias en las empresas de América Latina." *Perspectivas: Análisis de temas críticos para el desarrollo sostenible*, December 2003, 1(2):9–28.

"Disease and Development: Evidence from the American South." *Journal of the European Economic Association*, April–May 2003 1(2-3):376–386.

"New Data on Worker Flows During Business Cycles." *New England Economic Review*, with Ann Ferris and Jeffrey Fuhrer, July/August 1999.

"Shifts in the Beveridge Curve, Job Matching, and Labor Market Dynamics." *New England Economic Review*, with Jeffrey Fuhrer, September/October 1997.

Working Papers

The Economic Effects of American Slavery: Tests at the Border, July 2024, with Paul Rhode.

Was Free Soil Magic Dirt? Endowments versus Institutions in the Antebellum United States, September 2024, with Paul Rhode.

"Land Openings on the Georgia Frontier and the Coase Theorem in the Short and Long Run," September 2017, with Joseph Ferrie.

"Up from Poverty? The 1832 Cherokee Land Lottery and the Long-run Distribution of Wealth," July 2013, NBER working paper #19175, with Joseph Ferrie.

Research in Progress

System of Self? The Role of Slave-holding in Political Behavior (with Paul Rhode)

Long Upon the Land: The Economic Legacy of Slavery in the Borderlands (with Paul Rhode)

Land: Direct Economic Effects in the First Settler Colony (with Paul Rhode)

Human Wealth in the Antebellum: Free and Bonded

Voting with their Feet: Differential Migration of the Free in the Antebellum United States. (with Paul Rhode)

The Human-Capital Century: Triangles versus Rectangles (with Parag Mahajan)

A Nudge to School: Triangulating the Gains

Presentations (last 10 years)

2026: ADB/IDB Conference on Migration at Yonsei University, Michigan (econ. history)

2025: UC Merced, Conference on Political Economy of Geographic Polarization, UC Irvine, Conference on The Chinese Economy in the Long Run, Hoover Institution Economic Policy Working Group, Janeway Institute for Economics at Cambridge, Michigan (development)

2024: EHA, UC-Davis, Historical Political Economy Conference (USC), Hoover Institution

2023: USC (poli sci), Michigan (pol econ, econ history), NBER DAE, OSU (policy history conference), EHA, EHA Troesken memorial pre-conference, LACEA.

2022: Cleveland Fed, Hebrew Univ, USC, Urban Econ. Assoc., Maryland-AREC, Michigan (econ history).

2021: UC-Irvine, Cliometric Society, UC-Davis, Yale Economic History Conference, Economic History Association, Harvard, NEUDC.

2020: various, postponed

2019: Brown, Michigan (Econ History Workshop and Political Economy Workshop), UCSD, DePaul, Universidad de los Andes

2018: Johns Hopkins (School of Public Health), World Bank (DEC), Toronto (Conference on Data Linkage), UBC, NBER (Cohort Studies).

2017: Oberlin, IIES Stockholm, Copenhagen, IZA, Essen Health Conference (keynote), BU, UCLA.

2016: Michigan State, Brown, UConn, CMU/Pitt joint seminar, Economic History Association, Michigan (various), Northwestern, SUNY-Buffalo, Midwest Development Day.

Older Working Papers

"Mishmash on Mismatch? Balance-Sheet Effects and Emerging-Markets Crises." Chicago Booth Research Paper No. 09-19, May 2009, with Kevin Cowan.

"On the Market Discipline of Informationally-Opaque Firms: Evidence from Bank Borrowers in the Federal Funds Market." FDIC Center for Financial Research Working Paper No. 2006-09. September 2006, with Adam Ashcraft.

"Computationally Efficient Solution and Maximum Likelihood Estimation of Nonlinear Rational Expectations Models." Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Working Paper #96-2, with Jeffrey Fuhrer, July 1996.

Research Grants

Mellon Research Fellowships, Virginia Museum of History & Culture, "Falling Behind: Neither Reform nor Replacement of the Slave System in the Antebellum Upper South," 2025.
NSF, "Longitudinal Intergenerational Family Electronic Micro-Database (LIFE-M)," 2015–19. SMA-1539228 (PI Martha Bailey). Role: senior investigator.

NIA, "Early Indicators, Intergenerational Processes, and Aging," 2015–19. P01 AG010120-20 (PI Dora Costa). Role: senior investigator.

NIA, "Early Indicators of Later Work Levels, Disease and Death," 2009–2014. P01 AG010120-14A2 (PI: Robert Fogel). Roles: Senior Investigator (2009–2013); Principal Investigator of portion at University of Chicago (2013–14).

NICHD, "The Effects of English-Language Skills on the Children of Immigrants", 2006–08. R03-HD051562 (PI: Aimee Chin). Role: Co-investigator.

Linguistic Minority Research Institute, "The Effects of English-Language Skills on the Children of Immigrants", 2005. (Awarded as grant #05-05CY-011G-SD.)

FDIC Center for Financial Research, "Liquidity Supply and Financial Factors: Evidence from the Interbank Market," 2004.

Pacific Rim Research Program (Univ. of California), "Geography versus Institutions in the Provision of Public Health: Evidence from Malaria Eradication in Pacific-Rim Countries", 2003.

Committee on Research (UCSD), "Long-term Economic Benefits of Tropical-Disease Eradication", 2003.

Corporación Andina de Fomento, "Maturity Mismatch in Latin America", 2002.

Courses taught

University of Michigan (2014–present):
Development Economics (PhD)
Economic History (PhD)
Development Economics (undergraduate)

University of California, Los Angeles (2020):
Economic History : Minicourse on Persistence and Path Dependence (PhD)

University of Notre Dame (2020):
Economic History : Minicourse on Persistence and Path Dependence (undergrad)

University of Chicago (2005–2013):
Microeconomics (MBA)
Population Economics (undergraduate and MBA)
Business Ethics (undergraduate and MBA)

University of California, San Diego (2002–2005):
The Economies of Latin America (undergraduate)
Development Economics : Finance and Development (PhD)

New England Banking Institute (1996):
Introduction to Statistics (undergraduate)

Professional Service and Affiliations (past 10 years)

Ad hoc referee for various journals.

Chair of Program Committee, Annual Meeting, Economic History Association, 2025.

Advisory Board, EconJobMarket.org, 2023–2025.

Associate Chair for Administrative & Academic Affairs, Department of Economics, University of Michigan, 2021–2024.

Executive Committee, Department of Economics, University of Michigan, 2015–17, 2019–2020, 2021–2024.

Faculty Advisory Board, Population Studies Center, University of Michigan, 2016–18, 2022–2024.

Confidential *ad hoc* reviewer for promotion and hiring cases, various years and institutions.

Reviewer for various book projects, University of Chicago Press.

NSF Advisory Committee, IPUMS-International, 2017–21. (Chair, 2017&2020.)

External Advisory Committee, Committee on Demographic Training, University of Chicago, 2015–2020.

Program Committee, Annual Meeting, Economic History Association, 2018.

Program Committee, Essen Health Conference, 2018.

Program Committee, LACEA Conference, 2017.

External Honors Examiner, Oberlin College, April 2016.

Convenor, Nevins Prize, Economic History Association, 2016.

Program Committee, Cliometric Society Conference, 2015–2016.

Editorial Board, *Journal of Economic History*, 2013–17.

Deputy Editor, *Demography*, 2014–17.

Financial Committee, Population Studies Center, University of Michigan, 2015–16.

Visiting Committee, Minnesota Population Center, June 2016.

Member of NBER (Cohort Studies, LS, DAE, DEV), BREAD, EHA

Member: EHA, LACEA