

Boris Gershman

CURRICULUM VITAE

CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Economics American University 4400 Massachusetts Ave NW Washington, DC 20016, USA	Phone: (202) 885-3688 Fax: (202) 885-3790 E-mail: boris.gershman@american.edu Web: www.borisgershman.com
EMPLOYMENT	American University , Washington, District of Columbia, USA Associate Professor of Economics (with tenure), September 2018 – present Assistant Professor of Economics, August 2012 – August 2018	
VISITING POSITIONS	University of Warwick , Department of Economics, Coventry, UK Visiting Scholar, December 2014 – August 2015 Max Planck Institute for Tax Policy and Public Finance , Munich, Germany Visiting Scholar, March 2015	
EDUCATION	Brown University , Providence, Rhode Island, USA Ph.D., Economics, May 2012 <i>Thesis</i> : “Economic Development, Institutions, and Culture Through the Lens of Envy” M.A., Economics, May 2008 New Economic School , Moscow, Russia M.A., Economics, May 2007, <i>cum laude</i> Moscow State University , Moscow, Russia B.Sc., Economics, May 2005, <i>summa cum laude</i>	
RESEARCH AND TEACHING FIELDS	Economic Growth and Development Economics of Culture and Institutions Agent-Based Computational Macroeconomics	
JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS	Witchcraft Beliefs as a Cultural Legacy of the Atlantic Slave Trade: Evidence from Two Continents <i>European Economic Review</i> , February 2020, <i>122</i> , 103362. Measuring Regional Ethnolinguistic Diversity in Sub-Saharan Africa: Surveys vs. GIS (with Diego Rivera). <i>World Bank Economic Review</i> , February 2020, <i>34</i> (S1), pp. S40-S45. Subnational Diversity in Sub-Saharan Africa: Insights from a New Dataset (with Diego Rivera). <i>Journal of Development Economics</i> , July 2018, <i>133</i> , pp. 231–263. Banks, Market Organization, and Macroeconomic Performance: An Agent-Based Computational Analysis (with Quamrul Ashraf and Peter Howitt). <i>Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization</i> , March 2017, <i>135</i> , pp. 143–180.	

Witchcraft Beliefs and the Erosion of Social Capital:
Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa and Beyond.
Journal of Development Economics, May 2016, *120*, pp. 182–208.

How Inflation Affects Macroeconomic Performance:
An Agent-Based Computational Investigation (with Quamrul Ashraf and Peter Howitt).
Macroeconomic Dynamics, March 2016, *20* (2), pp. 558–581.

The Economic Origins of the Evil Eye Belief.
Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, February 2015, *110*, pp. 119–144.

The Two Sides of Envy.
Journal of Economic Growth, December 2014, *19*(4), pp. 407–438.

Envy in the Process of Development: Implications for Social Relations and Conflict.
Economics of Peace and Security Journal, October 2013, *8*(2), pp. 13–19.

Macroeconomics in a Self-Organizing Economy (with Quamrul Ashraf and Peter Howitt).
Revue de l'OFCE / Debates and policies, 2012, *124*, pp. 43–65.

BOOK
CHAPTERS Long-Run Development and the New Cultural Economics.
In *Demographic Change and Long-Run Development*. Edited by M. Cervelatti and U. Sunde.
Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2017, Chapter 9, pp. 221–261.

WORKING
PAPERS *Capital-Skill Complementarity and the Emergence of Labor Emancipation*
(with Quamrul Ashraf, Francesco Cinnirella, Oded Galor, and Erik Hornung).

RESEARCH IN
PROGRESS *Species Diversity and the Adoption of Agriculture*
(with Katsuki Morihara)
Ethnicity, Religion, and Conflict: Evidence from African Regions
(with Diego Rivera)
Industrialization and Slavery in the Antebellum U.S. South
(with Quamrul Ashraf)
Reference-Point Formation, Inequality, and Social Polarization
Envy and Redistribution

PUBLICATIONS
IN RUSSIAN Income Inequality and Economic Growth: An Empirical Survey.
Ekonomicheskaya Nauka Sovremennoi Rossii, July 2009, *2*, pp. 91–104.
Income Inequality and Economic Growth: A Theoretical Survey.
Ekonomika i Matematicheskie Metody, April 2009, *45*(2), pp. 19–30.

RESEARCH
PRESENTATIONS In 2018:
Wake Forest University, Department of Economics, November
Williams College, Department of Economics, November
RASA IX annual conference, George Washington University, November

In 2017:

NES 25th anniversary conference, Moscow, December
EMSCH 50th anniversary conference, Moscow State University, December
Economic History and Development Workshop, George Mason University, August
Wageningen University, RHI seminar, June
Workshop on culture, diversity and economic development, Groningen, June
CSAE annual conference, University of Oxford, March
American University, School of International Service, March
ASREC 16th annual conference, Boston MA, February

In 2016:

Florida International University, Department of Economics, October
Ethnicity and diversity conference, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, June
Development economics and policy conference, Heidelberg University, June
ASREC 15th annual conference, Chapman University, March

In 2015:

University of Sussex, Department of Economics, April
Queen's University Belfast, Management School, March

In 2014:

CESifo Venice summer institute, Venice International University, July
Summer workshop in economic growth, University of Warwick, July
Conference on deep-rooted factors in economic development, Brown University, May
American University, Department of Economics, April
ASREC 13th annual conference, Chapman University, March
Middle East Technical University, Department of Economics, January

In 2013:

Bilkent University, Department of Economics, December
EEA-ESEM congress, University of Gothenburg, August
University of Namur, CRED workshop, June
ASREC 12th annual conference, Arlington VA, April
Workshop on growth and development, University of Southern Denmark, March
University of Copenhagen, Department of Economics, March
George Mason University, Center for Study of Public Choice, January

In 2012:

University of Oxford, Department of Economics, February
Gettysburg College, Department of Economics, February
University of South Carolina, Moore School of Business, January
American University, Department of Economics, January

In 2011:

New Economic School, Moscow, December
Higher School of Economics, Moscow, December
NEUDC conference, Yale University, November
Midwest Economic Theory Meetings, Vanderbilt University, November
Brown University, Workshop in Macroeconomics, October
Williams College, Department of Economics Lunch Seminar, September

In 2010 and earlier:

Moscow State University, Department of Economics, December 2010

Southern Economic Association annual meetings, Atlanta GA, November 2010
New Economic School, NES/CEFIR seminar, July 2010
Brown University, Macro Lunch seminar, Novembers 2007, 2009, 2010

TEACHING
EXPERIENCE

American University
GIS Applications in Empirical Economics (graduate). Instructor, Spring 2020
Macroeconomic Analysis-II (doctoral). Instructor, Spring 2013 – Spring 2020
Intermediate Macroeconomics (undergraduate). Instructor, Fall 2012 – Fall 2019
(including honors sections and a version of the course with calculus)

Brown University
Econometrics-II (advanced undergraduate). TA for Koen Jochmans, Fall 2010
Introduction to Econometrics (undergraduate). TA for Stefan Hoderlein, Spring 2010
Macroeconomics-II (doctoral). TA for Peter Howitt, Spring 2009
Macroeconomics-I (doctoral). TA for David Weil, Fall 2008

New Economic School
Econometrics-III (master's). TA for Stanislav Anatolyev, Spring 2007
Open-Economy Macroeconomics (master's). TA for Kirill Sosunov, Fall 2006

State University of Humanities, Moscow, Russia
Microeconomics-I (undergraduate). TA for Mikhail Afanasiev, Fall 2006

HONORS,
AWARDS, AND
FELLOWSHIPS

5th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting on Economic Sciences, August 2014
Invited young scientist

American University
International Travel Award, Spring 2016, Spring 2013
Faculty Data Purchase Award, Spring 2015
Mellon Faculty Award, Spring 2014

Brown University
Merit Dissertation Fellowship, Fall 2011 – Spring 2012
Summer Research Fellowship, 2011
Abramson Prize for the third-year research paper, 2010
Teaching Certificate I, Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, 2009
Stephen R. Ehrlich Fellowship, 2007–2008

SELECTED
MEDIA
COVERAGE

“Witches exist and they come in numbers.”
ZAM Magazine, September 17, 2019. Correspondents: Alberique Houndjo et al.

“When Magical Beliefs Shape Reality.”
I, Science, June 24, 2019. Correspondent: Juanita Bawagan.

“Labeling Women Witches Remains a Powerful Tool for Social Stigmatization.”
Seeker, January 8, 2018. Correspondent: Jen Viegas.

“Hexenjagd im 21. Jahrhundert” (in German).
Bild, December 26, 2017. Correspondent: Christian Müller.

“Бес стагнации” (in Russian).
Kommersant Dengi, July 11, 2016. Correspondent: Vladimir Ruvinsky.

“O que bruxaria tem a ver com economia?” (in Portuguese).
Exame, June 29, 2016. Correspondent: João Pedro Caleiro.

“¿Es la creencia en la brujería un factor para el desarrollo económico?”
RCN Radio, June 21, 2016. Correspondents: Alejandro Villegas, Laura Bernal.

“Falsos intermediarios” (in Spanish).
Pulso San Luis, June 5, 2016. Correspondent: Alfonso Lastras Martínez.

“How witchcraft harms economies.”
Seeker, June 2, 2016. Correspondent: Ben Radford.

“Why belief in witchcraft can do harm.”
Live Science, May 12, 2016. Correspondent: Stephanie Pappas.

“Believing in witchcraft can slow economic progress, researcher discovers.”
The Independent, May 10, 2016. Correspondent: Doug Bolton.

“Witchcraft belief creates antisocial cultures that are bad for business.”
International Business Times, May 10, 2016. Correspondent: Léa Surugue.

“As origens econômicas do olho gordo” (in Portuguese).
Exame, September 13, 2015. Correspondent: João Pedro Caleiro.

“The hidden economic lessons of the evil eye.”
Quartz, September 3, 2015. Correspondent: Matt Phillips.

“E assim nasceu o mau-olhado” (in Portuguese).
Correio Braziliense, June 14, 2015. Correspondent: Isabela de Oliveira.

“The case for the evil eye.”
The Boston Globe, January 4, 2015. Correspondent: Kevin Lewis.

“What to do when the invisible hand stops working.”
Bloomberg, June 5, 2013. Correspondent: Mark Buchanan.

EARLY
RESEARCH
EXPERIENCE

Brown University
Research assistant to Prof. Peter Howitt, Fall 2009
Research assistant to Prof. Oded Galor, Summers 2008–2009

Russian Academy of Sciences, Central Economics and Mathematics Institute
Research fellow, Laboratory of Mathematical Economics, 2006–2009

Moscow University of Industry and Finance
Researcher, Department of Innovation Projects, 2003–2005

SELECTED
UNIVERSITY
SERVICE

American University
Dean’s advisory committee, College of Arts and Sciences, 2017–2019
Recruitment committee, School of International Service, 2016–2017
Recruitment committee, Department of Economics, 2014–2016, 2019–2020
Organizer of the Research Seminar Series, Department of Economics, 2012–2014

OTHER
PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE

Referee for *Demography*, *Economic Journal*, *Economics & Politics*, *European Economic Review*, *European Journal of Law and Economics*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*,

Journal of Cross-Cultural Gerontology, Journal of Cultural Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, Journal of Economic Growth, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Macroeconomic Dynamics, National Science Foundation (NSF), Nature Human Behaviour, Public Choice, Research Foundation — Flanders (FWO), Review of Economics and Institutions, Southern Economic Journal, World Development

Member of the *American Economic Association, Royal Economic Society, European Economic Association*

Fellow of *Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences (S4)*, Brown University

Organizer of the Macro Lunch Workshop, Brown University, 2010–2011

Translator for *Quantile*, international econometric journal in Russian language, 2007–2010

LANGUAGES

Russian (native), English (fluent), Spanish (intermediate, DELE Básico certificate, 2001), German (intermediate, DSH certificate, 2004)

February 16, 2020