

Steven Nafziger

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Address: Williams College
Department of Economics
Schapiro Hall
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Education:

Yale University: Ph.D. (2006), M. Phil. (2003), and M.A. (2002) in Economics
Dissertation: *Communal Institutions, Resource Allocation, and Russian Economic Development: 1861-1905*
Winner of the Alexander Gerschenkron Prize (Best Dissertation in Non-North American Economic History), Economic History Association, 2007

St. Petersburg Pedagogical University: Certificate in Russian Language (2004)

Northwestern University: B.A. (2000) in Economics and History
Magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, and Departmental Honors (Economics)
Study abroad: University of Edinburgh, 1998-1999

Current Positions

Professor of Economics, Williams College (from July 1, 2018)

Faculty Affiliate, Department of History, Williams College, 2016 –

Center Associate, Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University, 2013-

Previous Positions

Assistant and Associate Professor of Economics, Williams College, 2006 – 2018

Instructor, Harvard University Summer School, 2014; 2016 – 17

Visiting Associate in Economics, Division of Humanities and Social Sciences,
California Institute of Technology, 2009-2010

Teaching Fellow, Department of Economics, Yale University, 2002-2004, 2006

Research Assistant, Carolyn Moehling, Department of Economics, Yale University,
2002

Research Assistant, Joel Mokyr, Department of Economics, Northwestern

University, 1999-2000

Research Publications

- “Collective Action and Representation in Autocracies: Evidence from Russia’s Great Reforms” (with Paul Dower, Evgeny Finkel and Scott Gelbach), *American Political Science Review* 112.1 (2018): 125-147.
- “Quantitative Evidence in Russian Economic History,” *Slavic Review* 76.1 (2017): 30-36.
- “State and Market in Russian Industrialization, 1870-2010” (with Andrei Markevich), in Kevin H. O’Rourke and Jeffrey Williamson, eds., *Industrial Growth in the Global Periphery Since 1870*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017. 33 – 62.
- “Decentralization, Fiscal Structure, and Local State Capacity in Late-Imperial Russia,” in Jari Eloranta et al., eds., *Economic History of Warfare and State Formation*. London: Springer, 2016. 73-101.
- “Communal Property Rights and Land Redistributions in Late-Tsarist Russia,” *Economic History Review* 69.3 (2016): 773-800.
- “Russian Inequality on the Eve of Revolution” (with Peter Lindert), *The Journal of Economic History* 74.3 (2014): 767-798.
- Earlier version: NBER Working Paper 18383, September 2012.
- “Peasants and Politicians: Agricultural Change and Rural Political Institutions in Nizhnii Novgorod Province, 1861-1906” in Ellen Hillbom and Patrick Svensson, eds., *Agricultural Transformation in a Global History Perspective*. London: Routledge Press, 2013.
- “Micro Perspectives on Russian Living Standards, 1750-1917,” (with Tracy Dennison), *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 42.3 (2013): 397-441.
- “Big BRICs, Weak Foundations: The Beginnings of Public Primary Education in Brazil, Russia, India, and China, 1880-1930,” (with Latika Chaudhary, Aldo Musacchio, and Se Yan) *Explorations in Economic History* 49 (2012): 221-240.
- Summary published as “Decentralising Education: Evidence from the BRICs” at www.voxeu.org, March 26, 2012.
 - Earlier version: NBER Working Paper 17852, February 2012.

“Serfdom, Emancipation, and Off-Farm Labor Mobility in Russia, 1861-1900,”
Economic History of Developing Regions 27.1 (2012): 1-37.

- Lead article

“Did Ivan’s Vote Matter? The Case of the *Zemstvo* in Tsarist Russia,” *European Review of Economic History* 15 (2011): 393-441.

“Peasant Communes and Factor Markets in Late Nineteenth-Century Russia,”
Explorations in Economic History 47.4 (2010): 381-402.

- Co-Winner, 2011 Explorations Prize for best article published in
Explorations in Economic History in the preceding year

“Communal Institutions, Resource Allocation, and Russian Economic
Development: 1861-1905,” *The Journal of Economic History* (June 2008): 570-
575. [Dissertation summary]

Working and Submitted Papers and Chapters

“Capital Structure and Corporate Performance in Late Imperial Russia” (with
Amanda Gregg), 2018, 2nd round R & R at the *European Review of
Economic History*.

“The Long-Run Consequences of Labor Coercion: Evidence from Russian Serfdom”
(with Johannes Buggle), Working paper, 2018, R & R at *The Review of
Economics and Statistics*

“A Note on Acemoglu and Robinson’s Correction to ‘Why Did the West Expand
the Franchise’” (with Paul Dower, Evgeny Finkel and Scott Gelbach),
Working paper, 2018, *under review at The Journal of Politics*

“Financial Dynamics: Imperial Russian Corporate Balance Sheets, 1899-1914”
(with Amanda Gregg), Working paper, 2018

“The Births, Lives, and Deaths of Corporations in Late Imperial Russia” (with
Amanda Gregg), Working paper, 2018

“Eastern Europe and the Global Economy, 1800 – 1914,” (with Matthias Morys),
Working paper, 2017

“Economic Dimensions of Labor Mobility in European Russia, 1861 – 1914,”
Working paper, 2017

“Firm-Level Responses to Changes in the Standard VAT Rate” (with Ivan

Badinski), Working paper, 2016

“The Political Economy of Rural Primary Education in Tsarist Russia,” Working paper, 2015

“An Economic Analysis of Prostitution in Tsarist Russia” (with Jessica Bean), Working paper, 2015

“Understanding the Process of Russian Serf Emancipation,” Working paper, 2014.

“Russian Serfdom, Emancipation, and Land Inequality: New Evidence,” Working paper, 2013.

Research in Progress

Serfdom, Emancipation, and the Political Economy of Development in Imperial Russia
(tentative title; book project)

“The Economics of Serf Manumission in Imperial Russia, 1800-1860”

“Paying the Piper? Peasant Tax Arrears in Late Imperial Russia”

“Railroads, Market Development, and Agricultural Specialization in Imperial Russia”

“Bargaining it Out: The Economics of Russian Serf Emancipation and Land Reform” (with Paul Dower and Andrei Markevich)

“Serf Emancipation and the Development of Russian Capital Markets”

“Coercion after Serfdom? Reconstituting Factor Relations in Rural Russia, 1861-1883”

“Financing Industrialization in Late-Imperial Russia: Evidence from Factory Censuses and Corporate Balance Sheets” (with Amanda Gregg; tentative title)

“Imperial Russian Corporate Dividends: Signals, Rents, or Returns?” (with Amanda Gregg; tentative title)

“Corporate Capital Structures and Market Valuations: Evidence from Imperial Russia” (with Amanda Gregg; tentative title)

“Comparative Political Economy of Serf and Slave Emancipations” (with Paul Dower, Evgeny Finkel, and Scott Gehlbach; tentative title)

“Religious Polarization and Collective Action: Evidence from Imperial Russia” (with Paul Dower, Evgeny Finkel, and Scott Gehlbach; tentative title)

Other Publications

Invited respondent, “The Economic History of Eastern Europe: A Forum,” *Ukraina Moderna*, forthcoming

Book Review: Sergei Antonov, Bankrupts and Usurers of Imperial Russia: Debt, Property, and the Law in the Age of Dostoevsky and Tolstoy, *The Journal of Economic History* 77.4 (2017): 1251-1253.

- Also published in *Canadian American Slavic Studies* 51.4 (2017): 525-529.

Book Review: Yanni Kotsonis, States of Obligation: Taxes and Citizenship in the Russian Empire and Early Soviet Republic. EH.Net Economic History Services, January 2016. http://eh.net/book_reviews/states-of-obligation-taxes-and-citizenship-in-the-russian-empire-and-early-soviet-republic/

Book Review: Robert E. Jones, Bread Upon the Waters: The St. Petersburg Grain Trade and the Russian Economy, 1703-1811, *The Journal of Economic History* 75.1 (2015): 281-282.

Book Review: Katherine Pickering Antonova, An Ordinary Marriage: The World of a Gentry Family in Provincial Russia, *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 44.3 (2014): 394-396.

Book Review: Catherine Evtuhov, Portrait of a Province: Economy, Society, and Civilization in Nineteenth-Century Nizhnii Novgorod Province, *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 43.4 (2013): 632-635.

Book Review: Tracy Dennison, The Institutional Framework of Russian Serfdom, *Economic History Review* 65.4 (2012): 1597-1598.

- Also reviewed for EH.Net Economic History Services, July 2013, http://eh.net/book_reviews/institutional-framework-russian-serfdom

Book Review: Carol S. Leonard, Agrarian Reform in Russia: The Road from Serfdom, *Historia Agraria* 56 (2012): 197-200.

Book Review: Mark Harrison (editor), Guns and Rubles: The Defense Industry in

the Stalinist State. EH.Net Economic History Services, December 2008.
http://eh.net/book_reviews/guns-and-rubles-defense-industry-stalinist-state

Book Review: Robert Service, Comrades! A History of World Communism,
Journal of Economic Literature 46.2 (2008): 446-448.

Book Review: Stephen F. Williams, *Liberal Reform in an Illiberal Regime: The Creation of Private Property in Russia, 1906-1915*. EH.Net Economic History Services, July 2007. http://eh.net/book_reviews/liberal-reform-illiberal-regime-creation-private-property-russia-1906-1915

"Land Redistributions and the Russian Peasant Commune in the Nineteenth Century," Conference Proceedings, The Economic History Society Annual Conference, University of Exeter, March 30 – April 1, 2007, 33-38.

Book Review: Grigory Ioffe, Tatyana Nefedova, and Ilya Zaslavsky, The End of Peasantry? The Disintegration of Rural Russia, *Journal of Regional Science* 47.4 (2007): 848-850.

Book Review: Thomas C. Owen, *Dilemmas of Russian Capitalism: Fedor Chizhov and Corporate Enterprise in the Railroad Age*. EH.Net Economic History Services, June 2005. http://eh.net/book_reviews/dilemmas-russian-capitalism-fedor-chizhov-and-corporate-enterprise-railroad-age

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

Visiting Researcher, Bank of Finland Institute for Transition, May-June 2018

NSF Award #1658877: "Corporate Law, Finance, and Productivity in Historical Perspective," 2017-2020; \$110,266; Co-PI with Amanda Gregg, Middlebury College

Oakley Center Fellow, 2014-15

Yegor Gaidar Fellowship in Economics (declined), 2014-15

Class of 1945 World Fellowship, Williams College, 2009-2010 and 2014

Sabbatical Grant, Williams College, 2014

NSF Awards #0922531 and #1227237: "Global Price and Incomes 1200 - 1950," Senior Investigator, Phase III (2010-2012; \$89,722) and Phase IV (2012-2014;

\$77,243)

2011 Explorations Prize for best article published in *Explorations in Economic History*

Hellman Fellowship, Williams College, 2009-2010

Associate, Summer Research Laboratory, Russia, East European, and Eurasian
Center of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2009 and 2010

Kennan Institute Short-Term Research Grant, Woodrow Wilson Center for
International Scholars, 2008

Early Career Travel Grant, British Academy, 2008

Dissertation Fellowship, Economic History Association, 2005

Advanced Research Fellowship, U.S. Department of State, Program for Research
and Training on Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former
Soviet Union (Title VIII), 2004

Conference and Seminar Presentations

- 2018 Allied Social Science Association meetings (co-author presented), Bank of Finland (scheduled), Williams College (History department colloquium), Economic and Business History Society meetings (Jyväskylä, Finland; scheduled; co-author presenting), World Economic History Congress (Boston; scheduled), NBER Summer Institute (DAE; scheduled), Association of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies conference (Boston; scheduled)
- 2017 Queens University, Jewish migration workshop (St. Gallen, Switzerland), European Historical Economics Congress (Tubingen, Germany), Economic History Association meetings (co-author presented), Canadian Network for Economic History conference (Toronto, ON), Williams College, 25th Anniversary of the New Economic School Conference (Moscow, Russia)
- 2016: All-UC conference on the economics of conflict, Economic History of Eastern Europe conference (Regensburg, Germany; Skype presentation), Society of Institutional and Organizational Economics conference (Paris; co-author presented), World Congress of Business History (Bergen, Norway), Central New York Economic Historians conference (Hamilton, NY), NYU-Stern, Williams College, Yale University
- 2015: Allied Social Science Association meetings (Association of Comparative Economic Studies session), World Economic History Congress (Kyoto,

- Japan), Economic History Association meetings, Canadian Network for Economic History conference (Kingston, ON)
- 2014: Economic History Society meetings, Warwick University economic history conference, University of Mannheim, Industrialization in the Poor Periphery conference (Oxford, England), Uppsala University, Lund University, Asian Historical Economics Society conference (Istanbul)
- 2013: Middlebury College, Caltech / All-UC conference on Economic and Political Inequality, London School of Economics, Oxford University, University of Warwick, University of Helsinki, World Congress of Cliometrics (Honolulu, HI), Program in Economic History conference, Yale University
- 2012: Annual Conference of the Presidential Academy of the National Economy (Moscow), World Economic History Congress (Stellenbosch, South Africa), Economic History Association meetings, Harvard University, Yale University
- 2011: ESF / Global Price and Income History Conference (Venice, Italy), Economic History Society conference (Cambridge, England), University of Pennsylvania, Williams College
- 2010: UCLA, Stanford University, UC Irvine, New Economic School (Moscow), XI International Academic Conference on Economic and Social Development (Higher School of Economics, Moscow), Economic History Association meetings, U Mass – Amherst, Wesleyan University, Washington Area Economic History Seminar, *European Review of Economic History* Fast Track meeting
- 2009: Allied Social Science Association meetings, Economic History Society meetings, Columbia University, World Economic History Congress, UC Davis
- 2008: Harvard University, Canadian Network for Economic History conference, All-University of California Economic History Conference, World Cliometric Conference, Economic History Association meetings, Yale University, Queen's University, American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies conference
- 2007: Economic History Society meetings, Economic History Association meetings, European Historical Economics Society meetings, Social Science History Association meetings, Williams College, Binghamton University
- 2006: Yale University, University of Essex, Williams College, University of York, Cliometric Society conference, University of British Columbia

Courses Taught

Principles of Macroeconomics (Williams College and Harvard University Summer School)

Principles of Microeconomics (Williams College)

American Economic History (Williams College)

European Economic History (Williams College)
Global Economic History (Williams College, tutorial format)
History of the Global Economy (Harvard University Summer School; both seminar [2016] and web conference [2017] formats)
Economics of Developing Countries (Williams College)
Research in Economic History (Williams College)
Perspiration/Inspiration: The Economics of Innovation (Williams College)
The Economic Crisis in Eastern Europe (Williams College, independent study)
Topics in American Economic History (Williams College, independent study)
Russian Economic Development from Stalin to Putin (Williams College, independent study)
Public Speaking (Williams College, Winter Study course)
Viewing U.S. Economic History Through the Visual Arts (Williams College, Winter Study course)
Sports Economics (Williams College, Winter Study course)

College and Department Service

Faculty Affiliate, Women's Varsity Soccer, Williams College, 2016-

Member, International Education and Study Away Faculty Advisory Group, Williams College, 2016 –

Coordinator, Barbara Solow Research Fellowship in Economics and Business History, 2015-

Member, Upper-Class Residential Life Advisory Committee, 2013-14; 2015-

Member, Emotional/Service Animal Ad Hoc Committee, 2017 –

Member, Advisory Committee, Williams Children Center, 2015-

Chair, Committee on Undergraduate Life, Williams College, 2016-2018

“How the College Works” Workshop Participant, Williams College, 2017

Member, Building Committee for the Garfield House Capital Project, 2016-17

Hiring Committee, Department of Economics, Williams College, 2008-9 and 2017-18

Member, Williams College Accreditation Self-Study Steering Committee, 2016-17

Summer Seminar Instructor, Williams College Museum of Art, 2017

Director of Research, Williams Economics Department, 2016-17 and 2018-19

Guest Lecturer, Mellon-Mays / Allison Davis Research Fellow Summer Program,
2008 and 2017

Member, Horace Clark Fellowship Prize selection committee, 2017

Williams College Research Roundtable participant, 2016

Williams College New Faculty Mentor, 2016-17 [Jose Constantine, Geosciences]
and 2017-18 [Alice Lee, Athletics]

Chair, Sub-Committee on Student Experience, Williams Economics Department
Self-Study, 2016-2017

Member, Search Committee for Director of the Williams College Children's
Center, 2016

Mock Interviewer, Fellowship Office, Williams College, 2015

Member, Committee on Undergraduate Life, Williams College, 2013-14; 2015-16

Faculty Advisor, Economics Student Advisory Committee, Williams College,
2015-16

Member, New Dormitory Construction Committee, Williams College, 2014-16

Williams College Teaching Roundtable participant, 2008, 2009, 2011, and 2013.

Oakley Center for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Williams College,
Discussion group participant, 2012-2013; and organizer, 2015 and 2018.

Member, Sawyer Quadrangle Committee, Williams College, 2012-15

Faculty Program Director, Currier Neighborhood, Williams College, 2010-13 and
2014

Organizer, Mellon 23 Workshop, "Economic History and Development:
Common Insights," Williams College, October 2010.

Member, Williams College Athletic Committee, 2007-2009

Credit and Study Abroad Coordinator, Department of Economics, Williams College, 2011-2014; 2015-16

Curriculum Committee, Department of Economics, Williams College, 2011; 2015

Postgraduate Advisor, Department of Economics, Williams College, 2007-8

Organizer, Brownbag Seminar, Department of Economics, Williams College, 2006-7; 2013-14; 2015-16

Advising and Research Supervision

Thesis Advisor, Department of Economics, Williams College: Ivan Badinski (2013-2014); Jillian Stallman (2015-2016); Paige Wilkinson (co-advisor, 2015-2016), Morris Reeves (2017-18)

Thesis Co-Advisor, Program in Political Economy, Williams College: Kyle Victor (2010-2011); Kyra Deeth-Stehlin (2015-2016)

Second Reader on Honors Theses, Department of Economics, Williams College: Laurence Dworkin (2007), Joseph Song (2008), T. Sam Jensen (2011), Wendy Magoronga (2012), Robert Ainsworth (2013), Margo Beck (2018)

Research Assistants / Supervised Research Projects: Antoaneta Kraeva (RA, 2007), Gean Spektor (RA, 2008), Joanna Hoffman (RA, 2009), Felix Owusu (Mellon-WCURF Fellow, 2009), Kyle Victor (RA, 2010), Nargis Sakhibova (RA, 2010), Aaron Seong (RA, 2010-11), Stefan Ward-Wheten (RA, 2011), Ivan Badinskii (RA, 2012), Veranika Li (RA, 2012), Daniel DiVietri (RA, 2013), Cara Foley (RA, 2013), Joe Long (RA, 2013), Nia Nguyen (RA, 2013), Gulya Radjapova (RA, 2013), Phonkrit Tanavisarut (RA, 2013), Gabrielle McPhaul-Guerrier (RA, 2014), Jillian Stallman (Solow Fellow, 2015-16), Madeline McFarland (RA, 2016), Bum Shik Kim (Solow Fellow, 2016-17), Ricardo Diaz (Solow Fellow, 2016-17), Evan Wahl (Winter Study "99" Project, 2017), Giulia Filocca (RA, 2017), Amy Qiu (co-advisor, Solow Fellow, 2017-18), Justin Kugel (RA, 2017 -), Arkey Barnett (Allison Davis Research Fellow, 2017 -), Nadiya Atkinson (RA, 2018 -), Charles Carpenter (Winter Study "99" Project, 2018), Brenda Xu (RA, 2018 -), Jacob Shuman (RA, 2018 -), Natalie Newton (Solow Fellow, 2018-19), Anand Butler (co-advisor, Solow Fellow, 2018-19)

Professional Service

Program Committee, 2019 Economic History Association Meetings, Atlanta, Georgia

Invited Keynote Speaker, 7th Annual ICSID Conference "Political Economy of Development: Historical and Contemporary Factors," Higher School of Economics, Moscow, June 2018

Trustee, The Cliometric Society, 2018 - 2021

Session Organizer, "Historical Economic Development Through Russian and Soviet Lenses," World Economic History Congress, Cambridge, MA, August 2018

Co-organizer, Liberal Arts Economic History Workshop, Mt. Holyoke College, February 2018

Review panelist, 2017 NSF Economics Graduate Research Fellowship Program

Invited Lecturer, "1917-2017: Russian Revolution in a Global Context" series, Freie Universität Berlin / Berliner Zentrum für Osteuropa- und Internationale Studien of the German Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, January 2017

External Grant Reviewer, Amherst College, 2015

External tenure letter writer: x 2

Session Organizer, "Authoritarianism, Centre-Local Delegation, and the Economy," World Economic History Congress, Kyoto, Japan, August 2015

Co-organizer, AALAC – Mellon 23 Workshop, "The Economic History of Race, Class, and Gender," Middlebury College, April 2015

Invited Expert Lecturer, European Historical Economics Society Summer School, Berlin, Germany, 2014

Expert Reviewer, Russian National Award in Applied Economics, 2013-2014

Member, EHA Committee on Research in Economic History, 2013-2016

Conference Co-Organizer, "Russian, Soviet, and Post-Soviet Economic History: New Frontiers," Program in Economic History, Yale University, November 2013.

Co-organizer, AALAC – Mellon 23 Workshop, “Change and Continuity: Economic History in the Liberal Arts Context,” Denison University, April 2013

External Thesis Referee, Master’s Degree Program, New Economic School of Moscow, 2009-2010; 2015.

Co-organizer of session “The Comparative History of Paying for Public Goods,” World Economic History Congress, Utrecht, Netherlands, August 2009

Workshop organizer, “Tips for the Academic Job Market” for the Economic History Association Meetings, September 2007

Refereeing / Reviewing: *The Journal of Economic History*, *Russian Review*, *Explorations in Economic History*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Economic History Review*, *European Review of Economic History*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, *Oeconomia*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Economic History of Developing Regions*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *American Economic Review*, *Eastern European Economics*, *Journal of Sports Economics*, *Journal of Historical Sociology*, *Demokratizatsiya*, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, *The Journal of Politics*, John Wiley & Sons Academic Press, Routledge Press, Worth Publishers, Cambridge University Press, University of Chicago Press, the National Science Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation

Invited Attendee / Session Chair / Paper Discussant: Social Science History Association meetings (2007), Cliometrics Society meeting (2010), Economic History Association meetings (2009 and 2011), International Academic Conference on Economic and Social Development (2010), Economic History Society Meetings (2011), Program in Economic History conference, “Before and Beyond Europe: Economic Change in Historical Perspective,” Yale University (2011), NBER Summer Institute Development of the American Economy workshop (2011), Allied Social Science Association meetings (2013), Economic History Association meetings (2013), Yale University (2014), Allied Social Science Association meetings (2015 x2), World Economic History Congress (2015); Cliometric Society meetings (2016), Economic History Association (2016), Association for Slavic, East European, and Russian Studies conference (2016), LacDev (2016), Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (2017), Allied Social Science Association meetings (2018), Liberal Arts Economic History Workshop (2018), Cliometrics Society meeting (2018), World Economic

May 2018

History Congress (2018, scheduled), Economic History Association (2018, scheduled)

Member: American Economic Association, Economic History Association, Economic History Society, Cliometric Society, European Historical Economics Society, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies

Personal

DOB: March 5, 1978

Birthplace: Chandroghona, Bangladesh

Citizenship: USA

Married (Erin Nafziger), two children (ages 3 and 6)