

Thilo René Huning

Senior Lecturer at the University of York

thilohuning.com

thilo.huning at york.ac.uk

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CONTACT	University of York, Department of Economics and Related Studies, Heslington, York YO10 5DD, UK
INTERESTS	Economic History • Political Economy • Economic Geography
ACADEMIC ROLES	Undergraduate First Year Lead • Programme Leader MSc Global Markets and Economic Development
RESEARCH PROFILES	Google Scholar • ORCID: 0000-0002-9394-6262
PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS	<p>"How Britain Unified Germany: Trade Routes and the Formation of the Zollverein" <i>with Nikolaus Wolf. Forthcoming at Journal of Economic History</i></p> <p>"Can Growing Wine Cause Rural Development? Evidence from Baden-Württemberg" <i>with Fabian Wahl. European Review of Economic History, 2025, heaeo18</i></p> <p>"You Reap What You Know: Appropriability and the Origin of European States" <i>with Fabian Wahl. European Journal of Political Economy, 2023, 79</i></p> <p>"The Fetters of Inheritance? Equal Partition and Regional Economic Development" <i>with Fabian Wahl. European Economic Review, 2021, 136</i></p> <p>"The Origins of Agricultural Inheritance Traditions" <i>with Fabian Wahl. Journal of Comparative Economics, 2021, 49 (3), pp 660–674</i></p> <p>"Early and Medieval Periods in German Economic History" <i>with Fabian Wahl. Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Economics and Finance, 2020</i></p>
WORKING PAPERS	<p>"Constructive Destruction? How Allied Bombing facilitated Germany's Rise to Riches" <i>with Hans-Joachim Voth and Fabian Wahl</i></p> <p>"White institutions, Black communities, and the persistence of geographical segregation and labor misallocation in the Jim Crow South" <i>with James P. Choy</i></p> <p>"How Historical Political Instability Shaped Regional Identity: Evidence from Germany" <i>with Fabian Wahl</i> Results from this project have been published as CEPR discussion paper DP18074.</p> <p>"The Economic Effects of Regional Identity: Evidence from German License Plates" <i>with Fabian Wahl</i> Results from this project have been published as CEPR discussion paper DP18074.</p> <p>"The Geological Origins of Civilization" <i>with Andreas Link and Fabian Wahl</i></p>

"Religious institutions and fertility: Theory and evidence from the Amish"
with James P. Choy

"Britain has had Enough of Experts? Political Persuasion and Social Media"
with Giacomo de Luca and Paulo Santos Monteiro. York Discussion Papers in Economics 21/01

RESEARCH GRANTS

2025–2027. British Academy/Leverhulme Small Research Grants Scheme, 9,880.26 £

"Religious institutions and fertility: Theory and evidence from the Amish"
with James P. Choy (principal investigator)

2024. Leverhulme Trust fellowship, 37,017 £

"Wars are breakpoints: Evidence from the Strategic Dispersal of German Industry"

2019–2022. German Science Foundation grant project no. 415959381, 87,081 Euro

"Origins and Consequences of Regional Identity: Evidence from Historical Differences in Political Instability and Fragmentation among German States"
with Kai Gehring and Fabian Wahl (principal investigator)

2014, 2016 & 2017. Conference grants by Wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Gesellschaft Berlin

2012. Humboldt-Universität support fund for media usage in research and teaching *with Nikolaus Wolf (PI)*

PHD SUPERVISEES

Alejandro Moreno Jimenez

Final year student. Topic: Decentralization and Political and Fiscal Decentralization in Mexico.
Co-supervisor: Michael Thornton

OTHER PUBLICATIONS (NOT PEER REVIEWED)

["Raising a child to 18 in the UK costs more than £200,000 – here's why"](#)
with Isabelle Huning. The Conversation 30.11.2023

EDUCATION

2012–May 2018. Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany

PhD Economics. Advisor: Nikolaus Wolf. External Reviewer: Barry Eichengreen

Thesis: "Economic Geography and its Effect on the Development of the German States from the Holy Roman Empire to the German Zollverein"

2009–2012. Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany

MSc in Information Systems, September 2012

Thesis: "Implementation of dela(x)- a collaborative tool for historical statistics"

2007–2009. Universität Paderborn, Germany

BSc in Business Computing, September 2009

Thesis: "The quality of random number generators and their application at the simulation project d³fact"

RESEARCH VISITS

Spring 2024. Visiting Scholar at Pompeu Fabra Barcelona
Economics Department. Host: Marta Reynal Querol

Fall 2015. Visiting Scholar at University of California at Berkeley
Economics Department. Host: Barry Eichengreen

INVITED TALKS &
CONFERENCES

2025. Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture (ASREC) at George Mason • German Economic History Society (GSWG) in Berlin • Economic History Society at Glasgow • University of Halle • Nottingham Interdisciplinary Centre for Economic and Political Research Conference in Nottingham • European Historical Economics Society at Hohenheim

2024. Second City History and Economics Meeting at Birmingham • University of Bielefeld

2023. First Bolzano Workshop on Historical Economics, London School of Economics • University of Manchester • Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture (ASREC) at Boston • 'The Economic Effects of Free Trade Agreements' workshop at the University of Surrey • European Historical Economics Society at Vienna

2022. Institutional & Organizational Economics Academy at Cargèse, France • European Historical Economics Society at Groningen

2021. Institutional & Organizational Economics Academy • Cliometric Society Annual Conference at Orange County (both cancelled due to Covid-19)

2020. Cliometric Society Annual Conference at Orange County (cancelled due to Covid-19)

2019. Association of Religion, Economics and Culture (ASREC) at Boston, European Society of Economic History in Paris • National Systems of Economy or European Integration at Manchester • University of Nottingham • Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin • Understanding State Capacity at Manchester

2018. The Life & Legacy of Douglass North at George Mason University Arlington • World Economic History Congress at MIT • University of Hohenheim • University of Manchester • Lancaster PhD Summer School on Applied Micro Economics

2017. Agliocliometrics III at Cambridge University • Society for Institutional and Organizational Economics at Columbia New York, CAGE • EHES & IAS Summer School on Geography • Institutions and Economic Growth in History at University of Warwick • European Historical Economics Society Biannual Meeting at Tübingen • University of Paderborn • University of Münster

2016. WEast Eastern European Economic History Initiative Conference at Prague • Verein für Socialpolitik at Augsburg

2015. University of Washington, Boston College • City University of New York • University of California at Berkeley • The University of Chicago Booth School of Business • University of California at Davis • Warwick Economic Growth Summer Workshop • London School of Economics

2014. Fresh Meeting at Trinity College

ORGANIZED EVENTS

2024. Inaugural Economic History & Political Economy cluster workshop "Cities and the Wealth of Nations"

2022. Local host of an Economics Network teaching workshop

2014. "Catching up or falling behind? Institutions, geography and economic development of Eastern Europe in the long-run"

REFEREEING	Quarterly Journal of Economics (3x), Journal of Economic History (3x), European Review of Economic History (5x), Journal of Economic Geography, Routledge (2x)
TEACHING AWARDS	<p>2022. Aronson Teaching Prizes (departmental) in four categories: most engaging lecturer first year, second year, best delivered module in the first year “Historical Perspectives on Economic Growth” (joint) and in the second year for “Economic Growth and Development: A twentieth century European Perspective”</p> <p>2021. Aronson Teaching Prizes (departmental) in four categories: most engaging lecturer first year, and second year categories, best delivered module first year (joint) and second year categories • Nominated for the Vice-Chancellor’s Teaching Award, Early Career category.</p> <p>2019. Aronson Teaching Prize for best designed 1st year undergraduate module for “Historical Perspectives on Economic Growth” (joint)</p> <p>2018. “Preis für gute Lehre” for the best seminar at the School for Business and Economics at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, “The Economic History of the State” (joint)</p>
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<p>In York. “Foundations of Economic History” <i>1st year undergraduate lecture, Semester one, since 2023/24</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Principles of Development Economics and Emerging Markets” <i>MSc. lecture & seminar, Semester one, since 2023/24</i> • “Python in Economic Research”, <i>PhD seminar, Autumn Term 2019 & 2021 (York)</i> • “Geographic Information Systems for Economic Research”, <i>PhD seminar, Autumn Term 2018 and Spring Term 2023</i> • “Development Economics: Theory and Empirics”, <i>M.Sc., lecture & seminar, Spring terms 2021–23, joint</i> • “International Economic Growth & Development”, <i>3rd year undergraduates, lecture & seminar, Autumn to Spring terms 2019–23</i> • “Historical Perspectives on Economic Growth”, <i>1st year undergraduates, lecture & seminar, Spring terms 2018–22</i> • “Economic Growth and Development: A twentieth century European Perspective”, <i>2nd year undergraduates, lecture & seminar, Spring terms 2018–21</i> • “Historical Perspectives on Economic Growth”, <i>1st year undergraduates, seminar accompanying lecture, Autumn Term 2018, joint</i> • “Bubbles, Panics & Crashes: Causes and Consequences of Financial Crises”, <i>3rd year undergraduates, seminar accompanying lecture, Autumn Terms 2018, joint</i> • “Economic Data Analysis”, <i>1st year undergraduates, Lectures, Spring Term 2018, joint</i> <p>In Berlin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The Economic History of the State”, <i>M.Sc. Seminar, Summer Term 2017, joint</i> • “Applied Growth Theory”, <i>M.Sc. seminar, Summer Term 2016</i> • “European Economic History 1918–today”, <i>M.Sc. tutorial, Summer Term 2016, joint</i> • “Agglomeration Economics”, <i>M.Sc. seminar, Summer Terms 2015 & 2017</i> • “The Economic History of the German Empire 1881–1914”, <i>M.Sc. seminar, Summer Term 2015</i> • “The Economic History of Prussia”, “Advanced International Trade”, <i>M.Sc. tutorial, Summer Terms 2013, 2014, and 2017, joint</i> • <i>B.Sc. & M.Sc. seminar, Winter Term 2014/15</i> • “Methods in Economic History”, <i>M.Sc. seminar, Summer Term 2014, joint</i> • “European Historical Statistics” [German], • “Data Management and Empirical Economics”, <i>M.Sc. seminar, Summer Term 2013</i> • “Large Data sets in Economic History”, <i>M.Sc. seminar, Winter Term 2012/13, joint</i> • “Spatial Economics”, <i>M.Sc. seminar, Winter Term 2012/2013, joint</i>
FORMER ACADEMIC ROLES	Department’s Graduate Teaching Assistance Coordinator (2022–2025) • Member of the Department Teaching Committee (2021–2025) • Departmental seminar co-organizer (2021–2023) • Departmental Technology Champion (2020–2023) • Department’s Library Representative (2018–2023) • Member of the Workload Model Group (2022–23) • Member of the Department Research Committee (2021–23)
LANGUAGE SKILLS	German, mother tongue • English, almost native • Spanish, basics • French and Italian, basics in reading

COMPUTER SKILLS	Python (esp. Geopandas, OpenCV) • OpenAI • \LaTeX • Stata • R • QGIS • Java • SQL (incl. Oracle, MySQL and PostgreSQL, PostGIS) • Mathematica • AMPL
MEMBERSHIP	American Economic Association • Economic History Association • European Historical Economic Society • Royal Economic Society • German Economic Association
PRIVATE INTEREST	Computer Science • Literature • World History
PERSONAL	Married, two children (b. 2022 & 2025)