



2024 ASREC Graduate Student Workshop
“Introduction to the
Economics of Religion”



**Chapman University
Orange, CA
February 29 -March 2, 2024**



Faculty

- Jeanet Sinding Bentzen, University of Copenhagen
- Jean-Paul Carvalho, Oxford University
- Avital Livny, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Jared Rubin, Chapman University

Students

- Muhammad Adil Ahsan, Harvard Kennedy School
- Caterina Alfonzo, University of Bologna
- Daniel Araujo, University of British Columbia
- Enes Atac, The Pennsylvania State University
- Matthew Billet, University of British Columbia
- Alice Calder, The University of New South Wales
- Riccardo DiCato, The University of California, San Diego
- Mostafa El Sharkawy, University of Michigan
- Israel Eruchimovitch, Brown University
- Gabriel Granato, The University of California, Berkeley
- Eyal Hanfling, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Tiffany Ho, University of California, Merced
- Rumi Khan, The California Institute of Technology
- Marco Lo Faso, University of Southern California
- Tamar Matiashvili, Stanford University
- Tinatin Mumladze, American University
- Olaitan Ogunnote, Vancouver School of Economics, The University of British Columbia
- Alessandro Pizzigolotto, University of Copenhagen
- Aruj Shukla, University of Southern California
- Julio Solis Arce, Harvard University
- Benjamin Tremblay-Auger, Stanford Graduate School of Business
- Shivram Viswanathan, Harvard University
- Luca Vitale, New York University
- Joanna Williams, The University of California, Irvine
- Maddie Williams, The University of Texas at Austin



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024

8:15 AM	Shuttle leaves Embassy Suites – Drop-off at IRES, Chapman University
8:15-9:00 AM	Coffee/Tea and Pastries
9:00-10:30 AM	Causes and Consequences of Religiosity Jeanet Sinding Bentzen
10:30-10:45 AM	Coffee Break
10:45-12:00 PM	Religion and Culture Jean-Paul Carvalho
12:00-2:00 PM	Lunch (Local restaurants)
2:00-3:15 PM	The Politics of Religion and Culture Avital Livny
3:15-3:30 PM	Coffee Break
3:30-4:45 PM	Religion and Political Economy Jared Rubin
4:45-5:15 PM	Wrap-up / Debrief
5:15 PM	Shuttle leaves Chapman University - Drop off at Embassy Suites
5:30-6:30 PM	Drinks and Conversation at Embassy Suites bar
6:30 PM	Dinner – TBD



FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024

Rules of the game: Each paper is given 25-30 minutes, of which 20 minutes is uninterrupted presentation time and 5-10 minutes is discussion time. The last person in each session is the chair.

Presenters are listed first and in bold.

8:00 – 5:00 PM: Registration - Argyros Forum 209

8:00 – 9:00 AM: Coffee/Tea Station - AF 209

9:00 – 10:30 AM: Parallel Sessions 1

1A: Gender

Room: AF 209A

Can Edutainment Shape Gender Attitudes? Experimental Evidence from Egyptian Soap Operas

- **Salma Mousa**, UCLA

Norms and Honesty: A Cultural Explanation for the Gender Equality Paradox

- **Jonathan Schulz**, George Mason
- Caroline Graf, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
- Andreas Pondorfer, TU Munich

One Question at a Time: The Impact of the American Civil War on Mobilization for Women's Suffrage

- **Alice Calder**, University of New South Wales



1B: Civil Rights

Room: AF 209B

Political Foundations of Racial Violence in the Post-Reconstruction South

- **Patrick Testa**, Tulane University
- Jhacova Williams, American University

Power of the Pulpit: The Effect of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Speeches on the Civil Rights Movement

- **Erick Gong**, Middlebury College

World War II and the Roots of the Civil Rights Movement

- **Silvia Farina**, UC Berkeley Haas
- Andreas Ferrara, University of Pittsburgh
- Marco Tabellini, Harvard Business School
- Sarah Walker, University of New South Wales

1C: Firms

Room: AF 209C

Doing Business Far from Home: Multinational Firms and Labor Market Outcomes in Saudi Arabia

- **Alessandra González**, University of Chicago
- Xianglong Kong, University of Chicago

Cross-Pressured Business: Ethnic Attachments of the Indian Family Firm

- **Sukrit Puri**, MIT

Corporate Moral Values

- **Stefano Manfredonia**, Fordham University
- Iftekhar Hasan, Fordham University
- Yukun Liu, Baruch College

10:30 – 11:00 AM: Coffee/Tea Station



11:00 – 12:30 PM: Parallel Sessions 2

2A: Inheritance and Family

Room: AF 209A

Revolutionary Transition: Inheritance Change and Fertility Decline

- **Victor Gay**, Toulouse School of Economics
- Paula Gobbi, Université Libre de Bruxelles
- Marc Goñi, Bergen University

Networked Coevolution in Political Cultures

- **Kerice Doten-Snitker**, Santa Fe Institute
- Marc Wiedermann, Robert Koch Institute and Humboldt University Berlin

Mothers

- **Michael Poyker**, University of Texas, Austin
- Maxim Ananyev, University of Melbourne

2B: Religion and Politics

Room: AF 209B

Political Regulation of Social Norms: The Trade-off between Religious Identity and Voting for Religious Parties

- **Jean-Paul Carvalho**, University of Oxford
- Jared Rubin, Chapman University
- Avital Livny, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

The Causes and Implications of the Pentecostal Movement: Evidence from Nigeria

- **Daniel Sonnenstuhl**, University of Chicago

God Politics: Evidence from the US Faith-Based Initiatives

- **Jeanet Sinding Bentzen**, University of Copenhagen
- Lena Lindbjerg Sperling, University of Copenhagen



2C: Cultural Determinants

Room: AF 209C

The Persistence of Son Preference: Cultural Transmission of Chinese Migrants in Taiwan

- **Yifan Zhang**, Toulouse School of Economics

Integration vs Cultural Persistence: Fertility and Labor among Second-Generation Migrants in France

- **Keiti Kondi**, Université Catholique de Louvain
- Thomas Baudin, UC Louvain - IESEG

Does Diversity Increase Trust in Science? Addressing Vaccine Hesitancy through Representation

- **Kirsten Cornelson**, Western University
- Borianna Miloucheva, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto

12:30 – 2:00 PM: LUNCH BREAK



2:00 – 3:30 PM: Parallel Sessions 3

3A: Religion and Inequality

Room: AF 209A

Foreshadowing Mars: Religiosity and pre-Enlightenment Warfare

- **Tim Krieger**, University of Freiburg
- Luke Barber, University of Western Australia
- Michael Jetter, University of Western Australia

Keeping while Giving: The Perpetuation of Inequalities through the Islamic Waqf

- **Timur Kuran**, Duke University

Religious Minorities and Public Service Provision: Evidence from 19th and early 20th Century Egypt

- **Ashrakat Elshehawy**, Stanford University
- Mohamed Saleh, London School of Economics

3B: Sanctions

Room: AF 209B

Why Institutions Fail: The Interaction between Formal and Informal Sanctioning Mechanisms

- **Alain Schläpfer**, Stanford University
- Vasiliki Fouka, Stanford University

Weak States and Hard Censorship

- **Yu Sasaki**, University of Tokyo

What makes Effective Leaders: Evidence from Civil War Captains and their Soldiers

- **Andreas Ferrara**, University of Pittsburgh
- Christian Dippel, Western University



3C: Long-run Development

Room: AF 209C

The Consequences of Eastern European Slavery

- **Volha Charnysh**, MIT / Stanford

Shaping Religious Identity: Evidence from the Protestant Reformation, 1517-1806

- **Marcel Caesmann**, University of Zurich

3:30 – 4:00 PM: Coffee Break



4:00 – 5:30 PM: Parallel Sessions 4

4A: Religion and Salvation

Room: AF 209A

An Economic Theory of Salvation Religions

- **Weijia Li**, Monash University
- Shaoda Wang, University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy

Historical Narratives and Political Behavior

- **Diego Ramos-Toro**, Dartmouth College
- Elsa Voytas, Dartmouth College

From Alien to Citizen: The Power of Inclusive Propaganda during World War I

- **Joung Yeob Ha**, University of Pittsburgh

4B: Religious Institutions

Room: AF 209B

Early Christian Growth: A Scale-Free Story?

- **Sean Everton**, Naval Postgraduate School

Externalities and the Origins of Religion

- **Anthony Gill**, University of Washington

The Future of the Past: Do Historic Protestant Missions still Influence Democracy in the Global South?

- **Robert Woodberry**, Baylor University

4C: *Freedoms Delayed*: Discussion with Timur Kuran

Room AF 209C

Discussion and Q&A with Timur Kuran on his new book, *Freedoms Delayed: Political Legacies of Islamic Law in the Middle East*



5:30 – 6:00 PM: Coffee Break - Argyros Forum 209

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
ASREC Keynote Address
Room: Beckman Hall 404

Anna Grzymala-Busse
Stanford University
“Sacred and Societal Foundations of the State”

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
ASREC Reception
Location: Beckman Hall 404



SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024

8:00 – 2:00 PM: Registration - Argyros Forum

8:00 – 8:30 AM: Coffee/Tea Station

8:30 - 10:00 Parallel Sessions 5

5A: Religious Change

Room: AF 209A

Cultural Politics and Rapid Cultural Reversals: Understanding the Secularization of Quebec and the Netherlands

- **Benjamin Tremblay-Auger**, Stanford GSB

Towards An Understanding of Fishing Cultures

- **An Huang**, Monash University
- **Thomas Talhelm**, University of Chicago

Our Party, Our Movement: Belief and Belonging in the Discursive Culture of Early National Socialism

- **Steven Pfaff**, University of Washington
- **Sean Everton**, Naval Postgraduate Institute



5B: Conflict and Discrimination

Room: AF 209B

The Economics of Mobilizing Free-riders: Evidence from the Chinese Civil War 1945-1949

- **Peiyuan Li**, Duke Kunshan University

Divided for Good: Football Rivalries and Social Cohesion in Latin America

- **Juan Pedro Ronconi**, Universidad de los Andes, Chile

Religious Discrimination in Healthcare: Evidence from an Audit Study in Indonesia

- **Renate Hartwig**, University of Göttingen
- Teguh Dartanto, University of Indonesia
- Jan Priebe, Bernard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine

5C: Assimilation and Integration

Room: AF 209C

Coping with War Through God: Islamic Traditions and the Promotion of Mental Health Among Refugees

- **Mohammad Isaqzadeh**, Harvard University

Scared Straight? Threat and Assimilation of Refugees in Germany

- **Sulin Sardoschau**, Humboldt University

No al Cous Cous: Populist Food Policy in Italy and Immigrant Integration

- **Paige Hill**, Stanford University



10:00 – 10:30 AM: Coffee/Tea Station

10:30 - 12:00 PM Parallel Sessions 6

6A: Pioneers and Mobility

Room: AF 209A

Does Mobility Make a Nice Person? Theory and Evidence from Across the Globe

- **Ziqi Lu**, Harvard University

Breaking the Ice: The Persistent Effect of Pioneers on Trade Relationships

- **Tom Raster**, Paris School of Economics

America's Frontier Culture: A Particular(ist) Individualism

- **Samuel Bazzi**, UC San Diego
- Martin Fiszbein, Boston University
- Maximiliano Garcia Gonzalez, Boston University

6B: Science and Technology

Room: AF 209B

Cultural Links and Technology Diffusion: Evidence from Industry in Late Imperial Russia

- **Tamar Matiashvili**, Stanford University
- Timur Natkhov, Center for Institutional Studies at the Higher School of Economics

Enlightenment Ideals and Belief in Science in the Run-up to the Industrial Revolution: A Textual Analysis

- **Jared Rubin**, Chapman University
- Ali Almelhem, World Bank
- Murat Iyigun, University of Colorado, Boulder
- Austin Kennedy, University of Colorado, Boulder

The Word of God or Man? Bibles, Dictionaries, and the Vernacular Shift

- **Alexander Taylor**, George Mason University



6C: Identity and Nationalism

Room: AF 209C

Crafting Identity: Rise of Hindu Nationalism

- **Resuf Ahmed**, HEC Lausanne
- Akhila Kovvuri, Stanford University
- Alessandro Saia, University of Bologna

Economic Identities and The Historical Roots of Climate Change Denial

- **Edgar Dewitte**, University of Oxford

12:00 – 2:00 PM: Lunch Break

2:00 - 3:30 PM Parallel Sessions 7

7A: Measuring Cultural Values

Room: AF 209A

Eliciting Values and Social Norms from Folktales – Introducing the Historical Values Survey

- **Stefan Voigt**, University of Hamburg
- Mahdi Khesali, University of Hamburg
- Max-Planck, Institute Bonn
- Nadia von Jacobi, Università degli studi di Trento

Cultural non-independence in the Ethnographic Atlas and what to do about it

- **Tinatín Mumladze**, American University
- Boris Gershman, American University

Measuring Norms: A Comparison of the Predictive and Descriptive Power of Three Methods

- **Erik Kimbrough**, Chapman University
- Diego Aycinena, University of Pennsylvania
- Francesco Bogliacino, University of Bergamo



7B: Ethnicity and Early History

Room: AF 209B

Ethnic-Occupational Niches: Theory and Historical Evidence from Jewish Tailors

- **Eli Locke**, Boston University

Early Hominins and the Reversal of Dominance Hierarchy

- **Michael McBride**, UC Irvine

Ethnic Proximity, Politics and Segregation: Evidence from Malaysia

- **Gedeon Lim**, University of Hong Kong

7C: Religion and Morality

Room: AF 209C

Religiosity and Local Debt Repayment: Evidence from Italian Mayors

- **Luca Vitale**, New York University

Innovation, the Church, and WEIRD Psychology

- **Viacheslav Savitskiy**, Harvard University
- Joseph Henrich, Harvard University
- Jonathan Schulz, George Mason University
- Max Posch, University of Exeter

Religion as a Political Double-Edged Sword

- **Felipe Valencia**, University of British Columbia
- Tommaso Colussi, Catholic University Milan
- Dominic Rohner, University of Lausanne
- Andrea Tesei, Queen Mary University of London

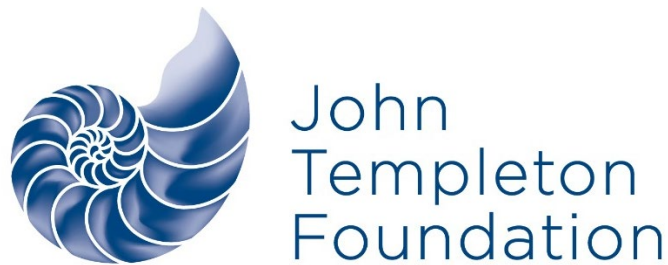
3:30 – 6:00 PM



**ASREC Farewell Reception
Beckman 404**



ASREC would like to thank the following organizations for their sponsorship



Thanks to all who contributed to these meetings, including session participants, ASREC officers, and many others

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We hope to see you again soon...

ASREC Europe at the University of Macedonia, Greece

20-21 September 2024

Keynote Speaker:
Romain Wacziarg

Local Organizers:
Anastasia Litina (University of Macedonia)
Eleftherios Filippiadis (University of Macedonia)
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Call for papers soon