

CRAIG PALSSON

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Positions:

July 2024 – Present	Associate Professor, Jon Huntsman School of Business, Utah State University
August 2018 – June 2024	Assistant Professor, Jon Huntsman School of Business, Utah State University
July 2017 – July 2018	Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Business and Public Policy, Naval Postgraduate School
June 2015 – August 2015	Adjunct Professor, Department of Economics, Brigham Young University

Education:

Ph.D., Economics, Yale University, 2017
M.Phil., Economics, Yale University, 2015
M.A., Economics, Yale University, 2014
B.S. Economics (*cum laude*), Brigham Young University, 2012

Teaching and Research Fields:

Economic History, Economic Development

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

December 2024	Semi-Finalist, Fulbright Scholar
January 2024	Economics and Finance Department Faculty Researcher of the Year
January 2023	Huntsman School Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year
January 2022	Economics and Finance Department Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year
January 2021	Economics and Finance Department Teacher of the Year
January 2019	Emergent Ventures Fellow
June 2018	Finalist, Society of Institutional and Organization Economics Ronald Coase Dissertation Prize for best dissertation in institutional and organizational economics
August 2017	Finalist, Economic History Association Gerschenkron Prize for the best dissertation in the economic history of an area outside of the U.S. or Canada
August 2016 – May 2017	Yale University Dissertation Fellowship
February 2015	Economic History Association Exploratory Travel and Data Grant
August 2015 – 2017	Jones Fellow
August 2014 – 2016	Falk Fellow, Falk Foundation
August 2013 – 2017	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow
August 2012 – 2017	Yale University Graduate fellowship

August 2012 – 2017	Yale University Cowles Foundation and Economic Growth Center Fellowship
January 2012	BYU Office of Research and Creative Activities grant (\$1,300)
August 2006 – May 2012	Brigham Young University Gordon B. Hinckley Presidential scholarship

Publications:

1. Narrow Paths Out of Poverty and Educational Demand: Evidence from Dominican Baseball (with Brian Marein). *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 74(2): 747-775, 2026.
2. VancUber: The effect of ride-hailing on congestion, traffic fatalities, and public transportation (with John Cairncross and Jonathan Hall) *Canadian Economic Journal*, 58(3): 892-939, 2025
3. The Inefficacy of Land Titling Programs: Homesteading in Haiti, 1933—1950 (with Seth Porter), *Public Choice*, 203: 277-303, 2025.
4. "A Whirligig of Revolutionary Presidents": State Capacity, Political Stability, and Business in Haiti, 1905-1927. *European Review of Economic History*, 28(3): 375–98, 2024
5. The Forces of Path Dependence: Haiti's Refugee Camps, 1937–2009. *Explorations in Economic History*, 89, 2023.
6. State Capacity, Property Rights, and External Revenues: Haiti, 1932–1949. *Journal of Economic History* 83(3): 709–46, 2023
7. The Medium-Run Effects of a Foreign Election Intervention: Haiti's Presidential Elections, 2010-2015. *Contemporary Economic Policy* 40(2): 369-390, 2022
8. Small Farms, Large Transaction Costs: Haiti's Missing Sugar. *Journal of Economic History*, 81(2): 513–48, 2021.
9. Is Uber a substitute or complement to public transit? (with Jonathan Hall and Joseph Price). *Journal of Urban Economics*. 108: 36–50, 2018.
10. Smartphones and Child Injuries. *Journal of Public Economics*, 156: 200–13, 2017.
11. Technological change, relative worker productivity, and firm-level substitution: Evidence from the NBA (with Grant Gannaway, Joseph Price, and David Sims) *Journal of Sports Economics*, 15(5): 478–96, 2014.
12. What Matters in Movie Ratings? Cross-country Differences in which Content Influence Mature Movie Ratings. (with Joseph Price and Doug Gentile) *Journal of Children and Media*, 8(3): 240–52 2014.
13. Taxing the Opposition: Cactus League Attendance and the Efficiency of the 'Cubs Tax,' (with Michael Davis and Joseph Price). *International Journal of Sport Finance*, 8 (2): 157–17. 2013

14. Ratings and Revenues: Evidence from Movie Ratings, (with Joseph Price and Jared Shore)
Contemporary Economic Policy, 31(1): 13–21, 2013.

Book Chapters:

1. The Soil of Underdevelopment: Land in Haiti, forthcoming in *Roots of Underdevelopment: A New Economic and Political History of Latin America and the Caribbean, vol 2*.

Working Papers:

1. Incomplete Property Rights and Farm Size: Evidence from Haiti (with Parker Sonnenberg)
2. Early Experiments in Nation Building: The U.S. Occupation of Haiti, 1915-34 (with Christian Fignole)
3. Migration and Living Standards in the Early 20th Century Caribbean: Evidence from Dominican Residency Permits (with Brian Marein)

Other Publications

Review of David Allen Harvey *Tropical Despotisms: Enlightened Reform in the French Caribbean* (2025). *Journal of Economic History*, Vol. 85, No. 2, pp. 612-614

Who Pays When Car Sharing is Taxed? *Research in Focus*, The Center for Growth and Opportunity

Dissertation Summary: Institutions and Economic Development: Lessons from Haiti's Economic History (2018) *Journal of Economic History*, Vol. 78, No. 2, pp. 606-610

Review of Pierre Force *Wealth and Disaster: Atlantic Migrations from a Pyrenean Town in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries* (2018). *Journal of Economic History*, Vol. 78, No. 2, pp. 635-636

Review of Trevor Burnard and John Garrigus *The Plantation Machine: Atlantic Capitalism in French Saint-Domingue and British Jamaica*. *Journal of Economic History*, 2017, Vol 77, No. 3, pp. 958-959

Seminar and Conference Presentations:

2025 – Mountain West Economic History Conference; Utah Economic History Workshop; African School of Economics

2024 – Yale Economic Growth Center: Charting the Future of Economics, Governance, and Economic Development in the United States and Beyond, Society of Institutional and Organizational Economics

2023 – George Mason University, Public Choice Society Annual Meetings, Peking University

2022 – Eastern Economic Association, Journal of Economic Teaching Symposium on Economic Teaching, Yale Economic Growth Center

2021 – Columbia, UC Irvine, Southern Economic Association

2020 – Mountain West Economic History Conference

2019 – APEBH/ALL-UC (Caltech), UC Irvine

2018 – UC Berkeley; Society of Institutional and Organizational Economics; UCAIR

2017 – Utah State University; UC Davis; Economic History Association; UC Merced; Universidad de los Andes (Bogota); Naval Postgraduate School; World Congress of Cliometrics

2016 –Northeast Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC) Conference; Institutions and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean: Historical and Contemporary Issues; Economic History Association; Western Economics Association; NBER Summer Institute: Development of the American Economy (poster)

Pre-2016 – Economic History Association (poster, 2015), Brigham Young University Graduate Student Conference (2014), Western Economics Association (2012)

Referee Service:

American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Asia-Pacific Economic History Review, Dialogues, Economics Bulletin, Economic Inquiry, Economic Modelling, Economics of Education Review, Growth and Change, Intelligent Transport Systems, International Journal of Sustainable Transportation, International Review of Economic Education, Journal of Applied Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic History, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Journal of Industrial and Business Economics, Journal of Law and Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Urban Economics, Labour Economics, National Tax Journal, Public Choice, Regional Studies and Urban Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Southern Economic Journal, Transport Policy, Transport Reviews, Transportation Science

Languages:

Haitian Creole, French, Spanish, Portuguese