

NOAM Y. KIRSON

[http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~kirson/
kirson@fas.harvard.edu](http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~kirson/kirson@fas.harvard.edu)

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Placement Director: Philippe Aghion	P_AGHION@HARVARD.EDU	617-495-6675
Placement Director: Kenneth Rogoff	KROGOFF@HARVARD.EDU	617-495-4022
Graduate Student Coordinator: Nicole Tateosian	NATATEOS@FAS.HARVARD.EDU	617-495-8927

Office Contact Information

Department of Economics
Littauer Center , Harvard University
Cambridge, MA 02138
Phone: 617-803-1236 (cell)

Home Contact Information

16 Fernald Drive (#22)
Cambridge, MA 02138
Phone: 617-384-1348

Personal Information: Male, US citizen

Undergraduate Studies:

B.A., Philosophy, Political Science and Economics, The Hebrew University in Jerusalem, *Summa Cum Laude*, 2002

Graduate Studies:

Harvard University, 2003 to present
Thesis Title: "Essays on Health and Economics"
Expected Completion Date: June, 2008

Thesis Committee and References:

Professor David M. Cutler (Primary Advisor)
University Hall 031, Harvard University
Cambridge, MA 02138
617-496-5216, dcutler@harvard.edu

Professor Andrei Shleifer
Littauer Center M-9, Harvard University
Cambridge, MA 02138
617-495-5046, ashleifer@harvard.edu

Professor Claudia Goldin
Littauer Center 217, Harvard University
Cambridge, MA 02138
617-495-3934, cgoldin@harvard.edu

Teaching and Research Fields:

Primary: Health Economics, Public Economics
Secondary: Political Economy

Teaching Experience:

Spring, 2007	Teaching Fellow, Political Economics Junior Seminar, Harvard University
2005 – 2007	Section Leader, Social Analysis 10, Harvard University 2007 Allyn Young Award for Excellence in Teaching 2006 and 2007 Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching
2004 – 2007	Economics Instructor, MPA Mid-Career Summer Program, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
2002 – 2003	Teaching Assistant, Price Theory, Hebrew University Economics Department
2002 – 2003	Teaching Assistant, Integrative Introduction, PPE program, Hebrew University
2001 – 2002	Teaching Assistant, Introductory Microeconomics and Macroeconomics, Hebrew University Economics Department

Research Experience and Other Employment:

2005	Harvard University, Research Assistant for Professor Philippe Aghion
1992 - 1999	Israeli Air Force, Captain

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

2007 – 2008	NBER Pre-Doctoral Fellowship in Aging and Health Economics
2007 – 2008	Harvard/Robert Wood Johnson research grant, Harvard School of Public Health (joint with Prof. David M. Cutler)
2006 – 2007	National Science Foundation Dissertation Fellowship in Inequality and Social Policy, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
2004 – present	Doctoral Fellow, the Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality and Social Policy, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
2003 – present	Harvard Economics Department Graduate Fellowship

Research Papers:

“Work, Stress and Health: Some Adverse Effects of Female Labor Force Participation”

(Job Market Paper)

This paper finds a strong positive correlation between female labor force participation and negative health outcomes for middle-aged men and women, and suggests that this correlation is mediated by household-level stress. At the cross-country aggregate level, I show that labor force participation of women is associated with increased mortality rates among both men and women. At the individual level, I find that married men whose spouses work are more likely to die within 10 years, to have high blood pressure and to self-report worse health outcomes. The findings do not appear to be the result of reverse causality. The mortality effects, both aggregate and individual, are especially large for deaths from ischemic heart disease, while weak to moderate for cancer. These findings match well with the medical evidence on the link between stress and health.

Research Papers in Progress

“Health and Ethnic Origin – Evidence from the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study”

In examining cross-country differences in health outcomes across developed nations, both environmental and ethnic/genetic differences potentially play an important role. In this paper I use a unique combination of data from the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (WLS) and a series of national health surveys, to explore whether ethnic origin can explain differences in health outcomes among whites, both within the US and across countries. Specifically, I examine health outcomes for men and women of Norwegian, German and English origin. Controlling for other covariates, it does not appear that ethnic origin can explain much variation in health outcomes within the target population.

“A Multi-Country Comparison of Health Outcomes Using Objective Health Data”

I employ objective health markers from an array of national health interview and examination surveys to conduct a multi-country comparison of health outcomes, spanning the US, England, Germany, Finland, Ireland and Norway. Among the health measures explored: hypertension, diabetes and cholesterol levels. This paper greatly expands the comparison in health outcomes between the US and England conducted by Banks et al. (2006), and thus may be helpful in better understanding the reasons for cross-country differences in health outcomes among developed nations.