

Economics 4331
T/T 8:30-10:00 C-113

Spring 2018
Dr. Juhn
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<http://www.uh.edu/~cjuhn>

Economics of Gender

Introduction: This course is an upper level reading course on the economics of gender. We will seek answers to questions such as: Why are men paid more than women? What is the role of discrimination? What is the role of social norms? What explains the rise in labor force participation of women in the post-World War II era? Has the increase stalled leading women to “opt-out”? Why are there now more women than men enrolled in colleges? Are there physiological differences between men and women which explain differences in behavior? We will apply economic models of comparative advantage and specialization, supply and demand, consumer choice, human capital, and discrimination to explore the answers to these questions. While economic theory will frame our discussion, the course will examine historical trends and empirical studies that attempt to answer these questions with data.

Text Book and Readings:

The official text book for this course is “The Economics of Women, Men, and Work,” by Francine Blau, et. al, 7th edition. In addition, supplemental readings from journals and newspapers will be assigned. Most of the readings are available on-line. Click on the appropriate URL to access them on-line. Many of the readings that are printed in economic journals such as the American Economic Review and Journal of Economic Perspectives are available through JSTOR (journal archive) available through UH library. Go to the UH library site and click electronic resources and click JSTOR. You need login access to the UH library. There are a number of readings which are not available electronically. These items will be posted on Blackboard.

The undergraduate labor economics textbook Labor Economics (6nd edition) by George Borjas will also be a useful reference. Hard copies are in the library.

Also check out the following blog for non-technical summaries of economics articles on gender:
<http://calwomenofecon.weebly.com/>

Prerequisites: Students are expected to have completed Introduction to Statistics and Data Analysis (ECON2370) and Intermediate Microeconomics (ECON 3332). The readings for this course, particularly from journal articles, will at times be very demanding. It will be difficult to get much out of this course without having had intermediate price theory and some basic statistics.

Requirements: quizzes (25%), final exam (45%), class participation (30%)

Quizzes: There will be six quizzes on readings worth a total of 25% of the final grade. You will be allowed to drop the lowest quiz grade. There will be no make-ups for the quizzes if you end up missing more than one quiz. With valid excuse, the grade on the final will be re-weighted.

Final Exam: A final exam will be worth 45% of the final grade. The final exam will be a take-home exam of essay questions which will be distributed 24 hours before the due date: May 8, 11 a.m. You may also elect to do an optional project instead of taking the final exam. This would require original data analysis. Please schedule an appointment with me if you are interested in this option.

Class Participation: Groups of students will be assigned to “discussion groups.” Class discussion will be led by a discussion group based on an article they picked ahead of time from the readings marked with (*). Class participation will count for 30% of your grade. Class participation grade will be based on attendance and the quality of the discussions led by your discussion group. I will take attendance. Your reading group scores will be based on ratings by your fellow students (something like Uber rating).

Format: Formal lectures will alternate with discussions of assigned readings led by discussion groups.

Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00-11:00 a.m. or by appointment. It is generally a good idea to call ahead (x33823) or email (cjuhn@uh.edu).

Course Outline

Dates

Topic

1/16, 1/18

I. Women in Economics

Eisner, Emily. "On sexism in economics" August 24, 2017
<http://blogs.berkeley.edu/2017/08/24/on-sexism-in-economics/>

Wu, Alice. "Gender Stereotyping in Academia: Evidence from Economics Job Market Rumors Forum," University of Berkeley undergraduate thesis, December 2017

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/18/upshot/evidence-of-a-toxic-environment-for-women-in-economics.html?action=click&contentCollection=Politics&module=RelatedCoverage®ion=Marginalia&pgtype=article>

Sarsons, Heather. "Recognition for group work," Harvard University working paper, January 2017.

https://scholar.harvard.edu/files/sarsons/files/groupwork_full_v6.pdf

Bayer, Amanda and Cecilia Rouse "Diversity in the Economics Profession: A New Attack on an Old Problem," Journal of Economic Perspectives, Fall 2016

Avilova, Tatyana and Claudia Goldin. "What Can UWE Do for Economics?" Working paper presented at the American Economic Association meeting January 2017.

1/23, 1/25, 1/30, II. Supply and Demand in Marriage Markets

Review economic concepts, supply and demand
Son preference, sex ratios, marriage market, bargaining

Averett and Hoffman, Women and the Economy, chapter 3 p. 80-97.

Anderson, Siwan. "The Economics of Dowry and Brideprice," Journal of Economic Perspectives, Fall 2007.

Botticini, Maristella. "Marriage Payments," In Joel Mokyr (ed.), Oxford Encyclopedia of Economic History. New York: Oxford University Press, 2003. (AVAILABLE ONLINE)
<http://didattica.unibocconi.eu/mypage/index.php?IdUte=107271&idr=11716&lingua=eng>

Frank, Robert. "Polygamy and the Marriage Market: Who Would Have the Upper Hand?" NYT article, February 5, 2009.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/03/16/business/16scene.html>

*Abramitsky, R., A. Delavande, and L. Vasconcelos, "Marrying Up: The Role of Sex Ratio in Assortative Matching" American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, July 2011.

*Wei, Shang-Jin, and Xiabo Zhang, "The Competitive Saving Motive: Evidence from Rising Sex Ratios and Savings Rates in China" Journal of Political Economy, June 2011.

*Bursztyjn, Leonardo, Fujiwara, Thomas, and Amanda Pallais, "Acting Wife': Marriage Market Incentives and Labor Market Investments." American Economic Review, November 2017.
<http://pubs.aeaweb.org/doi/pdfplus/10.1257/aer.20170029>

JPAL summary: <https://jpalnorthamerica.org/2017/03/17/acting-wife-marriage-market-incentives-and-labor-market-investments/>

2/1, 2/6
2/8, 2/13
2/1

Economics of Marriage and the Family

Quiz 1

Trends in marriage rates
Specialization and exchange: comparative advantage
Evolution of American family
Household bargaining models

BFW, chap 3, 4, and chap 9

Isen, Adam, and Betsy Stevenson, "Women's Education and Family Behavior: Trends in Marriage, Divorce and Fertility." In John Shoven, ed. Demography and the Economy, University of Chicago Press, 2010.

http://users.nber.org/~bstevens/papers/Marriage_divorce_education.pdf

Stevenson, Betsy "The Evolution of the American Family: An Economic Interpretation," mimeo, Fall 2008.

http://users.nber.org/~bstevens/papers/Evolution_Family.pdf

Lundberg, Shelly, and Robert A. Pollack, "The American Family and Family Economics," Journal of Economic Perspectives 21, no.2 (Spring 2007) (JSTOR)

Lundberg, Shelly, and Robert A. Pollack, "Bargaining and Distribution in Marriage," Journal of Economic Perspectives 10, no.4 (Fall 1996) (JSTOR)

*Autor, David, Dorn, David, and Gordon Hanson "When Work Disappears: Manufacturing Decline and the Falling Marriage-Market Value of Men" Working paper, July 2017.

<http://www.ddorn.net/papers/Autor-Dorn-Hanson-MarriageMarket.pdf>

Why American Men Are Getting Less Marriageable. Thrive Global, July 26, 2017.

<https://www.thriveglobal.com/stories/10970-why-american-men-are-getting-less-marriageable>

*Bertrand, Marianne, Kamenica, Emir, and Jessica Pan. "Gender Identity and Relative Income within Households," Quarterly Journal of Economics, 2015.

Non-technical summary: <http://voxeu.org/article/economic-consequences-gender-identity>

*Rossin-Slater, Maya, "Signing Up New Fathers: Do Paternity Establishment Initiatives Increase Marriage, Parental Investment, and Child Well-Being?" American Economic Journal: Applied Economics April 2017

AEA Research Highlights: "Getting dads to sign on the dotted line: Will convincing more single fathers to acknowledge legal paternity improve life for the child?"

<https://www.aeaweb.org/research/signing-up-new-fathers-legal-paternity>

2/15, 2/20, 2/22
2/27, 3/1

III. Women and Market Work

2/15

Quiz 2

3/1

Quiz 3

Trends in female and male labor supply
Basic theory: consumption-leisure model
Factors that led to rise in labor market participation
- Demand-side: industrial change and demand for female labor
- Supply-side: household technology, husband's income, the "Pill," divorce
"Opt-out revolution"

BFW, chap 2, 5, 6

Costa, Dora. "From Mill Town to Board Room: The Rise of Women's Paid Labor," Journal of Economic Perspectives, Vol. 14, No. 4, Autumn 2000. (JSTOR)

Goldin, Claudia "The Quiet Revolution That Transformed Women's Employment, Education, and Family," American Economic Review, May 2006.

<http://www.economics.harvard.edu/faculty/goldin/files/GoldinEly.pdf>

Goldin, Claudia and Lawrence Katz. "Career and Marriage in the Age of the Pill," American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings 90 (May 2000). (JSTOR)

*Bailey, Martha, Hershbein, Brad and Amalia Miller "The Opt-In Revolution? Contraception, Fertility Timing and the Gender Gap in Wages," American Economic Journal: Applied Economics July 2012

<https://economix.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/03/06/the-economic-impact-of-the-pill/>

*Stevenson, Betsy and Justin Wolfers, "Marriage and Divorce: Changes and their Driving Forces," Journal of Economic Perspectives 21 (Winter 2007). (AVAILABLE ONLINE)

[http://bpp.wharton.upenn.edu/jwolfers/Papers/MarriageandDivorce\(JEP\).pdf](http://bpp.wharton.upenn.edu/jwolfers/Papers/MarriageandDivorce(JEP).pdf)

Belkin, Lisa. "The Opt-Out Revolution," NYT article published Oct 2003.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2003/10/26/magazine/26WOMEN.html?ei=5007&en=02f8d75eb63908e0&ex=1382500800&partner=USERLAND&pagewanted=print&position=>

3/6, 3/8, 3/20
3/22, 3/27

IV. The Gender Gap in Pay – Discrimination

3/11-3/17

Spring Break

3/22

Quiz 4

Trends in the Gender Earnings Gap
Theories of discrimination
Audit studies
Regression Analysis (Chapter 10, Appendix)
BFW chap 10, 11

Blau, Francine and Lawrence Kahn. "Gender Differences in Pay," Journal of Economic Perspectives 14 (Autumn 2000) (JSTOR)

Goldin, Claudia and Cecilia Rouse. "Orchestrating Impartiality," American Economic Review 90 (September 2000). (JSTOR)

Neumark, David, Roy J. Bank and Kyle D. Van Nort. "Sex Discrimination in Restaurant Hiring: An Audit Study." The Quarterly Journal of Economics. Vol. 111, No. 3 (Aug., 1996).

*Babcock, Linda, Recalde, Maria, Vesterlund, Lise, and Laurie Weingart, "Gender Differences in Accepting and Receiving Requests for Tasks with Low Promotability" *American Economic Review* 2017

<http://pubs.aeaweb.org/doi/pdfplus/10.1257/aer.20141734>

*Bertrand, Marianne, Black, Sandra, Jensen, Sissel, and Adriana Lleras-Muney, "Breaking the Glass Ceiling? The Effect of Board Quotas on Female Labor Market Outcomes in Norway"

NBER working paper No. 20256

Non-technical summary: <http://www.nber.org/digest/nov14/w20256.html>

3/29, 4/3, 4/5
4/10, 4/12

V. The Gender Gap in Pay – Work-Family Conflict

4/5

Quiz 5

Marriage Premium/penalty and family gap

Maternity benefits and child-care subsidies

Long hours, occupational choice

BFW chaps. 7, 8, 9, 10 (appendix)

Waldfogel, Jane. "Understanding the Family Gap in Pay for Women with Children." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 12(1) (JSTOR).

Bertrand, M., Goldin, C. and L. Katz, "Dynamics of the Gender Gap for Young Professionals in the Financial and Corporate Sectors," *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*.

Goldin C. "A Grand Gender Convergence: Its Last Chapter" *American Economic Review*. 2014

*Bertrand, Marianne, "Career, Family, and the Well-Being of College Educated Women,"

American Economic Review, 2013, 103(3): 244-250.

<http://faculty.chicagobooth.edu/marianne.bertrand/research/papers/Career%20Family%20and%20the%20Well-Being%20of%20College%20Educated%20Women.pdf>

Slaughter, Anne Marie "Why Women Still Can't Have it All." *The Atlantic* July 2012.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2012/07/why-women-still-cant-have-it-all/309020/>

*Cha, Youngjoo and Kim Weeden "Overwork and the Slow Convergence in the Gender Gap in Wages." *American Sociological Review* 2014

Non-technical summary: <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2014/05/28/the-wage-premium-for-working-long-hours-has-helped-lead-to-the-stagnation-of-the-gender-wage-gap/>

*Goldin, Claudia, and Lawrence Katz, "The Cost of Workplace Flexibility for High-Powered Professionals," *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, November 2011. http://scholar.harvard.edu/files/goldin/files/the_cost_of_workplace_flexibility_for_high-powered_professionals.pdf

Council of Economic Advisers, "Work-life Balance and the Economics of Workplace Flexibility," March 2010.

<https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/files/documents/100331-cea-economics-workplace-flexibility.pdf>

*Antecol, Heather, Bedard, Kelly, and Jenna Stearns, "Equal but Inequitable: Who Benefits from Gender-Neutral Tenure Clock Stopping Policies?" Working Paper, April 2016
<http://ftp.iza.org/dp9904.pdf>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2016/06/26/business/tenure-extension-policies-that-put-women-at-a-disadvantage.html?action=click&contentCollection=The%20Upshot&module=RelatedCoverage®ion=EndOfArticle&pgtype=article>

4/17, 4/19, 4/24 Gender Differences in the Lab: Nature vs. Nurture

4/19 Quiz 6

Physiological differences, recent experimental evidence, gender norms

BFW chap 9

Summers, Lawrence. "Remarks at NBER Conference on Diversifying the Science & Engineering Workforce", January 2005 (AVAILABLE ONLINE)
<http://www.president.harvard.edu/speeches/2005/nber.html>

Niederle, Muriel and Lise Vesterlund. "Do Women Shy Away from Competition? Do Men Compete Too Much? NBER Working Paper No. 11474, June 2005.
<http://www.nber.org/papers/w11474>
Non-technical summary of the paper
<http://www.nber.org/digest/feb06/w11474.html>

*Niederle, Muriel, and Lise Vesterlund. "Explaining the Gender Gap in Math Test Scores: The Role of Competition," Journal of Economic Perspectives, 2010

*Alesina, Alberto, Giuliano Paola, and Nathan Nunn "Fertility and the Plough" American Economic Review: Papers & Proceedings, May 2011.

*Cook, C., Diamond, R., Hall, J., List, J., and P. Oyer "The Gender Earnings Gap in the Gig Economy: Evidence from over a Million Rideshare Drivers" working paper, Stanford University, January 2018
<https://web.stanford.edu/~diamondr/UberPayGap.pdf>

*Guiso, Luigi, Monte, Ferdinando, Sapienza, Paola, and Luigi Zingales "Culture, Gender, and Math" Science, May 2008.

*Hoffman, M., U. Gneezy and J.A. List (2011) "Nurture affects sex differences in spatial abilities." PNAS, September 2011.
<http://home.uchicago.edu/~jlist/papers/Nurture%20Affects%20gender%20differences%20in%20spatial%20abilities.pdf>

4/26 Review

Final Exam – Tuesday, May 8, 8-11 a.m.