



25367 - Gender Economics

Syllabus Information

Academic Course: 2019/20

Academic Center: 332 - Faculty of Economic and Business Sciences

Study: 3324 - Bachelor's (degree) programme in Business Management and Administration

Subject: 25367 - Gender Economics

Credits: 5.0

Course: 412 - Bachelor's degree in Business Sciences - Management: 4

417 - Bachelor's degree in Business Management and Administration: 4

418 - Bachelor's degree in Economics: 4

523 - Double bachelor's degree programme in Law and Business Management and Administration / Economics: 6

669 - Minor in Gender Studies: 1

Teaching languages: Theory: Grupo 1: English Seminar: Grupo 101: English
Grupo 102: English

Teachers: Maria Libertad Gonzalez Luna

Teaching Period: Second Quarter

Presentation

Men earn on average higher wages than women. Men and women concentrate in different occupations, and women are under-represented in the political sphere and high-powered occupations. Women attain on average higher levels of schooling than men, and they take on a higher share of household chores and childcare.

Why these differences? Do they represent a problem? Should families, schools, firms or governments do something about it? This course will provide you with an overview of a recent literature in economics that documents gender gaps in a range of domains, tries to uncover the factors that drive them, and evaluates the effectiveness of different policies in mitigating them. Some of the main topics that we will cover include: gender gaps in wages and employment; gender and education; risk aversion, competitiveness, and other traits; family (contraception, fertility, abortion, marriage and divorce, household specialization); gender and public policy.

Associated skills

G. COMPETENCIAS GENERALES

G1. Comprender e interpretar de manera pertinente y razonada textos escritos de nivel y carácter académicos.

G2. Ser capaz de justificar con argumentos consistentes las propias posturas, así como de defenderlas públicamente.

G3. Ser capaz de comunicarse con propiedad de forma oral y escrita, tanto ante audiencias expertas como inexpertas.

G5. Dominar las herramientas informáticas y sus principales aplicaciones para la actividad académica ordinaria.

G7. Desarrollar la capacidad de razonamiento autónomo con distancia crítica en temas o cuestiones controvertidas.

G9. Tener consolidados hábitos de autodisciplina, autoexigencia y rigor en la realización del trabajo académico, así como en la organización y en su correcta temporalización.

G10. Tener una actitud proactiva en el deseo de conocer aquello ignorado, imprescindibles en todo proceso formativo y en toda actividad profesional con proyección.

G11. Ser capaz de aplicar con flexibilidad y creatividad los conocimientos adquiridos y de adaptarlos a contextos y situaciones nuevas.

G12. Estar capacitado para progresar en los procesos de formación y aprendizaje de manera autónoma y continua.

G14. Ser capaz de comunicarse adecuadamente como profesional a nivel oral y escrito, aprovechando también las ventajas que le ofrecen las TIC

G15. Ser capaz de buscar, recopilar, analizar la información y datos, evaluando su relevancia y validez

G18. Aplicar el razonamiento económico a la toma de decisiones

- G19. Identificar los factores claves de un problema
G20. Demostrar una aproximación crítica ante situaciones diversas
G22. Demostrar una actitud proactiva, de investigación y de mejora continua

Learning outcomes

This course will provide you with an overview of a recent literature in economics that documents gender gaps in a range of domains, tries to uncover the factors that drive them, and evaluates the effectiveness of different policies in mitigating them. Some of the main topics that we will cover include: gender gaps in wages and employment; gender and education; risk aversion, competitiveness, and other traits; gender and public policy.

Prerequisites

At least one previous course in microeconomics and one in econometrics are recommended.

Contents

- Week 1. Gender gaps in the labor market. International trends
Weeks 2-3. Traditional explanations: Human capital and discrimination
Week 4-5: Psychological traits and non-cognitive skills
Weeks 6-7: Social norms and family
Weeks 8-9: The role of public policy
Week 10: Student presentations

Teaching Methods

There will be lectures as well as seminars in smaller groups.

Evaluation

The course is organized around ten weeks of lectures. The students will be evaluated based on a final exam (50% of the final grade), plus three homework assignments (50%). There will also be a make-up exam for students who fail the course.

Bibliography and information resources

Topics and main references

Week 1. The gender gap in labor market outcomes: Trends across countries

- * Claudia Olivetti and Barbara Petrongolo (2016) "The evolution of the gender gap in industrialized countries." *Annual Review of Economics* 8: 405-434.
* Blau, Francine, and Lawrence Kahn (2017) "The gender wage gap: Extent, trends, and Explanations" *Journal of Economic Literature*, vol 55(3), pages 789-865.
* Kunze, Astrid (2017) "The gender wage gap in developed countries" IZA Discussion Paper No. 10826.
Olivetti, Claudia and Barbara Petrongolo (2008) "Unequal pay or unequal employment? A cross-country analysis of gender gaps." *Journal of Labor Economics* 26: 621-654.

Weeks 2 and 3. Traditional explanations: Human capital and discrimination

- Altonji, Joseph G. and Rebecca M. Blank (1999) "Race and gender in the labor market." In: Ashenfelter, Orley C., Card, David (Eds.), *Handbook of Labor Economics*, vol. 3. Elsevier.
* Blau, Francine, and Lawrence Kahn (2017) "The gender wage gap: Extent, trends, and Explanations" *Journal of Economic Literature* (forthcoming).
Claudia Goldin (2006) "The Quiet Revolution that Transformed Women's Employment, Education and Family" *American Economic Review* 96(2): 1-21.
Goldin, Claudia, Larry Katz and Iliana Kuziemko (2006) "The Homecoming of American College Women: The Reversal of the College Gender Gap." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*.
Betrand, Marianne and Esther Duflo (2016) "Field Experiments on Discrimination" *Prepared for the Handbook of Field Experiments*.
Azmat, Ghazala and Barbara Petrongolo (2014) "Gender and the Labor Market: What have we learned from field and lab experiments?" *Labour Economics* 30: 32-40.

Occupations

- Claudia Goldin (2014) "A Grand Gender Convergence: Its Last Chapter" *American Economic Review* 104(4): 1091-1119.
Cortes, Patricia and Jessica Pan (2017) "Occupation and Gender". In Susan L. Averett, Laura M. Argys and Saul D. Hoffman (eds.), *Oxford Handbook on Women and the Economy*, forthcoming.
Meara/Pastore/Webster (2017) "Is the Gender Pay Gap in the US Just the Result of Gender Segregation at Work?" IZA DP 10673.

Albrecht, J., M. Bronson, P. Thoursie, and S. Vroman (2017) "The Career Dynamics of High-Skilled Women and Men: Evidence from Sweden?". Working paper.

Industries

Barbara Petrongolo and Rachel Ngai (forthcoming) "Gender gaps and the rise of the service economy?" *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*.

Claudia Olivetti and Barbara Petrongolo (2014) "Gender gaps across countries and skills: Supply, Demand and the Industry Structure." *Review of Economic Dynamics* 17: 842-859.

Weeks 4-5. Psychological traits and non-cognitive skills

* Bertrand, Marianne (2010) "New Perspectives on Gender", forthcoming in Orley Ashenfelter and David Card eds, *Handbook of Labor Economics*, December 2010, volume 4B, pp. 1545-1592.

* Niederle, Muriel (2016) "Gender?" *Handbook of Experimental Economics*, second edition, Eds. John Kagel and Alvin E. Roth, Princeton University Press, pp. 481-553.

Azmat, Ghazala and Barbara Petrongolo (2014) "Gender and the Labor Market: What have we learned from field and lab experiments?" *Labour Economics* 30: 32-40.

Gneezy, Uri, Muriel Niederle, Aldo Rustichini (2003) "Performance in Competitive Environments: Gender Differences?", *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, CXVIII: 1049 -1074.

Nagore Iriberry and Pedro Rey-Biel (2017) "Stereotypes are Only a Threat when Beliefs are Reinforced: On the Sensitivity of Gender Differences in Performance under Competition to Information Provision" *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 2017, Vol 135: 99-111.

Ghazala Azmat, Caterina Calsamiglia and Nagore Iriberry (2016) "Gender Differences in Response to Big Stakes." *Journal of the European Economic Association* 14(6): 1372-1400.

Iñigo Hernández-Arenaz and Nagore Iriberry (2016) "Women ask for less (only from men): Evidence from alternating-offer bargaining in the field."

Nagore Iriberry and Pedro Rey-Biel (2016) "Competitive Pressure Widens the Gender Gap in Performance: Evidence from a Two-Stage Competition in Mathematics."

Bertrand, Marianne and Jessica Pan (2013) "The Trouble with Boys: Social Influences and the Gender Gap in Disruptive Behavior" (joint with Jessica Pan), *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2013, 5(1): 32-64.

Deborah A. Cobb-Clark: "Biology and Gender in the Labor Market?" IZA DP No. 10386 (forthcoming in: the Oxford Handbook on the Economics of Women).

Weeks 6-7. Social norms and children

Social norms

* Bertrand, Marianne (2010) "New Perspectives on Gender", forthcoming in Orley Ashenfelter and David Card eds, *Handbook of Labor Economics*, December 2010, volume 4B, pp. 1545-1592.

Bertrand, Marianne, Emir Kamenica and Jessica Pan (2015) "Gender Identity and Relative Income within Households?" *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2015, 130(2): 571-614.

Bursztyn, Fujiwara & Pallais (2017) "Acting Wife?"

Ichino, Andrea, Barbara Petrongolo, Peter Skogman-Thoursie and Martin Olsson (2017) "Economic incentives and gender identity?" Unpublished.

Children

* Henrik Kleven, Camille Landais and Jakob Egholt Sogaard (2017) "Children and Gender Inequality: Evidence from Denmark?" Working Paper, Revised February 2017.

Nikolay Angelov, Per Johansson, Erica Lindahl (2016) "Parenthood and the Gender Gap in Pay?" *Journal of Labor Economics*.

Salvanes, Kjell, Aline Bütikofer, and Sissel Jensen (2017) "What explains the gender gap among top earners?" Working paper.

Chinhui Juhn and Kristin McCue (2017) "Specialization Then and Now: Marriage, Children, and the Gender Earnings Gap across Cohorts?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 31(1): 183-204.

Claudia Goldin and Joshua Mitchell (2017) "The New Life Cycle of Women's Employment: Disappearing Humps, Sagging Middles, Expanding Tops." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 31(1): 161-82.

Weeks 8-9. The role of public policy

* Claudia Olivetti and Barbara Petrongolo (2017) "The Economic Consequences of Family Policies: Lessons from a Century of Legislation in High-Income Countries?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 31(1): 205-30.

Rossin-Slater, Maya (2017) "Maternity and Family Leave Policy?" NBER Working Paper No. 23069.

Bhalotra, Sonia, Irma Clots and Lakshmi Iyer. "Path-Breakers: How Does Women's Political Participation Respond to Electoral Success?" Forthcoming *The Economic Journal*.