

# **Topics in Applied Economics I: Gender and Economics**

**2020-2021 Academic Year**

**Master of Research in Economics, Finance and Management**

## **1. Description of the subject**

- Topics in Applied Economics I Code: 32086
- Total credits: 3 ECTS Workload: 75 hours
- Term: 2nd
- Type of subject: Optional
- Department of Economics and Business
- Teaching team: Libertad González

## 2. Teaching guide

### Course description

This course uses economic analysis to explore gender differences in economic outcomes, in both households and the labor market.

Men' s and women' s economic behavior and problems differ in many ways (market versus non-market work, occupations, wages, etc). However, economics textbooks and coursework usually focus on the male perspective and ignore gender issues. In recent times, the discipline has been evolving to incorporate gender explicitly in our models and empirical analyses. This course will go through some of the main topics and tools in the recent economic literature dealing with gender.

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; gender differences in psychological traits; family (fertility, marriage and divorce, household specialization); and gender and public policy.

### Course requirements

The course is organized around five weeks of lectures. Attendance is required. I expect that students will come to class prepared to discuss the day' s readings. This means you should have done the reading, and you should have questions about and reactions to that reading. You should always bring required readings and any notes you take on the readings with you to class.

The students will be evaluated based on a **final exam** (50%), plus a **research proposal** (50%). Students are expected to have previous knowledge of microeconomics and econometrics.

The **final exam** will take place on XXX.

### Course materials

There is one required book for this course:

Blau, Francine D. and Anne E. Winkler. The Economics of Women, Men, and Work, 8th Edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018. (Referred to as BW)

There are also research papers and additional sources, listed under each topic.

### **Schedule and readings**

#### **Lecture 1. Introduction. Neoclassical economics and feminist critiques**

BW, Chapter 1, including Appendix.

Myra Strober (1994) "[Rethinking Economics Through a Feminist Lens](#)," *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*.

Jim Tankersley and Noam Scheiber (2018) "[Wielding Data, Women Force a Reckoning Over Bias in the Economics Field](#)," *New York Times*, January 10.

OPTIONAL:

Stevenson, Betsey, and Hanna Zlotnik (2018) "[Representations of Men and Women in Introductory Economics Textbooks](#)." *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, 108: 180-85.

Teresa Amott and Julie Matthaei (1991) "Race, Class, Gender, and Women's Works," Chapter 2 in [Race, Gender, and Work: A Multicultural Economic History of Women in the United States](#). South End Press, Boston, pp. 11-28.

M.V. Lee Badgett (2001) "Introduction: Meeting the Myths," Chapter 1 in [Money, Myths and Change: The Economic Lives of Lesbians and Gay Men](#). University of Chicago Press.

#### **Lecture 2. The household as an economic unit. Bargaining and division of labor within the household**

BW, Chapters 3 and 4.

Stevenson, Betsey and Justin Wolfers. 2007. "[Marriage and Divorce: Changes and Their Driving Forces](#)." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 21(2): 27-52.

Cheryl Doss, "[Conceptualizing and Measuring Bargaining Power within the Household](#)" in *Women, Family, and Work: Writings on the Economics of Gender*, ed Karine Moe.

Leslie S. Stratton, "Gains from Trade and Specialization: The Division of Work in Married Couple Households" in *Women, Family, and Work: Writings on the Economics of Gender*, ed Karine Moe.

Lisa Giddings, "But... Who Mows the Lawn? The Division of Labor in Same-Sex Households" in *Women, Family, and Work: Writings on the Economics of Gender*, ed Karine Moe.

Babcock and Laschever, *Women Dont Ask*, Epilogue: Negotiating at Home.

#### **Covid-19 and gender**

Farré, Fawaz, González & Graves (2020) "How the COVID-19 Lockdown Affected Gender Inequality in Paid and Unpaid Work in Spain" . *IZA Discussion Paper* No. 13434.

### **Lecture 3. Couple formation and divorce**

BW pages 359-363 (Chapter 13).

Ann Crittenden, "What is a Wife Worth?" Chapter 7 in *The Price of Motherhood: Why the Most Important Job in the World is Still the Least Valued*, Metropolitan Books, New York.

Maddy Savage, "[Why promoted women are more likely to divorce](#)" BBC, January 20, 2020.

Bursztyjn, Leonardo, Fujuwara, Thomas, and Amanda Pallais (2017) 'Acting Wife': Marriage Market Incentives and Labor Market Investments. *American Economic Review*.

Folke, Olle and Johanna Rickne (2020) All the single ladies: Job promotions and marriage durability. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*.

### **Lecture 4. Fertility and investments in children**

BW pages 367-377 (Chapter 13).

James Feyrer, Bruce Sacerdote, and Ariel Dora Stern, "[Will the Stork Return to Europe and Japan? Understanding Fertility within Developed Nations.](#)" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Summer 2008.

Shelly Lundberg, "[Sons, Daughters, and Parental Behaviour.](#)" *Oxford Review of Economic Policy* 21(3), 2005.

### **Lecture 5. Gender around the world (Friday, January 31)**

BW Chapter 17

### **Lecture 6. Gender gaps in labor market outcomes**

BW, pages 90-102; 109-127 (Chapters 5 and 6).

Claudia Olivetti and Barbara Petrongolo (2016) "The evolution of the gender gap in industrialized countries." *Annual Review of Economics* 8: 405-434.

#### ***Labor markets: a bit of history***

Nancy Folbre, "The Unproductive Housewife: Her Evolution in Nineteenth Century Economic Thought," *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, 1991.

Claudia Goldin, "Career and Family: College Women Look to the Past," pages 20-58 in *Gender and Family Issues in the Workplace*, F. Blau and R. Ehrenberg, Eds, 1997.

OPTIONAL:

Julie Matthaei. "The Working Girl" and "The Entrance of Homemakers into the Labor Force as Homemakers," pages 141-156 and 235-255 in *An Economic History of Women in America*, 1982.

"The College Woman and Children," *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1904.

Teresa Amott and Julie Matthaei, "We Specialize in the Wholly Impossible: African American Women." Chapter 6 in *Race, Gender, and Work: A Multicultural Economic History of Women in the United States*. South End Press, Boston, pp. 157-191.

***Opt out" or "lean in" ? (and critiques)***

McKinsey and Lean In, *Women in the Workplace 2019*.

Barbara Bergmann, "The Economic Risks of Being a Housewife." *American Economic Review* 71(2), 1981.

Lisa Belkin, ["The Opt-Out Revolution."](#) *New York Times*, October 26, 2003.

Sheryl Sandberg, *Lean In* (Introduction and chapter 7).

Bell hooks, ["Dig Deep: Beyond Lean In,"](#) the Feminist Wire, October 28, 2013

Sheryl Sandberg, [Facebook Post, May 6, 2016](#).

OPTIONAL:

Rachel Emma Silverman, ["High Finance and Family Friendly? KKR is Trying."](#) *Wall Street Journal*, September 27, 2016.

Olga Khazan, ["The Sexism of Startup Land,"](#) *The Atlantic*, March 12, 2015.

["The Daughter Effect at Venture Capital Firms,"](#) NBER Digest, September 2017.

Belluz, Julia, ["Women Surgeons are Punished More than Men for the Exact Same Mistakes, Study Finds,"](#) Vox.com November 23, 2017.

Podcast: Radiolab' s More Perfect episode Justice Interrupted, December 19, 2017. (<https://www.wnyc.org/story/justice-interrupted>)

***Gender gaps in recent times***

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.

Nezih Guner, Ezgi Kaya and Virginia Sánchez-Marcos (2014) "Gender Gaps in Spain: Policies and Outcomes over the Last Three Decades" , *SERIEs (Journal of the Spanish Economic Association)* 5(1): 61-103. [[Working paper version](#)]

EXTRA READINGS (OPTIONAL):

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.

Petersen, Trond, and Lauri Morgan (1995) Separate and Unequal: Occupation-Establishment Sex Segregation and the Gender Wage Gap, *American Journal of Sociology* 101 (2), 329-365.

**Lecture 7. Traditional explanations**

***Human capital***

Blau, Francine, and Lawrence Kahn (2017) "The gender wage gap: Extent, trends, and Explanations" *Journal of Economic Literature* (forthcoming).

BW Ch 7, pages 171-180

Christine Williams, "Riding the Glass Escalator." In *Still a Man's World: Men Who Do Women's Work*. University of California Press, Berkeley, pp 81-108.

Adia Harvey Wingfield, "Racializing the Glass Escalator: Reconsidering Men's Experiences with Women's Work." *Gender and Society* 23(1) February 2009.

OPTIONAL:

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.

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*.

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.

Bertrand, Marianne. 2018. Coase Lecture – The Glass Ceiling. *Economica*. 85(338): 205—231.

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.

### **Discrimination**

BW Chapter 11

Bertrand, Marianne and Esther Duflo (2016) "Field Experiments on Discrimination" *Prepared for the Handbook of Field Experiments*.

Irene Powell, "Labor Market Discrimination: A Case Study of MBAs" in *Women, Family, and Work: Writings on the Economics of Gender*, ed Karine Moe.

Irene Browne and Ivy Kennelly, "Stereotype and Realities: Images of Black Women in the Labor Market." In Irene Browne, ed. *Latinas and African American Women at Work: Race, Gender, and Economic Inequality*. New York, Russell Sage, 1999, pages 270-301.

Goldin, Claudia and Cecilia Rouse (2000) Orchestrating impartiality: The impact of "blind" auditions on female musicians. *American Economic Review* 90(4) 715–741.

Black, Sandra and Philip Strahan (2001) The Division of Spoils: Rent-Sharing and Discrimination in a Regulated Industry. *American Economic Review* 91(4): 814-831.

### **Lecture 8. 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. 1548-1572.

OPTIONAL:

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

Babcock, Linda, Recalde, Maria P., Vesterlund, Lise and Laurie Weingart. 2017. Gender Differences in Accepting and Receiving Requests for Tasks with Low Promotability. *American Economic Review* 107(3): 714—47.

Exley, Christine L., Niederle Muriel and Lise Vesterlund (2016) Knowing When to Ask: The Cost of Leaning In, NBER Working Paper No. 22961.

Mazei, Jens, Joachim Huffmeier, Philipp Alexander Freund, Alice F. Stuhlmacher, Lena Bilke, and Guido Hertel (2015) A meta-analysis on gender differences in negotiation outcomes and their moderators. *Psychological Bulletin*, 141(1): 85–104.

Leibbrandt, Andreas, and John A. List (2015) Do women avoid salary negotiations? Evidence from a large-scale natural field experiment. *Management Science*, 61(9): 2016–2024.

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](#)).

## Lecture 9. 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. 1572-1579.

OPTIONAL:

Akerlof, George A. and Rachel E. Kranton (2000) Economics and identity, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 115: 715-753.

Dahl, Gordon, Kotsadam, Andreas, and Dan-Olof Rooth. 2018. Does Integration Change Gender Attitudes? The Effect of Randomly Assigning Women to Traditionally Male Teams. NBER Working Paper No. 24351.

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

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 (2019) "Children and Gender Inequality: Evidence from Denmark" *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 11, 181-209.

OPTIONAL:

Daniel Fernández-Kranz, Aitor Lacuesta and Núria Rodríguez Planas (2013) "The Motherhood Earnings Dip: Evidence from Administrative Records," *Journal of Human Resources* 48(1).



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.

Azmat, Ghazala and Rosa Ferrer (2018) *Journal of Political Economy*

### **Lectures 10. 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.

Bohnet, Iris 2016. What works? Gender equality by design. Harvard University Press; selected chapters.

#### ***Economics of care***

Julie Nelson, "The Childcare Economics Conundrum: Quality vs Affordability" in *Women, Family, and Work: Writings on the Economics of Gender*, ed Karine Moe.

Evelyn Nakano Glenn, "From Servitude to Service Work: Historical Continuities in the Racial Division of Paid Reproductive Labor." *Signs* 18(1), 1992.

Arlie Russell Hochschild, "Love and Gold." In *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy*.

#### ***Policies for working Families***

Council of Economic Advisors, "The Economics of Paid and Unpaid Leave." June 2014.

Christopher J. Ruhm, "How Well do Government and Employer Policies Support Working Families?" in *Work, Family, Health, and Well-Being*, 2005, Ed. Suzanne M. Bianchi, Lynne M. Casper, and Rosalind Berkowitz King.

Claire Cain Miller, "Can Family Leave Policies be too Generous? It Seems So." *New York Times*, August 9, 2014.

#### ***Poverty and welfare***

Listen to Podcast "The Uncertain Hour" Episodes 1, 2, 3, and 6

<http://www.marketplace.org/topics/uncertain-hour> (link is also on Glow)

OPTIONAL:

Marianne Bertrand, Sandra E. Black, Sissel Jensen, Adriana Lleras-Muney (2018)

“Breaking the Glass Ceiling? The Effect of Board Quotas on Female Labor Market Outcomes in Norway” *Review of Economic Studies*.

Bhalotra, Sonia, Irma Clots and Lakshmi Iyer. [“Path-Breakers: How Does Women's Political Participation Respond to Electoral Success?”](#) Forthcoming *The Economic Journal*.

Besley, Tim, Folke, Olle, Persson, Torsten and Johanna Rickne. 2017. Gender quotas and the crisis of the mediocre man: Theory and evidence from Sweden. *American Economic Review* 107(8): 2204—42.

Niederle, Muriel, Carmit Segal, and Lise Vesterlund. 2013. How Costly is Diversity? Affirmative Action in Light of Gender Differences in Competitiveness. *Management Science* 59(1): 1—16.

Beaman, Lori, Esther Duflo, Rohini Pande, and Petra Topalova. 2012. Female Leadership Raises Aspirations and Educational Attainment for Girls: A Policy Experiment in India. *Science Magazine*, February.