

ECON 490: GENDER AND FAMILY ECONOMICS

Spring 2022

Instructor:	Pengpeng Xiao	Time:	Mondays 3:30 - 6 pm
Email:	pengpeng.xiao@duke.edu	Place:	Old Chemistry 123

Instructor Office Hours: Tuesdays 2:30 - 3:30 pm; Wednesdays 2 - 3 pm.

Teaching Assistant: Runling Wu (runling.wu@duke.edu)

TA Office Hours: Fridays 10 - 11 am or by appointment.

Textbook: There is no textbook for the course. The course will be based on published and working papers.

Course description: This seminar course explores a few key topics concerning the economics of gender, one of the most exciting and active fields in current economics research. The focus is on theoretical models of labor and marriage markets as well as their empirical applications. Students will apply economic tools to these topics. They will find, analyze and interpret publicly available data, and develop skills to think critically about gender issues and evaluate policy interventions. Some main topics include: gender gaps in wages and employment; education, majors and occupation choices; effects of parenthood; risk aversion, competitiveness, social norms; marriage and divorce, fertility, household specialization; the role of governments and firms.

Prerequisites: Students should be familiar with econometrics, and at least one programming language (e.g. R, Stata, Python, Matlab, etc.).

Grading Policy:

Data projects	45%
Paper summaries	25%
Presentations	30%

Data projects: Students should submit their code files along with typed answers for the data projects. Students may discuss problem sets together but **must write their own solutions**.

Paper summaries: A two-page summary (double-spaced) for each required reading is due at the beginning of class. The summary should address the following questions:

- (i) What is the paper's research question?
- (ii) What methodology is used to answer the question (e.g. an experiment, a quasi-experiment, a set of correlations, structural model estimation etc.)?
- (iii) What are the main findings?
- (iv) What are some limitations of the paper? Questions for future research?

Important Dates:

Data project #1	Week 2
Data project #2	Week 4
Presentation #1	Week 5, 6, 7
Data project #3	Week 9
Presentation #2	Week 10, 11, 12

Note : Required readings are marked with (). It is recommended that you skim through all papers.*

1 Introduction

Blau, Francine D. and Lawrence M. Kahn (2017) “The Gender Wage Gap: Extent, Trends, and Explanations,” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 55, 789–865.

Altonji, Joseph G. and Rebecca M. Blank (1999) “Race and Gender in the Labor Market,” in O. Ashenfelter and D. Card eds. *Handbook of Labor Economics*, 3 of Handbook of Labor Economics, Elsevier, Chap. 48, 3143–3259.

Goldin, Claudia (2004) “The Long Road to the Fast Track: Career and Family,” *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 596, 20–35.

Goldin, Claudia, Lawrence F. Katz, and Ilyana Kuziemko (2006) “The Homecoming of American College Women: The Reversal of the College Gender Gap,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 20, 133–156.

2 Female labor force participation

(*) Mulligan, Casey B. and Yona Rubinstein (2008) “Selection, Investment, and Women’s Relative Wages over Time,” *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 123, 1061–1110

(*) LaLumia, Sara (2008) “The effects of joint taxation of married couples on labor supply and non-wage income,” *Journal of Public Economics*, 92, 1698–1719

Heckman, James (1974) “Shadow Prices, Market Wages, and Labor Supply,” *Econometrica*, 42, 679–694.

Mincer, Jacob and Solomon Polachek (1974) “Family Investments in Human Capital: Earnings of Women,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 82, S76–S108.

McCaffery, Edward J. (1997) *Taxing Women*, University of Chicago Press.

3 The “parenthood penalty”

(*) Kleven, Henrik, Camille Landais, and Jakob Egholt Sgaard (2019) “Children and Gender Inequality: Evidence from Denmark,” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 11, 181–209

(*) Adda, Jérôme, Christian Dustmann, and Katrien Stevens (2017) “The Career Costs of Children,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 125, 000–000

Angelov, Nikolay, Per Johansson, and Erica Lindahl (2016) “Parenthood and the gender gap in pay,” *Journal of Labor Economics*, 34, 545–579.

Bertrand, Marianne, Claudia Goldin, and Lawrence F. Katz (2010) “Dynamics of the Gender Gap for Young Professionals in the Financial and Corporate Sectors,” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2, 228–55.

Kuziemko, Ilyana, Jessica Pan, Jenny Shen, and Ebonya Washington (2018) “The Mommy Effect: Do Women Anticipate the Employment Effects of Motherhood?” Working Paper 24740, National Bureau of Economic Research.

Andresen, Martin Eckhoff and Emily Nix (2019) “What Causes the Child Penalty? Evidence from Same Sex Couples and Policy Reforms,” Discussion Papers 902, Statistics Norway, Research Department.

Cortés, Patricia and Jessica Pan (2019) “When Time Binds: Substitutes for Household Production, Returns to Working Long Hours, and the Skilled Gender Wage Gap,” *Journal of Labor Economics*, 37, 351–398.

4 Preferences, compensating differentials

(*) Goldin, Claudia (2014) “A Grand Gender Convergence: Its Last Chapter,” *American Economic Review*, 104, 1091–1119

(*) Le Barbanchon, Thomas, Roland Rathelot, and Alexandra Roulet (2020) “Gender Differences in Job Search: Trading off Commute against Wage*,” *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 136, 381–426

Wiswall, Matthew and Basit Zafar (2017) “Preference for the Workplace, Investment in Human Capital, and Gender,” *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 133, 457–507.

Hotz, V. Joseph, Per Johansson, and Arizo Karimi (2017) “Parenthood, Family Friendly Workplaces, and the Gender Gaps in Early Work Careers,” Working Paper 24173, National Bureau of Economic Research.

5 Taste-based vs. statistical discrimination

(*) Goldin, Claudia and Cecilia Rouse (2000) “Orchestrating Impartiality: The Impact of ”Blind” Auditions on Female Musicians,” *American Economic Review*, 90, 715–741

(*) Coate, Stephen and Glenn C. Loury (1993) “Will Affirmative-Action Policies Eliminate Negative Stereotypes?” *The American Economic Review*, 83, 1220–1240

Neumark, David, Roy J. Bank, and Kyle D. Van Nort (1996) “Sex Discrimination in Restaurant Hiring: An Audit Study,” *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 111, 915–941.

Thomas, Mallika (2019) “The Impact of Mandated Maternity Benefits on the Gender Differential in Promotions: Examining the Role of Adverse Selection,” ics 2016-001, Cornell University, ILR School, Institute for Compensation Studies.

6 The “leaky pipeline” in economics

(*) Avilova, Tatyana and Claudia Goldin (2018) “What Can Undergraduate Women in Economics Challenge Do for Economics?” *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, 108, 186–90

(*) Sarsons, Heather, Klarita Grxhani, Ernesto Reuben, and Arthur Schram (2021) “Gender Differences in Recognition for Group Work,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 129, 101–147

Rask, Kevin and Jill Tiefenthaler (2008) “The Role of Grade Sensitivity in Explaining the Gender Imbalance in Undergraduate Economics,” *Economics of Education Review*, 27, 676–687.

Antecol, Heather, Kelly Bedard, and Jenna Stearns (2018) “Equal but Inequitable: Who Benefits from Gender-Neutral Tenure Clock Stopping Policies?” *American Economic Review*, 108, 2420–41.

Wu, Alice H. (2018) “Gendered Language on the Economics Job Market Rumors Forum,” *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, 108, 175–79.

7 Social norms/stereotypes, psychological traits

- (*) Bertrand, Marianne, Emir Kamenica, and Jessica Pan (2015) “Gender Identity and Relative Income within Households,” *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 130, 571–614
- (*) Biasi, Barbara and Heather Sarsons (2021) “Flexible Wages, Bargaining, and the Gender Gap,” *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 137, 215–266
- Zinovyeva, Natalia and Maryna Tverdostup (2021) “Gender Identity, Coworking Spouses, and Relative Income within Households,” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 13, 258–84.
- Babcock, Linda, Maria P. Recalde, Lise Vesterlund, and Laurie Weingart (2017) “Gender Differences in Accepting and Receiving Requests for Tasks with Low Promotability,” *American Economic Review*, 107, 714–47.
- Huang, Jennie and Corinne Low (2020) “The Myth of the Male Negotiator: Genders Effect on Negotiation Strategies and Outcomes,” *Unpublished manuscript*.
- Bertrand, Marianne (2019) “The Gender Socialization of Children Growing Up in Nontraditional Families,” *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, 109, 115–21.
- Babcock, Linda and Sara Laschever (2009) *Women Don't Ask: Negotiation and the Gender Divide*, Princeton University Press.

8 Technological changes and gender gaps

- (*) Yamaguchi, Shintaro (2018) “Changes in Returns to Task-Specific Skills and Gender Wage Gap,” *Journal of Human Resources*, 53, 32–70
- Cortes, Guido Matias, Nir Jaimovich, and Henry E Siu (2018) “The “End of Men” and Rise of Women in the High-Skilled Labor Market,” Working Paper 24274, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Black, Sandra E. and Alexandra Spitz-Oener (2010) “Explaining Women’s Success: Technological Change and the Skill Content of Women’s Work,” *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 92, 187–194.

9 Marriage, divorce, fertility, household decisions

- (*) Stevenson, Betsey and Justin Wolfers (2007) “Marriage and Divorce: Changes and their Driving Forces,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 21, 27–52
- (*) Eckstein, Zvi, Michael Keane, and Osnat Lifshitz (2019) “Career and Family Decisions: Cohorts Born 1935-1975,” *Econometrica*, 87, 217–253
- Attanasio, Orazio P. and Valrie Lechene (2014) “Efficient Responses to Targeted Cash Transfers,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 122, 178–222.
- Doepke, Matthias and Fabian Kindermann (2019) “Bargaining over Babies: Theory, Evidence, and Policy Implications,” *American Economic Review*, 109, 3264–3306.

10 Marriage market vs. labor market

- (*) Chiappori, Pierre-Andr , Murat Iyigun, and Yoram Weiss (2009) "Investment in Schooling and the Marriage Market," *American Economic Review*, 99, 1689–1713
- (*) Low, Corinne (2021) "A Reproductive Capital Model of Marriage Market Matching," *Unpublished manuscript*
- Voena, Alessandra (2015) "Yours, Mine, and Ours: Do Divorce Laws Affect the Intertemporal Behavior of Married Couples?" *American Economic Review*, 105, 2295–2332.
- Reynoso, Ana (2019) "The impact of divorce laws on the equilibrium in the marriage market," *Unpublished manuscript*.

11 International comparisons

- (*) Ashraf, Nava, Erica Field, and Jean Lee (2014) "Household Bargaining and Excess Fertility: An Experimental Study in Zambia," *American Economic Review*, 104, 2210–37
- (*) Bursztyn, Leonardo, Alessandra L. Gonzlez, and David Yanagizawa-Drott (2020) "Misperceived Social Norms: Women Working Outside the Home in Saudi Arabia," *American Economic Review*, 110, 2997–3029
- Bertrand, Marianne, Patricia Cortes, Claudia Olivetti, and Jessica Pan (2020) "Social Norms, Labour Market Opportunities, and the Marriage Gap Between Skilled and Unskilled Women," *The Review of Economic Studies*, 88, 1936–1978.

12 COVID impacts on families

- (*) Adams-Prassl, Abi, Teodora Boneva, Marta Golin, and Christopher Rauh (2020) "Inequality in the impact of the coronavirus shock: Evidence from real time surveys," *Journal of Public Economics*, 189, 104245
- (*) Alon, Titan, Matthias Doepke, Jane Olmstead-Rumsey, and Mich le Tertilt (2020a) "This Time It's Different: The Role of Women's Employment in a Pandemic Recession," IZA Discussion Papers 13562, Bonn
- Alon, Titan, Matthias Doepke, Jane Olmstead-Rumsey, and Michle Tertilt (2020b) "The Impact of COVID-19 on Gender Equality," Working Paper 26947, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Bhalotra, Sonia, Emilia Brito, Damian Clarke, Pilar Larroulet, and Francisco J. Pino (2021) "Dynamic Impacts of Lockdown on Domestic Violence: Evidence From Multiple Policy Shifts In Chile," *UNU-WIDER Working Paper*.

13 The role of public policy

- Holzer, Harry and David Neumark (2000) "Assessing Affirmative Action," *Journal of Economic Literature*, 38, 483–568.
- Blau, Francine D. and Lawrence M. Kahn (2013) "Female Labor Supply: Why Is the United States Falling Behind?" *American Economic Review*, 103, 251–56.
- Xiao, Pengpeng (2020) "Wage and Employment Discrimination by Gender in Labor Market Equilibrium," *Unpublished manuscript*.