

University Of Manitoba, Department of Economics

ECON 2362: Economics of Gender

January-April 2014

Course Outline

Time: 10:00-11:15 Tuesday & Thursday

Location: 215 Tier

Instructor: Fariba Solati

Office: 608 Fletcher Argue Bldg.

Email: solati@myumanitoba.ca (The subject of the Email must read "Econ 2360"). You must include your full name and student number in your email.

Office Hours: 11:30-12:30 Tuesday & Thursday or by appointment. You must be in my office 10 minutes before the end of office hours. Office hours are subject to change.

Course Description and Objectives: Using economics theory and analysis, we explain why there are significant and persistence different outcomes in career choices, earnings, education, and family roles for men and women. To analyze these differences, we look at economic models, we review statistics measures and historical trends and we investigate government and corporate policies. We investigate different schools of thoughts with regards to women and work i.e. neoclassical theory and feminist theories. The course discusses nonmarket outcomes such as marriage, divorce, child-rearing, and housework as well. We will also examine the issues of Women and Work from other perspectives as well. There are factors beyond economics which impact, have impacted, and continue to impact the decisions that women make with regards to their lives in general and their career in particular. Although the main focus of the course is economics of gender in North America, we compare and discuss all regions of the world.

Text Book: Joyce P. Jacobsen, "The Economics of Gender", 3rd Edition. 2007. Blackwell Publishing.

Other Reading Materials:

Class readings will be drawn from two broad sources: Books and academic journal articles. We follow the text book very closely as our main reading source. You should read the text book's chapter (or the section of a chapter) assigned for each class. Also, each topic is accompanied with one or two more readings (with the exception of the third week) which are academic journal papers or book chapters. Students should read the materials assigned for each class and be prepared to actively participate in class discussions. I might add or remove readings if needed. Any possible changes in the reading list will be announced at least one week in advance. Since I believe in quality more than quantity, I may omit sections of the reading materials if necessary.

University Of Manitoba, Department of Economics

Course Requirements:

- 2 in class quizzes (each 20%)
- Final exam (40%)
- Group project (15%)
- Class participation (5%)

Group Project:

Group projects will be presented at the end of the semester (last week of classes). Depending on the number of students enrolled, groups will include 7 or 8 students). Each group is responsible for a region of the world, which will be assigned by draw. You must discuss several topics (topics will be announced in due time). These are the topics that we have already covered in the course. However, you will discuss those topics with regards to your own region (You need to provide data when needed).

You'll be graded based on:

- ❖ Delivery 10%
 - Maintaining audience interest
 - Seldom look at the notes
 - Adequate use of audio-visual tools
 - well management and distribution of time
 - Enthusiasm and audience awareness
 - Clear statement of the subject and the purpose of the report
 - Providing relevant examples
 - demonstrating full knowledge of the material by answering class questions
 - use of statistics to support factors
- ❖ Clear and well organized written results of the project for marking 5%

For group projects, I mark projects not students. All the members of a group receive identical mark. So you must participate equally. You are responsible for arranging and assigning duties yourselves.

The written part is due one week before the presentation date. You will hand in what you are going to present. So if you are going to use power-points in your presentation, you submit your power point one week in advance. If you are going to talk about issues, you submit the written version of your talk. If you have tables, you need to submit them (with proper source reference). Everything you present must have an academic reference in your written submission. After your presentation, you must be able to answer questions. In addition to specific chapters in the text book, you need to have at least 4 other academic references for your project. I will provide more details on the group project as the term progresses.

Academic integrity

Be sure to acquaint yourself with the University's policies on academic integrity and dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating as well as exam impersonation. These are covered in section 7 of the UM's *Calendar*, and are also described and discussed at the Arts

University Of Manitoba, Department of Economics

Student Resources web site at: <http://www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student/index.html>. Be forewarned: Ignorance of the regulations and policies regarding academic integrity is not a valid excuse for violating them. The common penalty in the Faculty of Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F on the paper and F (CW) for the course. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, the penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department in Arts or from all courses taught in this faculty.

Unclaimed term work papers: In keeping with UM policy, any term work that has not been claimed by students will be held for four months from the end of the final examination period for the term in which the work was assigned. At the conclusion of this time, all unclaimed term work will be destroyed according to FIPPA guidelines.

The grading scale for the course is: A+ = 90-100%, A = 80-89.9%, B+=75-79.9%, B = 70-74.9%, C+ = 65-69.9%, C = 57 -64.9%, D = 50-56.9%, F = 0-49.9%

Please note that all final grades are subject to departmental approval.

The last day for voluntary withdrawal from this course is March 19 2014.

A Few Class Rules and Recommendations:

Attendance and participation – I strongly recommend that you make your best effort to attend each and every class meeting **ON TIME**. You can greatly affect your grade by attending classes regularly. As the topics are interwoven, failure to attend a class will leave you with confusion and unanswered questions. If you have to miss a class, collect the class notes before the next class, and come to the class prepared. It is your responsibility to remain up-to-date.

No electronic devices (including recording devices) are allowed in the class (except for laptops which will be discussed in class).

DO NOT CHAT during class.

If you have to leave class when it is in progress, sit near the door and leave silently.

While in class, turn off your cell phone.

Limit your eating in class.

Actively take part in in-class discussions. It is the most effective way of learning.

Exam Rules:

All quizzes and the exam must be taken.

Missed quiz or exam– You will receive a zero (0). You are not permitted to write make-up exams or quizzes. In the case of documented medical or compassionate reasons, I will add the weight of that test to the next test. In any case, you should come and see me as early as possible.

University Of Manitoba, Department of Economics

Although there are tentative dates on the course outline for the quizzes, I choose the dates as the lectures progress. The dates of the quizzes will be announced at least one week prior to the quiz. SRO announces the details of the final exam.

Be on time. Being late does not mean that you will receive extra time for writing your quiz or exam.

No electronic devices are allowed during quizzes and exam.

All cell phones must be turned off.

Before the quiz, you must put your notes and books on the floor. When you are done, bring your paper to the designated table as quietly as possible. I will indicate whether or not you can leave the classroom after each quiz.

Make sure you have signed the quiz attendance sheet.

Any deviation from standard procedure will not be taken lightly. Any unfair means adopted in the quizzes or exam will be dealt with seriously.

If your handwriting is not legible, you'll get zero on that question.

Students appealing any term work whether it is informal or formal must do so within 10 working days of receiving their mark.

Course Topics and Reading List

This outline gives an overview of the topics to be covered in this course. The list of topics and readings may change. Possible changes will be announced in advance. Please note that this is a **tentative** schedule and I reserve the right to change it. We will also be watching a few short videos related to women and work, and Ecofeminism.

Week 1 (Jan 7&9)

Part 1: What are the issues in the Economics of Gender?

1. **Introduction** Joyce P. Jacobsen, "The Economics of Gender" 3rd Edition.

Cagatay Nilufer, Dian Elson, and Caren Grown, "Introduction", *World Development*, 23(11), pp. 1827-1836, 1995. Read only the first 4 pages.

Marianne A. Ferber and Julie A. Nelson. "Introduction", *Feminist Economics Today: Beyond Economic Man*. 2003.

Week 2 (January 14)

2. **Gender differences** Joyce P. Jacobsen, "The Economics of Gender"

University Of Manitoba, Department of Economics

Claudia Goldin, "The Quiet Revolution that Transformed Women's Employment, Education, and Family," *American Economic Review* 96(2), 2006. (focus mainly on the introduction and the concluding remarks)

Week 2 (January 16) & Week 3 (January 21 & 24)

Part 2: Why do women and men work?

3. **The household as economic unit** Joyce P. Jacobsen, "The Economics of Gender"

[Look at the readings on Gary Becker under chapter 9 readings as well (topics related to the household and family only)]

Frances Woolley, "Getting the better of Becker", *Feminist Economics*, 2:1, 114-120

Nancy Folbre, *The Invisible Heart: Economics and Family Values*, 2001. (Read only the Introduction and Chapter 1).

Naila Kabeer, "Jumping to Conclusions? Struggles over meaning and method in the study of household economics" in *Feminist Visions of Development* edited by Cecile Jackson and Ruth Pearson, 1998 (chapter 4).

Shelley Lundberg and Robert Pollack, "Bargaining and Distribution in Marriage," *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 10(4), pp. 139-158, 1996.

Basu, K., Gender and Say: "A Model of Household Behaviour with Endogenously Determined Balance of Power," *The Economic Journal*, (116) pp. 558-580, April 2006.

April A. Brayfield, "Employment Resources and Housework in Canada", *Journal of Marriage and Family*, Vol. 54, No. 1 (Feb., 1992), pp. 19-30

Week 4 (January 28 & 31)

4. **Labor force participation: Analysis of trends** Joyce P. Jacobsen, "The Economics of Gender"

Paul Phillips and Erin Phillips, "Women and Work: Inequality in the Canadian Labour Market". 2000 (Read Chapters 1 and 2).

Diane Elson. "Labor Market as Gendered Institutions: Equality, Efficiency and Empowerment Issues." *World Development*, 27(3) pp. 611-627, 1999.

Week 5 (February 4 and 7)

5. **Labor force participation: Consequences for family structure** Joyce P. Jacobsen, "The Economics of Gender"

University Of Manitoba, Department of Economics

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

Quiz 1

Week 6 (February 11 & 14)

Part 3: The earnings puzzle: Why do women earn less than men?

6. Gender segregation in the workplace Joyce P. Jacobsen, "The Economics of Gender"

Ginther and Kahn, "Women in Economics: Moving Up or Falling Off the Academic Career Ladder?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, summer 18 (3) pp. 193-214, 2004.

Paul Phillips and Erin Phillips, "Women and Work: Inequality in the Canadian Labour Market". 2000 (Read Chapter 3).

Week 7 (reading week)

Week 8 (February 25 & 28)

7. Causes of earning differences: Human capital Joyce P. Jacobsen, "The Economics of Gender" **Appendix**

Goldin, Katz and Kuziemko "The Homecoming of American College Women: The Reversal of the College Gender Gap," *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 20(4), pp. 133-156. 2006.

Miller, "The Effects of Motherhood Timing on Career Path," *Journal of Population Economics* (24) pp. 1071-1100, 2011.

Week 9 (March 4 & 7)

8. Causes of earning differences: Compensating differentials Joyce P. Jacobsen, "The Economics of Gender"

Croson, Gneezy "Gender Differences in Preferences," *Journal of Economic Literature* 47(2) pp. 448-474, 2009.

Week 10 (March 11 & 14)

9. Causes of earning differences: Discrimination Joyce P. Jacobsen, "The Economics of Gender"

Agnar Sandmo, "Gary Becker's Contributions to Economics". The Scandinavian *Journal of Economics*, 95(1) March, pp. 7-23, 1993. **Or** Sherwin Rosen, "Risks

University Of Manitoba, Department of Economics

and Rewards: Gary Becker's Contributions to Economics”, *The Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, Vol. 95(1) March, pp. 25-36, 1993.

Basu, K., “The Economics and Law of Sexual Harassment in the Workplace”, *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 17 (3) Summer pp. 141-57, 2003.

Week 11 (March 18 &21)

Part 5: Historical comparisons: How do gender differences vary over time?

15 . Race, ethnicity, and class considerations in interpreting gender differences

Joyce P. Jacobsen, “The Economics of Gender”

Lisa Saunders and William Darity Jr. “Feminist Theory and Racial Economic Inequality”. In Marianne A Ferber and Julie A. Nelson *Feminist Economics Today: Beyond Economic Man*. 2003.

Quiz 2

Week 12 (March 25 &28)

16 . Policy proposals Joyce P. Jacobsen, “The Economics of Gender”

Julie Nelson, “Feminism and Economics,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 9(2), 1995, pp. 131-148.

Week 13 (April 1 &4 and possibly 8)

Groups present their projects (I will chair and lead the discussions).

More information on Group project:

Among other sources, use these chapters from Joyce P. Jacobsen, “The Economics of Gender” for your group projects:

Part 4: Cross-societal comparisons: Are gender differences the same everywhere?

1. Industrialized capitalist societies
2. Socialist and cooperative societies
3. Non-industrialized traditional societies
4. Effects of development process on gender differences

Regions of the world for class group project:

1. Industrialized/Capitalist countries [other than Canada and US (since they are covered in the class)]
2. Eastern Europe, and Socialist countries or countries with Socialist background
3. Central America and Mexico
4. South America

University Of Manitoba, Department of Economics

5. East Asia (minus Japan), and South East Asia
6. South Asia
7. Middle East and North Africa
8. Africa (minus North Africa)

Good books to read (not required for the course):

Gary Becker. "A Treaties on the Family" 1991.

Blau, Ferber, Winkler. "The Economics of Women, Men, and Work". 2013.

Maria Mies. "Women the last colony" 1988.

Julie A. Nelson. "Economics for Humans" 2006.

Pat. Armstrong. "The Double Ghetto: Canadian women and their segregated work". 1994.

Nancy Folbre. "Who Pays for the Kids? Gender and the Structures of Constrains". 1994.

Maria Mies and Vandana Shiva. "Ecofeminism". 1993.