

University of Waterloo
Department of Department of Economics
Econ 366
Gender and Economics
Fall 2016
8:30am-9:50am, EV3 4412

Instructor

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Course Description

This course explores historical trends and economic theories and models to investigate the development of gender norms and changes in those norms across time. It questions whether physiological differences, economic models (e.g., comparative advantage, specialization, or discrimination) or social constructs can explain gender differences in roles within the family, education, work, pay, and poverty and changes in the differences across time. Social policies designed to diminish gender differences will be scrutinized. Some topics/questions that may be addressed include the rise in labour force participation of women post World War II; occupational and wage differences between men and women; changing educational attainment; and how men and women make decisions regarding marriage, fertility, child care, elder care, and divorce.

Recommended Text

- Why Gender Matters in Economics, 2014, Princeton University Press, by Mukesh Eswaran (ME)
- The Economics of Women, Men and Work, 7th Edition, by Blau, Ferber and Winkler (BFW)

Both textbooks are on reserve at the Dana Porter Library.

Readings Available on LEARN

- Complementary readings will be posted on LEARN on an ongoing basis

Course Requirements and Assessment

Assessment	Date of Evaluation (if known)	Weighting
Midterm test	October 4th	20
Writing Assignment	November 1st	10
Final Exam	November 17th	25
Team Project	December 5th	40
In-class Participation	Every class	5
Total		100%

The midterm and final exams will be held in class during class hours. The final exam is cumulative with more emphasis on the latest part of the course seen after the midterm.

In Class Participation

There will be in-class activities and exercises as we progress through the material. Students are expected to complete these exercises in class.

Writing Assignment

Students will be asked to choose two academic papers (published in a refereed journal) or a government policy report on the same gender related topic. After writing a brief summary of each piece, students will compare and contrast the argumentation, approach and conclusions. More details will be provided in class regarding examples of topics and journals to choose from.

Team Project

Students will be responsible for finding a team mate at the beginning of the term to work on a team project. The project's objective is to complete a report on a gender related question applying the models seen in class and performing data analysis to illustrate the issue or its implications. More details will be provided in class regarding the expected content and steps until completion.

Course Outline

Topics	Textbook Chapters*
A-Gender and the Labour Market: Labour Force Measures - Labour supply - Human Capital Investment - Labour market Discrimination -Employment and Family Policies	ME 4 BFW 5-12
B-Gender Differences in Behaviour and Attitude: altruism – competitiveness – Risk Taking – Nature/nurture	ME 2 BFW 2
C-Gender and the Family: Neoclassical Model - Nash Bargaining Model - Time and Value of Nonmarket Work – Fertility	ME 7,8, 9 BFW 3,4, 13
D-Gender and Women's Status in the World: Women's Economic Status Index – Globalization and Patriarchy – Women Empowerment	ME 6 BFW 17-18

*ME in the Table above stands for the Textbook by Mukesh Eswaran. BFW stands for the one by Blau, Ferber and Winkler.

Late Work

Assignments submitted late will receive a daily penalty of 15%.

Missed Tests

A student who is ill and misses the midterm test needs to provide appropriate medical documentation (no photocopies, *only original documents*) to **the instructor within 48 hours of the missed test**. If the appropriate documentation has been submitted on time, the weight of the test will be shifted to the final exam.

A student who has been ill (documentation required, no photocopies, *only original documents*) and has missed the final exam **MUST** petition **the instructor within 48 hours of the missed final exam** to write the departmental deferred examination. If the student has failed to write the departmental deferred

examination, the student will automatically receive a grade of 0 for the missed deferred final examination. For more information on the Economics Deferred Exam Policy please visit <https://uwaterloo.ca/economics/current-undergraduates/policies-and-resources/deferred-final-exam-policy>.

Grading Policy

Students who would like their test or assignments regraded need to ask the instructor after class immediately after the test or assignment has been given back. The regrading will apply to the entire test and may not automatically result in a higher grade than before.

Electronic Device Policy and Classroom Expectations

Turn off and do not answer your cell phone. Laptop computers are not permitted in class unless the student can show that it is used for the purpose of notes taking.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to come to every class as there will be in-class exercises and discussions.

Institutional-required statements for undergraduate course outlines approved by Senate Undergraduate Council, April 14, 2009

Academic Integrity

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity webpage](#) and the [Arts Academic Integrity webpage](#) for more information.

Discipline

A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties \(https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties\)](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties).

Grievance

A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](#), Section 4 (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>). When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Appeals

A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71, Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72, Student Appeals](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72>).

Note for Students with Disabilities

The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (NH 1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.

If Using Turnitin in your Course

Turnitin.com: Text matching software (Turnitin®) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all material and sources in assignments is documented. Students will be given an option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin®. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin® in this course.

Note: students must be given a reasonable option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin®. See [guidelines for instructors](#) for more information.

Faculty of Arts-required statements for undergraduate course outlines

Cross-listed Course (if applicable)

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.