

Econ 400: Economics of Gender and Work

Chancellors Hall Room 132, M/W 2-3:20 pm

Instructor: Professor Emily Moschini

General Course Information

- **Instructor Contact Information** Email: egmoschini@wm.edu Office Hours: M/W 7-8:30 pm, via zoom (see Blackboard for link). I do not have office hours during Labor Day or Thanksgiving break, or between the end of classes and the final exam.
- **Textbook** *The Economics of Women, Men, and Work*, by Francine Blau and Anne Winkler, 8th Edition.
- **Important Deadlines** Add-drop period ends Sep. 12. Last day to withdraw from the course is Oct. 31.
- **Important Dates** Final exam day: December 19. See the calendar later in this syllabus for other important dates. Please verify that, barring illness, you can attend all presentations and meet the final essay deadline. No extensions will be granted for any assignment – see COVID Policies section.
- **Course Description** This course focuses on the analysis of gender differences in economic outcomes, both in the labor market and in the household. You will learn about key observed labor differences across genders, including labor market participation, occupational choices, and wages. Together, we will assess some of the empirical evidence for and against various theories that try to explain those differences. The focus is on the United States, but the international context is also discussed.
- **Classroom Behavior** Please: avoid disruptive behavior (e.g., sleeping in class is not permitted). If you need to leave the room temporarily during class, try to minimize the noise you make. During class meetings, unless otherwise instructed, laptops must be in your bag and cell phones should only be out if we are conducting a survey. Masks are welcome.

Grades

- **Graded Components:**
 1. 8 weekly reading assignments, and their associated reading activity on Blackboard. This activity is graded for completion - can skip 2 with no penalty.
 2. 2 group presentations. Details for these assignments will be posted in separate documents.
 3. A final individual essay due by the day of final exam. Details for this assignment will be posted in a separate document.
- **How Grades are Computed:** Table 1 gives contribution to the course grade of each component. Letter grade cutoffs are standard: A ($\geq 93\%$), A- (90-93), B+ (86-90), B (83-86), etc.

Component	% of Grade
Reading Assignment Activities (6 @ 5%)	30
Group Presentations (2 @ 20%)	40
Final Essay	30

- **Academic Integrity** Academic integrity is at the heart of the university. The *Student Handbook* (www.wm.edu/studenthandbook) includes your responsibilities as a student. To read the Honor Code, see www.wm.edu/honor. A minimum penalty for any breach of academic integrity is a grade of F for the course.
- **Academic Accommodations** It is the policy of The College of William & Mary to accommodate students with disabilities and qualifying diagnosed conditions in accordance with federal and state laws. Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a learning, psychiatric, physical or chronic health diagnosis should be referred to Student Accessibility Services (SAS) staff at 757- 221-2509 or at sas@wm.edu. SAS staff will work with you to determine if accommodations are

warranted, and if so, to help you obtain an official letter of accommodation. For more information, please see www.wm.edu/sas.

Policy on absences

As soon as you (the student) know that you will not be able to attend class in person (either because of having tested positive, having symptoms consistent with COVID, or other matters), ***you should email me*** (the instructor). In that case, I will make a note that you will be absent and expect to see you join the class via zoom. Please make every effort not to miss classes for non-health related reasons.

For this course in Fall 2022, here is how we will address **student** absences:

- Assignments you cannot complete while absent will count towards the allotment of skippable assignments. If you are too sick to contribute to your group presentation, you must notify me before your group presents and I will move the grade weight to the final paper. Lectures can be attended via zoom (link on Bb) and I expect you to attend unless your health situation is dire.

For this course in Fall 2022, here is how we will address unplanned **instructor** absences due to COVID:

- If my health allows, I will move everything online (remote *synchronous* mode) for 1 week, with the potential for extending this to 2 weeks (or more). I will notify you of this change in delivery mode beforehand via email and the zoom link will be on Blackboard. We will continue to follow the course outline in this syllabus.
- If my health does not allow me to continue live instruction, we will move to remote *asynchronous* delivery mode. You will still need to keep up with your assignments (see course outline). Email me with questions and I will respond to the best of my ability. Changes to the course outline, if necessary, will be broadcasted.

Course Outline

*I may change the order of topics/presentation dates. See the COVID Policies section.

ACTIVITY CODE KEY: “L” stands for lecture; “RD” stands for student-led reading discussion; “SH” study hall (these days are for making progress on your presentation; I will be available to help).

Week	Date	Chapter	Format	Reading Assignment	Reading Activity	
1	31-Aug	Introduction + Lecture	L			
2	5-Sep	NO CLASS - LABOR DAY				
2	7-Sep	Historical Perspective	L+RD	Reading Assignment #1	RA #1	
3	12-Sep	The Family as an Economic Unit: Theory	L			
3	14-Sep		L+RD	Reading Assignment #2	RA #2	
4	19-Sep	The Family as an Economic Unit: Evidence	L			
4	21-Sep		L+RD	Reading Assignment #3	RA #3	
5	26-Sep	The Labor Force: Definitions and Trends	L			
5	28-Sep	NO CLASS MEETING - work on Reading Assignment #4				
6	3-Oct	The labor supply decision	L + RD	Reading Assignment #4	RA #4	
6	5-Oct	Presentation prep	SH			
7	10-Oct	Group presentations #1: see handout posted on Bb for specifics				
7	12-Oct					
8	17-Oct	Gender differences: labor market outcomes	L			
8	19-Oct		L+RD	Reading Assignment #5	RA #5	
9	24-Oct	Gender differences: educational attainment	L			
9	26-Oct		L+RD	Reading Assignment #6	RA #6	
10	31-Oct	Other sources of gender differences in earnings and occupations: evidence	L			
10	2-Nov		L+RD	Reading Assignment #7	RA #7	
11	7-Nov	Labor market discrimination	L			
11	9-Nov	Presentation prep	SH			
12	14-Nov	NO CLASS MEETING - work on group presentation #2				
12	16-Nov	Group presentations #2: see separate handout posted on Bb for specifics				
13	21-Nov	REMOTE INSTRUCTION- office hours during class		Work on group presentation #2 or Reading Assignment #8		
13	23-Nov	THANKSGIVING BREAK				
14	28-Nov	Group presentations #2: see separate handout posted on Bb for specifics				
14	30-Nov	Gender differences around the world	L+RD	Reading Assignment #8	RA #8	
15	5-Dec	Comparison: economically adv. countries	L			
15	7-Dec	Final paper prep	SH			
		December 19, final paper due at 11:59 pm – submit via Bb, see handout on Bb for specifics				