

Econ 400: Economics of Gender and Work (Fall 2023)

Chancellors Hall Room 114, M/W 2-3:20 pm

Instructor: Professor Emily Moschini

Instructor Contact Information Email: egmoschini@wm.edu Office Hours: M/W 7-7:45 pm, via zoom (see Blackboard for link). I do not have office hours during Labor Day, Fall break, 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. 11. Last day to withdraw from the course is Oct. 30.

Important Dates Final essay due date [final exam day]: December 15. 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. You cannot unilaterally decide to reschedule your presentation. No extensions will be granted for any assignment.

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.

Graded Components:

1. 6 weekly reading assignments, and their associated reading activity on Blackboard. This activity is graded for completion. It is due right before class meeting (1:59 pm ET) on the day listed in the calendar. You may skip 2 of the 8 posted reading assignments 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 for this course are: 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.

Artificial Intelligence: The use or incorporation of any AI-generated content (from ChatGPT, Dall-e, etc.) in assignments is not allowed.

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, *you should email me* Please make every effort not to miss classes for non-health related reasons. 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.

Course Outline *I may change the order of topics/presentation dates. **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).

Weekday	Week	Date	Chapter	Format	Reading Assignment	Reading Activity	
Wednesday	1	30-Aug	Introduction				
Monday	2	4-Sep	NO CLASS - LABOR DAY				
Wednesday	2	6-Sep	Historical Perspective	L			
Monday	3	11-Sep		L+RD	Reading Assignment #1	RA #1	
Wednesday	3	13-Sep	The Family as an Economic Unit: Theory	L			
Monday	4	18-Sep		L+RD	Reading Assignment #2	RA #2	
Wednesday	4	20-Sep	The Family as an Economic Unit: Evidence	L			
Monday	5	25-Sep		L+RD	Reading Assignment #3	RA #3	
Wednesday	5	27-Sep	The Labor Force: Definitions and Trends	L			
Monday	6	2-Oct	The labor supply decision + Prof. Staiger class visit	L + RD	Reading Assignment #4	RA #4	
Wednesday	6	4-Oct	Presentation prep	SH			
Monday	7	9-Oct	Group presentations #1: see handout posted on Bb for specifics				
Wednesday	7	11-Oct					
Monday	8	16-Oct	Gender differences: labor market outcomes	L			
Wednesday	8	18-Oct		L+RD	Reading Assignment #5	RA #5	
Monday	9	23-Oct	Gender differences: educational attainment	L			
Wednesday	9	25-Oct		L+RD	Reading Assignment #6	RA #6	
Monday	10	30-Oct	Other sources of gender differences in earnings and occupations: evidence	L			
Wednesday	10	1-Nov	NO CLASS - work on next Reading Assignment				
Monday	11	6-Nov	Other sources of gender differences in earnings and occupations: evidence	L+RD	Reading Assignment #7	RA #7	
Wednesday	11	8-Nov	Labor market discrimination	L			
Monday	12	13-Nov	Gender differences around the world	L+RD	Reading Assignment #8	RA #8	
Wednesday	12	15-Nov	Presentation prep	SH			
Monday	13	20-Nov	ASYNCHRONOUS - work on group presentation #2				
Wednesday	13	22-Nov	NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING				
Monday	14	27-Nov	Group presentations #2: see handout posted on Bb for specifics				
Wednesday	14	29-Nov					
Monday	15	4-Dec	Comparison: economically adv. countries	L			
Wednesday	15	6-Dec	Final paper prep	SH			
15-Dec			Final paper due at 11:59 pm – submit via Bb, see handout on Bb for specifics				