



ECON 4380: Economics of Gender

2023 Spring Session	
Total Class Sessions: 25 Class Sessions Per Week: 5 Total Weeks: 5 Class Session Length (Minutes): 145 Credit Hours: 4	Instructor: Staff Classroom: TBA Office Hours: TBA Language: English

Course Description:

This course provides a critical overview of economic theories, methods and economic policy-debates from a gender perspective. The course is designed to cover major debates in gender economics relevant to developed and developing countries. The course analyzes orthodox economic theory and provides students with a gender-critique while offering students the chance to explore alternative feminist economic theory and apply these different theoretical understandings to concrete examples in the real world. The course spans essential topics such as gender and the history of economic thought, gender and households, women, gender and labor market processes, macroeconomics and gender as well as several other selected topics in gender and development.

Prerequisite: Intermediate Microeconomics and Intermediate Macroeconomics

Learning Objectives

On successful completion of the course, students should be able to demonstrate the ability to:

1. Understand the theoretical debates surrounding the construction of gender and gender relations in the discipline of economics.
2. Familiarized with strategies of evaluating diverse sources of socio-economic and demographic information for analyzing the impact of the gender factor on demographic processes and economic development
3. Critically examine and assess mainstream and heterodox economic theories and policies from a gender perspective.
4. Evaluate the ways in which current economic realities in developed and developing countries have different effects on men and women.
5. Identify the connections between feminist economic theory and feminist economic reality in developed and developing countries.
6. Acquire the skills to conduct gender review of socio-economic and demographic development policies, programmes and strategies.
7. On the basis of a solid understanding of alternative, gendered economic theory, propose alternative policies that address gender inequalities in different economic spheres.

Course Materials:



The course will make use of a number of textbooks which will be listed in the reading list below. The teaching materials and reading assignment will be selected from the following list. Students will be provided with reading materials details and PowerPoint slides to foster greater understanding.

Suggested Core Reading

- a. Textbook: Mukesh Eswaran, *Why Gender Matters in Economics*. Princeton University Press, 2014.
- b. Jacobsen, J. P. (2007). *The economics of gender* (No. 305.4 J3).
- c. Rai, S. M., & Waylen, G. (Eds.). (2014). *New frontiers in feminist political economy* (p. 220). London: Routledge.
- d. Benería, L., Berik, G., & Floro, M. S. (2015). *Gender, development, and globalization: Economics as if all people mattered*. Routledge.

Additional or Supplementary Reading:

Supplementary texts are available for your reference as buffer information to facilitate greater understanding of course content to students. Suggested economics of gender texts include (there are probably newer editions of some of these books available):

- a. Jackson, C., & Pearson, R. (Eds.). (2005). *Feminist visions of development: gender analysis and policy*. Routledge.
- b. Jayachandran, S. (2015). Does Economic Development Mean Less Discrimination Against Women?. *Milken Institute Review*, 36-47.
- c. Duflo, Esther. "Grandmothers and granddaughters: oldage pensions and intrahousehold allocation in South Africa." *The World Bank Economic Review* 17.1 (2003)
- d. Nelson, J. (1995). *Feminism, objectivity and economics*. Routledge.
- e. Barker, D. K., & Feiner, S. F. (2004). *Liberating Economics: Feminist Perspectives on Families, Work, and Globalization*, ed. Drucilla K. Barker and Susan F. Feiner.
- f. Barker, D., Bergeron, S., & Feiner, S. F. (2021). *Liberating economics: Feminist perspectives on families, work, and globalization*. University of Michigan Press.
- g. Kabeer, N. (1994). *Reversed realities: Gender hierarchies in development thought*. Verso.

Course Format and Requirements:

Students will gain their knowledge in this course through lectures, class discussions, quizzes and exams. Lectures will concentrate on the most important and more challenging material contained in each text chapter.

Attendance:

Students are supposed to be present at all class sessions. Notifications about absence reasons to the instructor should be done in advance if students are not able to attend classes. Students will be allowed a one-time pass for an emergency absence. Other than that, one time of absence would result in More than three absences will result in the failure of the course. Active



participation in all classroom activities is also very important for students to achieve success in this course.

Course Assessment:

Assignment	Scores (Percentage %)
Exam 1	25
Exam 2	25
Final Paper	40
Class Participation / Daily assignment turnout	10

Grading Scale (percentage):

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
98-100	93-97	90-92	88-89	83-87	80-82	78-79	73-77	70-72	68-69	63-67	60-62	<60

Academic Integrity:

Students are encouraged to study together, and to discuss lecture topics with one another, but all other work should be completed independently.

Students are expected to adhere to the standards of academic honesty and integrity that are described in the Chengdu University of Technology's Academic Conduct Code. Any work suspected of violating the standards of the Academic Conduct Code will be reported to the Dean's Office. Penalties for violating the Academic Conduct Code may include dismissal from the program. All students have an individual responsibility to know and understand the provisions of the Academic Conduct Code.

Special Needs or Assistance:

Please contact the Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material. Our goal is to help you learn, not to penalize you for issues which mask your learning.

Tentative Course Schedule:

Module	Topics	Assignments
1	Introduction 1. Microeconomics - basic approach 2. Microeconomics- basic tools and concepts	Daily Assignments



	<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Empirical methods in economics: an introduction4. An introduction to gender disparities in economic outcomes5. Gender: A Historical Perspective6. Gender differences in economic behavior	
2	Marriage and the Family- An Economic Approach <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Marriage and family structure- an overview2. Economics of marriage3. Production, specialization, and the gains to marriage4. Other economics approaches to the benefits of marriage5. A supply and demand model of marriage6. Changes in supply and demand: What happens to the marriage market?	Daily Assignment Exam 1
3	Marriage and the Family- Economic Issues and Applications <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Marriage and the earnings of men2. Divorce and consequences3. The Economics of Fertility: Fertility facts4. Fertility - modern economic approach5. Choosing - economics of fertility6. New directions in the economics and fertility	Daily Assignments
4	Women at Work <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Women's labor force participation2. Economic model of women's labor force participation3. Explaining the increase in women's labor force participation4. Effect of changes in wages, income, and household productivity5. Gender gap in earnings6. Occupational segregation7. Gender differences in education	Daily Assignments Exam 2 Final Paper