

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Department of Economics

**Spring semester,
2013-2014**

**Economics 375:
Women, Men and the Economy**

**Mr. Killingsworth
201-B New Jersey Hall**

Office hours: Tuesdays 1-3:00 pm in 201-B New Jersey Hall, CAC (848-932-7794); or by appointment. (Feel free to make an appointment for another time if regular office hours are not convenient. You can also leave a message at 848- 932-7794, or at the Economics Department at 848-932-7363.) Office hours are an INTEGRAL part of the course! My e-mail address is **mrk@rci.rutgers.edu**.

Learning objectives: To show how economic analysis can be applied to questions about the roles of women and men in the economy, and to train students in independent thinking about and analysis of such questions. Econ. 320 (Intermediate Microeconomics) and Econ. 322 (Econometrics) are prerequisites for this course.

PLEASE NOTE: Laptops and cell phones may *not* be used at any time, for any purpose, during lectures or exams. Anyone who does not conform to this requirement will be removed from the classroom. Likewise, anyone talking to other members of the class during lectures or exams will be removed from the classroom. Anyone removed from the classroom will not be readmitted to the classroom without prior consultation with the instructor and the dean of students.

Quizzes, exams and grades: Grades will be based on a midterm exam (35%), a final exam (35%), and quizzes (30%).

The quizzes: Four quizzes will be given during the semester; your best *two* quiz scores will be used in computing your course grade. Dates of quizzes will not be announced in advance. *Anyone absent from a quiz will receive a score of zero for that quiz. There will be no makeups for any quiz.* (In lieu of makeups, you get to drop your two lowest quiz scores.) *If you arrive late (i.e., after a quiz is being distributed), you will not be allowed to take it.* Each quiz will be open-book/open-notes, consist of multiple-choice questions, and take no more than 30 minutes. The quizzes are graded using a Scantron form, so please always *bring a pencil with an eraser to class*.

The exams: Review questions and answers will be distributed before each exam. The final exam will be given on Thursday, May 8, between noon-3pm. Students who miss the midterm exam or the final exam are required to take a makeup exam. Also, students who take an exam but want to improve their grade may, at their own option, take the makeup to that exam. In this case, your grade will be based on the better of the two exams (i.e., if the makeup score is higher than the original exam score, the makeup score will be used; otherwise, the original exam score will be used). (For students who take the exam but not the makeup, the original exam grade will count as the actual exam grade.) The midterm and final exams will (i) consist entirely of essay questions that will stress the ability to apply principles of economics developed in the readings and lectures; and (ii) be open-book/open-notes (so that memorization and rote learning will be deemphasized).

Text and readings: The required text for the course is Joyce Jacobsen, The Economics of Gender (cited as "JPJ" below). (You can use *either* the second *or* the third edition of this text.) Other readings are noted in the Syllabus (see below).

Student subscriptions: Although this is not a requirement for this course, you should regularly read one or more publications in economics and business (e.g., *The New York Times*; *The Wall Street Journal*; *Business Week*; *The Economist*; etc.). You can order these publications at steeply-discounted student rates; see the Sakai site for this course for details.

Absences: I do not give credit for attendance, and I do not penalize students for absences. (However, note that if you're absent on a day when a quiz is given, your quiz score will be recorded as a zero; see above.) The Rutgers Self-Reporting Absence Website can be accessed at <http://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra>.

Sakai site for the course: You can download the syllabus, lecture notes and full text of readings for this course by visiting the site for this course on Sakai, at <https://sakai.rutgers.edu/> . Check every Friday afternoon for readings and lecture notes for the coming week. Also, be sure to **check your email in-box regularly** for important announcements about the course, readings, dates of exams, etc.

Helpful hints:

- The midterm and final exams (1) consist of essay questions, (2) are open-book/open-notes, (3) do NOT require memorization and (4) emphasize clear thinking and application of the principles of microeconomic analysis to economic questions (including questions that may not have been discussed in lectures or sections).
- Do the required readings in the text BEFORE they are discussed in class -- DON'T wait until exam time rolls around. (This is particularly important because the dates of quizzes will *not* be announced. You'll need to be prepared *before* you come to class!)
- Read the text and readings at least TWICE – the material is too complicated to grasp fully after only one reading.
- Above all, if you need help, DO ask questions in class and DO go to office hours (preferably, well before exam time). REMEMBER that your tuition will NOT be increased if you go to office hours!
- Remember that there will be no makeup for any quiz, and there will be no makeups for any makeup exam. If you miss a quiz, you will receive a score of zero for that quiz. If you miss both an exam and the makeup to that exam, you will receive a score of zero for that exam.
- If you encounter problems of any kind – personal problems, family problems, academic problems, emotional problems, health problems, etc. – you should deal with them *as soon as they arise* by contacting your college dean, by contacting me, etc. **Don't** wait until the end of the semester to tell me about these problems – at that point, it will be much too late to do anything about them!

Syllabus for the course

1. Introduction

JPJ, Chapters 1-2 and Appendix to Chapter 7 ("Regression Analysis")

Review of econometrics: Notes on regression analysis; Missing variables problem

2. Early Socialization and Education

Morgan, Lye and Condran, "Sons, Daughters and the Risk of Marital Disruption," American Journal of Sociology, 94: 110-129 (1988).

Dahl and Moretti, "The Demand for Sons," Review of Economic Studies 75: 1085-1120 (2008).

Corcoran and Courant, "Sex-Role Socialization and Occupational Segregation: An Exploratory Investigation," Journal of Post Keynesian Economics 9: 330-346 (1987).

Butcher and Case, "The Effect of Sibling Sex Composition on Women's Education and Earnings," Quarterly Journal of Economics 109: 531-563 (1994)

Polachek, "Sex Differences in College Major," Industrial and Labor Relations Review 34: 498-508 (1978)

Carrell, Page and West, "Sex and Science: How Professor Gender Perpetuates the Gender Gap," Quarterly Journal of Economics 125: 1101-1144 (2010)

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

Dynan and Rouse, "The Underrepresentation of Women in Economics: A Study of Undergraduate Economics Students," Journal of Economic Education 28: 350-368 (1997)

Croson and Gneezy, "Gender Differences in Preferences," Journal of Economic Literature 47: 448-474 (2009)

3. The Family

- JPJ, Chapter 3 (and Appendix)
Leibowitz, "Education and Home Production," American Economic Review 62: 243-250 (May 1974)
Chapters 3 and 4 in United Nations, Human Development Report 1995
Greenwood and Guner, "Marriage and Divorce Since World War II," pp. 231-276 in Daron Acemoglu, Kenneth Rogoff and Michael Woodford, eds., *NBER Macroeconomics Annual 2008*, v. 23 (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2009).

4. Labor Supply

- JPJ, Chapters 4-5
Blau and Kahn, "Changes in the Labor Supply Behavior of Married Women: 1980-2000," Journal of Labor Economics 25: 393-438 (2007)

midterm exam, covering Parts 1-4: week of March 10

5. Earnings and Occupational Status; Labor Market Discrimination

- JPJ, Chapter 6
Ginther and Kahn, "Women in Economics: Moving Up or Falling Off the Academic Career Ladder?" Journal of Economic Perspectives 18: 193-214 (2004)
JPJ, Chapter 8
report in re *Adams v. ABC Hospital*
JPJ, Chapters 7, 9
Miller, "The Effects of Motherhood Timing on Career Path," Journal of Population Economics 24: 1071-1100 (2011)
O'Neill, "The Trend in the Male-Female Wage Gap in the United States," Journal of Labor Economics 3 (Supplement): S91-S116 (1985)
Blau and Kahn, "The U.S. Gender Pay Gap in the 1990's: Slowing Convergence," Industrial and Labor Relations Review 60: 45-66 (2006) [available at course website]
Bureau of the Census, US Department of Commerce, "Male-Female Differences in Work Experience, Occupation and Earnings: 1984," Current Population Reports Series P-70, No. 10, August 1987 [available at course website]
Symposium on Tests and Gender, Journal of Economic Perspectives, 24: 95-144, Spring 2010
"Where Does the Pay Gap Come From?"
Malkiel and Malkiel, "Male-Female Pay Differentials in Professional Employment," American Economic Review 63: 693-705 (1973)
Ashenfelter and Hannan, "Sex Discrimination and Product Market Competition: The Case of the Banking Industry," Quarterly Journal of Economics 101: 149-173 (1986)

6. Policy: Implications, Tools, Consequences

A. Overview

- JPJ, Chapter 16 and "Policy Application" sections in Chapters 1-9

B. Education: Title IX

- JPJ, "Focus" (Chapter 15)
district court and appeals court decisions in *Cohen et al. v. Brown University et al.*

6. Policy: Implications, Tools, Consequences (continued)

C. The workplace: Equal Pay Act, Title VII, affirmative action, etc.

Bergmann, "The Common Sense of Affirmative Action," pp. 23-32 in US Commission on Civil Rights, Selected Affirmative Action Topics in Employment and Business Set-Asides, Vol. 1, Washington: US Government Printing Office, 1985 [available at course website]

Leonard, "Women and Affirmative Action," Journal of Economic Perspectives 3: 61-75 (1989)

Holzer and Neumark, "What Does Affirmative Action Do?" Industrial and Labor Relations Review 53: 240-271 (2000)

Holzer and Neumark, "Assessing Affirmative Action," Journal of Economic Literature 38: 483-568 (2000)

Ashenfelter and Oaxaca, "The Economics of Discrimination: Economists Enter the Courtroom," American Economic Review 77 (May): 321-325 (1987)

final exam, covering ONLY Parts 5-6: 9 am-12 noon, Thursday, May 8
makeup to the final exam, covering ONLY Parts 5-6: Wednesday, May 14 (time TBA)