York University

Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Department of Economics
Fall 2022

Course # and Title: Econ 3709 – Introduction to the Economics of Gender

Course Webpage: (can be found on eClass)

Course Instructor/Contact:

Name: Prof. Berta Esteve-Volart
Office: 1066 Vari Hall
Phone: 416-736-2100 Ext. 77029
Office Hours: Wednesday 1:30-2:30pm on Zoom (VIRTUAL)
Email: bertaev@gmail.com

Lecture Time and Location:

Lecture: TR 10:00-11:30am Classroom DB-0005
TA hours: TBA

Health and Safety: It is strongly encouraged to wear masks in all indoor spaces at York University. The instructor will be wearing a mask during lectures, and encourages all students to wear a mask, too.

Prerequisite / Co-requisite: AP/ECON 1000 3.0/1010 3.0 or equivalents. Basic statistics and intermediate microeconomics are recommended.

Course Description: The course introduces students to gender gaps and discrimination, especially in connection with labour markets, policy towards gender equality, and other features of family economics, such as issues of power within the family. The course examines evidence from developed (especially the US) and developing countries and uses concepts that draw from psychology and anthropology.

Course Objectives:

(1) **Brief statement of the purpose**:
The purpose of this course is to assist students in developing the tools to analyze gender inequality using economic theories and empirical evidence. We will use some basic statistical tools in order to examine the sources of gender gaps.

(2) Brief list of specific learning outcomes of the course:
The specific outcomes of the course are that students will be able to:

- Use basic statistical concepts to examine empirical evidence
- Use microeconomic theory to understand optimal choice in a gender context, such as intrahousehold allocation

- Understand the difference between correlation and causation in the context of gender economics
- Understand the facts around gender inequality, patterns and determinants
- Write a creative research paper regarding a specific gender difference of their choice

Course Text / Readings:

Blau, Francine and Anne Winkler, *The economics of women, men, and work* (Oxford University Press, 9th edition)

Please see "Syllabus" in eClass (Topic) for more Readings (about half of the course material). We will use papers from economics academic journals as well as from other sources.

Research Paper:

To promote academic integrity in this course, students will be required to **submit their Research Paper to Turnitin** (via the course eClass) for a review of textual similarity and the detection of possible plagiarism. In so doing, students will allow their material to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used only for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin service are described on the Turnitin.com website.

You will have to agree on a topic with me for the Research Paper. The **deadline for agreeing on a topic with me is Tuesday, October 4**. Please refer to the document "Research Paper Instructions" for detailed instructions regarding the Research Paper in eClass (Topic 1).

Students who submit their Research Paper late will be subject to a penalty.

Assignments:

There will be regular assignments with practical applications of the theory for discussion during class. While the assignments do not carry formal course weight, I will give bonus marks at the end of the course for regular participation during the assignments.

Virtual office hours:

I will be having a Zoom virtual office hour for student meetings/consultations every Wednesday at 1:30-2:30pm (EST). If that time does not work for you, we can also arrange for office hours at a mutually convenient time—please let me know by email.

During my Wednesday 1:30-2:30pm virtual office hour, I will be available to students on a first come first serve basis. I will use a virtual waiting room for my office hour.

Evaluation:

The final grade for the course will be based on the following items weighted as indicated:

Midterm:	30%
Research paper:	35%
Final exam:	35%

Midterm: October 18, during class time

Final exam: TBA, determined by the University

The final exam will cover the entire course, with more emphasis on the course material covered after the midterm.

Important note: the midterm and/or the final exam might be in person or online, at the instructor's discretion. Students will be notified of the format of the test in advance.

Missed exams/Tests:

There will be **no make up exams for either the midterm or the final exam**. For students missing the midterm, the weight of the midterm will be carried to their final exam; therefore, they will have a 100% final exam. There will be no deferred standing agreements.

Grading:

The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

Important Course Information for Students:

Academic honesty and integrity
In this course, we strive to maintain academic integrity to the highest extent possible. Please familiarize yourself with the meaning of academic integrity by completing SPARK's Academic Integrity module at the beginning of the course. Breaches of academic integrity range from cheating to plagiarism (i.e., the improper crediting of another's work, the representation of another's ideas as your own, etc.). All instances of academic dishonesty in this course will be reported to the appropriate university authorities, and can be punishable according to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty.

Schedule of readings and activities
Please note the following important dates for the Fall 2022 term:

- For both full-year (Y) and Fall-term (F) courses, classes will start on September 7, 2022.
- Reading Week will occur between October 8 and 14, 2022 in the Fall term.
- The last date to submit term work is December 6 in the Fall term. December 7 is a Fall Study Day.
- The formal exam period in the Fall will run from December 8 to 22, 2022.

Course ADD/Drop Deadlines

	Fall Term 2022 (F)	**Winter Term 2023(W)**
Last date to add a course **without permission** of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept. 20	Jan. 22
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct. 4	Feb. 6
Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov. 11	March 17
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of "W" on transcript)	**Nov. 12 - Dec. 7**	**March 18 - Apr. 11**

https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/2022-2023/fall-winter