

Freie Universität Berlin
Department of Economics
Institute for East European Studies
Oliver Wach, M.Sc.
oliver.wach@fu-berlin.de
Summer Semester 2023

Seminar: Gender and Development

Time: Monday, 14:00-16:00 (c.t.), first session: 17.04.2023

Place: 105 Seminarraum, Garystr. 55

Office Hours

Upon request on Mondays, 10:00-14:00 in Room 104a

Modules:

- OES: (V) Methoden der Wirtschaftsgeschichte und der Ressourcenökonomie
- E&PE: Topics in Applied Empirical Economics
- E&PE: Aktuelle Forschungsfragen der politischen Ökonomie (Current Research Topics on Political Economics)
- E&PE: Ausgewählte Themen der Sozialpolitik (Selected Topics in Social Policy)

Course summary:

This applied economics course covers the role of gender in economic history and development economics. The first part of the course will focus on some of the deep-rooted causes of gender inequality, such as traditional agricultural practices, religion, and cultural traditions. We will discuss the mechanisms behind the transmission of gender norms and how these can be changed by political and economic institutions. We will pay particular attention to the socialist model of women and what remains of it. The second part of the course will examine the role of gender in selected areas covered by the literature on development economics. We will draw on examples from different regions of the world. The focus will be on policy-relevant issues such as education and political and economic empowerment. We will also discuss and analyse cases where the glass ceiling has (allegedly) been broken. Finally, we will look at an acute crisis of our time, the climate, and analyse the impact on gender issues. Students in this course will be given an overview of econometric models and methods for analysing, discussing, and putting the literature into perspective.

The final grade of the course will be determined by a seminar paper in which students will conduct their own analysis using the empirical methods discussed. Students are expected to read the assigned articles for the seminar before class. In addition, as part of a seminar assignment, students will be asked to use develop and formulate a research question, which will be presented and discussed in class. Students will be encouraged to formulate their own research questions and, in the process, learn more about what makes a good question.

The aim of the seminar is to introduce students to econometric methods, to critically examine the literature and to introduce them to research clusters in the field of gender and development.

Course Content

I. An Economic History Perspective

1. The Influence of Agriculture on Gender Norms
2. (Gendered) Language and Economic Behaviour
3. Culture, Traditions and Norms
4. War and missing Men
5. Transmission of Gender Norms
6. Changing Gender Norms through Institutions
7. The Socialist Woman

II. A Development Economics Perspective

9. Education and Human Capital
10. Empowerment, Protests and Participation
11. Breaking the Glass Ceiling
12. Gender Equality by Design: Creating Role Models & Research Pitch
13. Gender and the Climate Crisis & Wrap Up

Part I: An Economic History Perspective

The first part of the course looks at the relationship between gender and development from an economic history perspective. We will analyse some of the most deeply rooted causes of gender differences, such as traditional agricultural practices, language and religion, and cultural traditions, and look at examples of how these have shaped gender norms. We will then analyse the impact of historical events on gender relations, using the Second World War as an example. At the end of the first part, we will discuss the specific mechanisms behind the transmission of gender norms and how these can be changed by political and economic institutions. This will include a discussion of the socialist model of woman as an exceptional example of the influence on long-established gender roles.

1. The Influence of Agriculture on Gender Roles

Literature

- Boelmann, Barbara, Anna Raute, and Uta Schönberg. Wind of Change?: Cultural Determinants of Maternal Labor Supply. Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration, Department of Economics, University College London, (2020).
- Alesina, Alberto, Paola Giuliano, and Nathan Nunn. "Traditional agricultural practices and the sex ratio today." *PloS one* 13.1 (2018): e0190510.
- Hansen, Casper Worm, Peter Sandholt Jensen, and Christian Volmar Skovsgaard. "Modern gender roles and agricultural history: the Neolithic inheritance." *Journal of Economic Growth* 20.4 (2015): 365-404.
- Carranza, Eliana. "Soil endowments, female labor force participation, and the demographic deficit of women in India." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 6.4 (2014): 197-225.
- Alesina, Alberto, Paola Giuliano, and Nathan Nunn. "On the origins of gender roles: Women and the plough." *The quarterly journal of economics* 128.2 (2013): 469-530. (Seminar Presentation)
- Alesina, Alberto, Paola Giuliano, and Nathan Nunn. "Fertility and the Plough." *American Economic Review* 101.3 (2011): 499-503.
- Qian, Nancy. "Missing women and the price of tea in China: The effect of sex-specific earnings on sex imbalance." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 123.3 (2008): 1251-1285

2. Language and Economic Behavior

Literature

- Pérez, Efrén O., and Margit Tavits. "Language influences public attitudes toward gender equality." *The Journal of Politics* 81.1 (2019): 81-93.
- Mavisakalyan, Astghik, and Clas Weber. "Linguistic structures and economic outcomes." *Journal of Economic Surveys* 32.3 (2018): 916-939.
- **Davis, Lewis, and Megan Reynolds. "Gendered language and the educational gender gap." *Economics letters* 168 (2018): 46-48. (Seminar Presentation)**
- Gay, Victor, et al. "Decomposing culture: An analysis of gender, language, and labor supply in the household." *Review of Economics of the Household* 16.4 (2018): 879-909.
- Gay, Victor, Daniel L. Hicks, and Estefania Santacreu-Vasut. "Language and gender roles among immigrants to the US: A historical perspective." *I Mondi Delle Donne*, Forthcoming (2016)
- Galor, Oded, Ömer Özak, and Assaf Sarid. "Geographical origins and economic consequences of language structures." (2016)
- **Mavisakalyan, Astghik. "Gender in language and gender in employment." *Oxford Development Studies* 43.4 (2015): 403-424. (Seminar Presentation)**
- Gay, Victor, Estefania Santacreu-Vasut, and Amir Shoham. "The grammatical origins of gender roles." *Berkeley Economic History Laboratory Working Paper* 3 (2013).

3. Culture, Traditions and Norms

Literature

- Giuliano, Paola, and Nathan Nunn. "Understanding Cultural Persistence and Change." (2020). *Review of Economic Studies*, forthcoming
- **Ashraf, Nava, et al. "Bride price and female education." *Journal of Political Economy* 128.2 (2020): 591-641. (Seminar Presentation)**
- Robinson, Amanda Lea, and Jessica Gottlieb. "How to close the gender gap in political participation: Lessons from matrilineal societies in Africa." *British Journal of Political Science* (2019): 1-25.
- Labonne, Julien, Sahar Parsa, and Pablo Querubin. "Political dynasties, term limits and female political empowerment: Evidence from the Philippines." No. w26431. *National Bureau of Economic Research*, (2019).
- Bau, Natalie. "Can policy change culture? Government pension plans and traditional kinship practices." *CEPR Discussion Paper* (2019).
- Gneezy, Uri, Kenneth L. Leonard, and John A. List. "Gender differences in competition: Evidence from a matrilineal and a patriarchal society." *Econometrica* 77.5 (2009): 1637-1664.
- Levine, David, and Michael Kevane. "Are investments in daughters lower when daughters move away? Evidence from Indonesia." *World Development* 31.6 (2003): 1065-1084.

4. War and Missing Men (Missing (Wo)men)

Literature

- Alix-Garcia, Jennifer, et al. "Country of Women? Repercussions of the Triple Alliance War in Paraguay." (2020).
- **Brainerd, Elizabeth. "The lasting effect of sex ratio imbalance on marriage and family: Evidence from World War II in Russia." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 99.2 (2017): 229-242. (Seminar Presentation)**
- Bethmann, Dirk, and Michael Kvasnicka. "World War II, missing men and out of wedlock childbearing." *The Economic Journal* 123.567 (2013): 162-194.

- Acemoglu, Daron, David H. Autor, and David Lyle. "Women, war, and wages: The effect of female labor supply on the wage structure at midcentury." *Journal of political Economy* 112.3 (2004): 497-551.

5. Transmission of gender roles

Literature

- **Miho, Antonela, Alexandra Jarotschkin, and Ekaterina Zhuravskaya. "Diffusion of gender norms: Evidence from Stalin's ethnic deportations." *Available at SSRN* 3417682 (2019). (Seminar Presentation)**
- Blau, Francine D., et al. "The transmission of women's fertility, human capital, and work orientation across immigrant generations." *Journal of Population Economics* 26.2 (2013): 405-435.
- Almond, Douglas, Lena Edlund, and Kevin Milligan. "Son preference and the persistence of culture: evidence from South and East Asian immigrants to Canada." *Population and Development Review* 39.1 (2013): 75-95.

6. Changing Gender Norms through Institutions

Literature

- **Lippmann, Quentin, Alexandre Georgieff, and Claudia Senik. "Undoing gender with institutions: Lessons from the German division and reunification." *The Economic Journal* 130.629 (2020): 1445-1470. (Seminar Presentation)**
- Boelmann, Barbara, Anna Raute, and Uta Schönberg. *Wind of Change?: Cultural Determinants of Maternal Labor Supply*. Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration, Department of Economics, University College London, 2020.
- Booth, Alison, et al. "Gender differences in willingness to compete: The role of culture and institutions." *The Economic Journal* 129.618 (2019): 734-764.
- Beblo, Miriam, and Luise Görge. "On the nature of nurture. The malleability of gender differences in work preferences." *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* 151 (2018): 19-41.

7. The Socialist Women

Literature

- Friedman-Sokuler, Naomi, and Claudia Senik. "From Pink-Collar to Lab Coat: Cultural Persistence and Diffusion of Socialist Gender Norms." (2020).
- **Campa, Pamela, and Michel Serafinelli. "Politico-economic regimes and attitudes: Female workers under state socialism." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 101.2 (2019): 233-248. (Seminar Presentation)**
- Wyrwich, Michael. "Women and the labour market in East and West Germany: The role of socialist legacy and pre-socialist tradition." (2019).
- Lippmann, Quentin, and Claudia Senik. "Math, girls and socialism." *Journal of Comparative Economics* 46.3 (2018): 874-888.

Part II: A Development Perspective

The second part of the course will introduce the role of gender in selected topics in development economics. We will discuss current gender-related policy issues from an empirical economics perspective. After discussing the historical origins and mechanisms that can influence gender norms and gender equality, we will look at some policy related issues. We will see how gender gaps can be influenced by education and political and economic empowerment. We will then look at and analyse examples where the glass ceiling has been

broken. Finally, we will look at an acute crisis of our time, the climate crisis, and analyse it in terms of its gender impact.

8. Education and Human Capital

Literature

- Dossi, Gaia, et al. The Family Origin of the Math Gender Gap is a White Affluent Phenomenon. No. w28326. National Bureau of Economic Research, (2021).
- **Bandiera, Oriana, et al. "Women's empowerment in action: evidence from a randomized control trial in Africa." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 12.1(2020): 210-59. (Seminar Presentation)**
- Avitzour, Eliana, et al. On the Origins of Gender-Biased Behavior: The Role of Explicit and Implicit Stereotypes. No. w27818. National Bureau of Economic Research, (2020).
- Lavy, Victor, and Edith Sand. "On the origins of gender gaps in human capital: Short- and long-term consequences of teachers' biases." *Journal of Public Economics* 167 (2018): 263-279.
- Nollenberger, Natalia, Núria Rodríguez-Planas, and Almudena Sevilla. "The math gender gap: The role of culture." *American Economic Review* 106.5 (2016): 257-61.
- Carrell, Scott E., Marianne E. Page, and James E. West. "Sex and science: How professor gender perpetuates the gender gap." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 125.3 (2010): 1101-1144.

9. Empowerment, Protests and Participation

Literature

- Al-Qahtani, Maleeha Mohammed Zaaf, et al. "The Role of the Academic and Political Empowerment of Women in Economic, Social and Managerial Empowerment: The Case of Saudi Arabia." *Economies* 8.2 (2020): 45 .
- Larreboure, Magdalena, and Felipe González. The Impact of the Women's March on the US House Election. Working Paper, (2020).
- **Bargain, Olivier, Delphine Boutin, and Hugues Champeaux. "Women's political participation and intrahousehold empowerment: Evidence from the Egyptian Arab Spring." *Journal of Development Economics* 141 (2019): 102379. (Seminar Presentation)**

10. Breaking the Glass Ceiling

Literature

- Bagues, Manuel, and Pamela Campa. "Can gender quotas in candidate lists empower women? Evidence from a regression discontinuity design." *Journal of Public Economics* 194 (2021): 104315.
- Comi, Simona, et al. "Where women make a difference: gender quotas and firms' performance in three European countries." *ILR Review* 73.3 (2020): 768-793.
- **Bertrand, Marianne, et al. "Breaking the glass ceiling? The effect of board quotas on female labour market outcomes in Norway." *The Review of Economic Studies* 86.1 (2019): 191-239. (Seminar Presentation)**
- Flabbi, Luca, et al. "Do female executives make a difference? The impact of female leadership on gender gaps and firm performance." *The Economic Journal* 129.622 (2019): 2390-2423.

- Bagues, Manuel, Mauro Sylos-Labini, and Natalia Zinovyeva. "Does the gender composition of scientific committees matter?." *American Economic Review* 107.4 (2017): 1207-38.
- Adams, Renée B. "Women on boards: The superheroes of tomorrow?." *The Leadership Quarterly* 27.3 (2016): 371-386.
- Finseraas, Henning, et al. "Exposure to female colleagues breaks the glass ceiling — Evidence from a combined vignette and field experiment." *European Economic Review* 90 (2016): 363-374.

11. Gender Equality by Design: Creating Role Models & Research Pitch

Literature

- Bohnet, I. (2016). *What works*. Harvard university press. (Chapter 10)
- Iyer, Lakshmi, et al. "The power of political voice: women's political representation and crime in India." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 4.4 (2012): 165-193.
- Beaman, Lori, et al. "Female leadership raises aspirations and educational attainment for girls: A policy experiment in India." *science* 335.6068 (2012): 582-586.
- Beaman, Lori, et al. "Powerful women: does exposure reduce bias?." *The Quarterly journal of economics* 124.4 (2009): 1497-1540.
- Chattopadhyay, Raghavendra, and Esther Duflo. "Women as policy makers: Evidence from a randomized policy experiment in India." *Econometrica* 72.5 (2004): 1409-1443

12. Gender and the Climate Crisis & Wrap Up

Literature

- Andrijevic, Marina, et al. "Overcoming gender inequality for climate resilient development." *Nature Communications* 11.1 (2020): 6261.
- Cook, Nathan J., et al. "Gender Quotas Increase the Equality and Effectiveness of Climate Policy Interventions." *Nature Climate Change*, vol. 9, 2019, pp. 330-334. DOI: 10.1038/s41558-019-0438-4.
- McDowell, Cillian P., et al. "Gender-related differences in flood risk perception and behaviours among private groundwater users in the Republic of Ireland." *International journal of environmental research and public health* 17.6 (2020): 2072.
- Phan, Loan Thi, Sue Ching Jou, and Jun-Hua Lin. "Gender inequality and adaptive capacity: The role of social capital on the impacts of climate change in Vietnam." *Sustainability* 11.5 (2019): 1257.
- Eastin, Joshua. "Climate change and gender equality in developing states." *World Development* 107 (2018): 289-305.
- Terry, Geraldine. "No climate justice without gender justice: an overview of the issues." *Gender & Development* 17.1 (2009): 5-18.
- Denton, Fatma. "Climate change vulnerability, impacts, and adaptation: Why does gender matter?." *Gender & Development* 10.2 (2002): 10-20.