

PhD Course Gender Economics: What can behavioral economics tell us about gender equality?

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Eva Ranehill, Gothenburg University

Preliminary overview of the course

Short summary

This course is about how behavioral economics contributes to our knowledge about gender equality, and has a focus on how behavioral and experimental economics help us understand labor market gender gaps. The aim of the course is to familiarize students with current topics in behavioral gender economics, and to use that knowledge to identify important research areas relevant to the economic outcomes of men and women. Part of the course will be focusing on generating new research ideas.

The first 6 lectures will cover different topics on gender in behavioral economics. Each of these lectures will end with a discussion aiming to identify important open research questions relevant for each topic. The last lecture will consist of students presenting a research idea.

A tentative list of readings is provided below. A star indicates that an article is optional reading.

Lecture 1: The gender pay gap

Blau, Francine D. and Lawrence M. Kahn. 2017. The Gender-Wage Gap: Extent, Trends, and Explanations. *Journal of Economic Literature* 55(3), pp. 789–865.

*Azmat, Ghazala & Barbara Petrongolo. 2014. Gender and the Labor Market: What Have We Learned from Field and Lab Experiments? *Labour Economics*, 2014, vol. 30, pp. 32-40.

Lecture 2: An overview of gender preference gaps

Niederle, Muriel, “Gender” *Handbook of Experimental Economics*, second edition, Eds. John Kagel and Alvin E. Roth, Princeton University Press, 2016, pp. 481-553.

*Falk, Armin & Johannes Hermlé (2018) Relationship of gender differences in preferences to economic development and gender equality. *Science* 362.

* Wiswall Matthew & Basit Zafar. 2018. Preference for the Workplace, Investment in Human Capital, and Gender, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 133, Issue 1, 1 February 2018, pp. 457–507.

Lecture 3. Discrimination

Goldin, Claudia and Cecilia Rouse. 2000. Orchestrating impartiality: The impact of “blind” auditions on female musicians. *American Economic Review* 90(4) pp. 715–741.

*Sarsons, Heather. 2019. “Gender Differences in Recognition for Group Work.” Harvard University, Working Paper, February 4.

*Boring, Anne. 2017. Gender biases in student evaluations of teaching. *Journal of Public Economics*, Volume 145, pp. 27-41,

Lecture 4: Gender roles, identity, norms, and stereotypes

Bursztyn, Leonardo, Fujuwara, Thomas, and Amanda Pallais. 2017. 'Acting Wife': Marriage Market Incentives and Labor Market Investments. *American Economic Review*, 107 (11): 3288–3319.

*Bertrand, Marianne, Emir Kamenica, and Jessica Pan. 2015. Gender Identity and Relative Income within Households. *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 130(2): 571–614.

*Coffman, Katherine. 2014. Evidence on Self-Stereotyping and the Contribution of Ideas, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 129 (2014), 1625–1660.

Lecture 5: Gender composition and outcomes

Eckel, Catherine C., and Sascha C. Füllbrunn. 2015. “Thar SHE Blows? Gender, Competition, and Bubbles in Experimental Asset Markets.” *American Economic Review* 105 (2): 906–20.

* Ranehill, Eva, and Roberto A. Weber. 2017. “Do Gender Preference Gaps Impact Policy Outcomes?” SSRN Scholarly Paper ID 3071682. Rochester, NY: Social Science Research Network.

Lecture 6: Female leadership and quotas

Besley, Tim, Folke, Olle, Persson, Torsten and Johanna Rickne. 2017. Gender quotas and the crisis of the mediocre man: Theory and evidence from Sweden. *American Economic Review* 107(8): 2204—42.

*Born, Andreas, Ranehill, Eva and Anna Sandberg. 2018. “A Man’s World? – The Impact of a Male Dominated Environment on Female Leadership,” University of Gothenburg Working Paper in Economics No. 744.

*Niederle, Muriel, Carmit Segal, and Lise Vesterlund. 2013. How Costly is Diversity? Affirmative Action in Light of Gender Differences in Competitiveness. *Management Science* 59(1): 1—16.

Lecture 7: Student presentations