

**FB Wirtschaftswissenschaft**  
Univ.-Prof. Natalia Danzer, Ph.D.

Boltzmannstr. 20  
D-14195 Berlin  
E-Mail: natalia.danzer@fu-berlin.de

**Winter term 2019/20**  
**Master Economics und Master Public Economics**

**Modul: Ausgewählte Themen der Arbeitsmarktforschung (Nr. 107059/107060)**

Gender Economics and Economic Policy  
(Vorlesung und Methodenübung)

Lectures: Thursdays, 10:15 – 11:45 a.m., first meeting: Oct. 17, 2019  
Location: Boltzmannstr. 16-20, Hörsaal 328

Tutorials: Tuesdays (biweekly), 10:15 – 11:45 a.m., first meeting: Oct. 22, 2019  
Location: Boltzmannstr. 16-20, Hörsaal 328

This course covers current gender-related policy issues from an empirical economics perspective. It provides an overview of the causes of gender differences in labour market outcomes, on the role of institutions and the effectiveness of policy interventions in shaping female and male economic outcomes. Key debates and problems in the economics of gender will be examined based on evidence from (quasi-)experimental evaluation studies. To equip students with the relevant knowledge for critically assessing evidence-based research papers, a central part of the course will be devoted to the introduction and discussion of modern program evaluation methods.

Examples of topics covered in the course are:

- How do early childcare and parental leave policies affect maternal employment and fertility?
- What explains the gender wage gap?
- Does the liberalization of divorce laws affect family stability and female labor supply?
- Do gender quotas affect the economic position of women?
- Can policy interventions affect gender norms?
- Discrimination in the labour market?
- Gender inequality and missing women in developing countries

**Examination and course language:**

- Written exam (2 hours)
- Course taught in English

**Course prerequisites:**

- Basic knowledge of microeconomics and econometrics is recommended.

**Reading list**

As this is a paper-based course, the reading list contains research papers from leading field journals. Further references will be provided throughout the course.

**Background reading**

Angrist, J.A. and J.-S. Pischke (2009), *Mostly Harmless Econometrics - An Empiricist's Companion*, Princeton University Press, Princeton

Blau, F.D., and A.E. Winkler (2018), *The Economics of Women, Men, and Work* (8<sup>th</sup> edition), Oxford University Press, New York

**Topics****Unit 1 – Introduction: The Evaluation Problem and (Quasi-)Experimental Methods**

Angrist, Joshua D. and Jörn-Steffen Pischke (2008). *Mostly Harmless Econometrics*. Chapter I.

Meyer, Bruce D. (1995). Natural and Quasi-experiments in Economics. *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*, Vol. 13, No. 2 (April), pp. 151-161.

Robert J. LaLonde (1986). Evaluating the Econometric Evaluations of Training Programs with Experimental Data. *The American Economic Review*, Vol. 76, No. 4 (Sept.), pp. 604-620.

**Unit 2 – The Gender Wage Gap**

Blau, F.D. & L. M. Kahn, (2017). "The Gender Wage Gap: Extent, Trends, and Explanations," *Journal of Economic Literature*, vol 55(3), pp. 789-865.

Juhn, C. and K. McCue (2017) "Specialization Then and Now: Marriage, Children, and the Gender Earnings Gap across Cohorts", *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 31 (1), pp. 183–204

Bertrand, M., C. Goldin and L. F. Katz (2010). "Dynamics of the Gender Gap for Young Professionals in the Financial and Corporate Sectors", *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, Vol. 2, No. 3: pp. 228-255

Mulligan, Casey B. and Yona Rubinstein (2008). Selection, Investment, and Women's Relative Wages over Time. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 123, No. 3 (August), pp. 1061-1110.

Hunt, J (2002). "The Transition in East Germany: When Is a Ten-Point Fall in the Gender Wage Gap Bad News?" *Journal of Labor Economics*, Vol. 20, No. 1, pp. 148-169

**Unit 3 – Child care, maternal employment and fertility**

Empirical focus: Difference-in-differences

Havnes, T. and Mogstad. M. (2011), Money for Nothing? Universal Child Care and Maternal Employment, *Journal of Public Economics*, 95 (11-12), 1455-1465

Bauernschuster, S., Hener, T. and Rainer, H. (2016), Children of a (Policy) Revolution: The Introduction of Universal Child Care and its Effect on Fertility, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 14 (4)

Gathmann, C. and Saß, B. (2018). Taxing Childcare: Effects on Childcare Choices, Family Labor Supply, and Children, *Journal of Labor Economics*, 36, 3 (2018): 665–709.

#### **Unit 4 – Monetary family benefits, Parental Leave and Maternal Labour Supply**

Empirical focus: Regression Discontinuity Design

Gonzales, L. (2013), The Effect of a Universal Child Benefit on Conceptions, Abortions, and Early Maternal Labor Supply, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*

Lalive, R., Zweimüller, J. (2009), How Does Parental Leave Affect Fertility and Return to Work? Evidence from Two Natural Experiments, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*

Lee, D. S. and Lemieux T. (2010), Regression Discontinuity Designs in Economics, *Journal of Economic Literature*

#### **Unit 5 – Fertility and Female Labour Market Outcomes**

Empirical focus: Instrumental variables

Angrist, J.D., and W.N. Evans (1998). “Children and Their Parents' Labor Supply: Evidence from Exogenous Variation in Family Size”, *The American Economic Review*, Vol. 88, No. 3, pp. 450-477

Angelov, N., and P. Johansson, and E. Lindahl (2016) “Parenthood and the Gender Gap in Pay” *Journal of Labor Economics*, vol. 34, issue 3, pp. 545 – 579.

#### **Unit 6 – Birth control, Female Labour Supply and Marriage Decisions**

Empirical focus: Fixed-effects and Difference-in-Differences

Goldin, C. and Katz, L., (2002) “The Power Of The Pill: Contraceptives And Women’s Career And Marriage Decisions”, *Journal of Political Economy* 110 (4), 730-770

Bailey M. (2006) “More Power to the Pill: The Impact of Contraceptive Freedom on Women’s Life Cycle Labor Supply”, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 121 (1), 289-320

Ananat, E. and Hungerman D.M., (2012) “The Power of the Pill for the Next Generation: Oral Contraception’s Effects on Fertility, Abortion, and Maternal & Child Characteristics”, *Review of Economics and Statistics* 94 (1), 37-51

#### **Unit 7 – Divorce laws**

Empirical focus: Fixed effects

Friedberg, L., (1998), Did Unilateral Divorce Raise Divorce Rates? Evidence from Panel Data, *American Economic Review* 88 (3), 608-627

Gonzales, L., Viitanen, T. K., (2009), The effect of divorce laws on divorce rates in Europe, *European Economic Review* 53, 127-138

### Unit 8 – Discrimination in the labour market

Empirical focus: Randomized field experiments

Bertrand, M. and E. Duflo (2017). “Field Experiments on Discrimination” in E. Duflo and A. Banerjee, eds., *Handbook of Field Experiments*, Vol. 1. Amsterdam and New York: North Holland.

Goldin, C. and C. Rouse. (2000). "Orchestrating Impartiality: The Impact of “Blind” Auditions on Female Musicians." *The American Economic Review*, Vol. 90, no. 4, pp. 715-741.

Neumark, D., Bank, R.J. and K.D. van Nort (1996). “Sex Discrimination in Restaurant Hiring: An Audit Study” *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 111, Issue 3, pp. 915–941

Duflo, E., R. Glennerster and M. Kremer (2008), “Using Randomization in Development Economics Research: A Toolkit.” in T. Schultz and John Strauss, eds., *Handbook of Development Economics*. Vol. 4. Amsterdam and New York: North Holland.

### Unit 9 – (Gender) Quotas

Empirical focus: Randomized field experiments

Bertrand, M. (2018). “The Glass Ceiling”, *Economica* (forthcoming). Also available as: Becker Friedman Institute for Research in Economics Working Paper No. 2018-38. Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3191467> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3191467>

Bertrand, M., Sandra Black, Adriana Lleras-Muney and Sissel Jensen (2018). “Breaking the Glass Ceiling? The Effect of Board Quotas on Female Labour Market Outcomes in Norway” *The Review of Economic Studies*, forthcoming

Bagues, M. and B. Esteve-Volart (2010). “Can Gender Parity Break the Glass Ceiling? Evidence from a Repeated Randomized Experiment, *Review of Economic Studies*, Vol. 77(4), pp. 1301-1328

Bagues, M., M. Sylos Labini and N. Zinovyeva (2017). “Does the Gender Composition of Scientific Committees Matter?” *American Economic Review*, Vol. 107(4), pp. 1207-1238

Chattopadhyay, R. and E. Duflo (2004), “Women as policy makers: Evidence from a randomized policy experiment in India”, *Econometrica*, Vol. 72(5), pp. 1409-1443

### Unit 10 – Institutions and gender norms

Campa, P and M Serafinelli (2018), “Politico-economic regimes and attitudes: Female workers under state-socialism”, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, forthcoming.

Beblo, M. and L. Görge (2018). “On the nature of nurture. The malleability of gender differences in work preferences” *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, Vol.151, pp. 19-41

- Bauernschuster, S and H Rainer (2011), "Political regimes and the family: How sex-role attitudes continue to differ in reunified Germany", *Journal of Population Economics* 25(1): 5–27.
- Chong, A., S. Duryea and E. La Ferrara (2012), "Soap Operas and Fertility: Evidence from Brazil", *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 4(4), 1-31.
- Jensen, R., and E. Oster (2009), "The Power of TV: Cable Television and Women's Status in India", *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 124, Issue 3, 1 August 2009, Pages 1057–1094
- Fortin, N (2005), "Gender role attitudes and women's labour market outcomes across OECD countries", *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*, 21, 416-438.

### Unit 11 - Gender identity

- Bertrand, M, E Kamenica and J Pan (2015), "Gender identity and relative income within households", *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. Vol 130 (2), pp. 571–614.
- Burszтын, L., T. Fujiwara, and A. Pallais. 2017. "'Acting Wife': Marriage Market Incentives and Labor Market Investments." *American Economic Review*, 107 (11): 3288-3319.
- Fernandez, R and A Fogli (2009), "Culture: An Empirical Investigation of Beliefs, Work and Fertility", *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics* 1, pp. 146-177.
- Bertrand, M. (2010) "New Perspectives on Gender", in Orley Ashenfelter and David Card eds, *Handbook of Labor Economics*, volume 4B, pp. 1545-1592
- Alesina, A, P Giuliano and N Nunn (2013), "On the Origins of Gender Roles: Women and the Plough", *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 128, pp. 469-530.

### Unit 12 – Parental discrimination I: Sex selection at birth

- Qian, N. (2008). "Missing Women and the Price of Tea in China: The Effect of Sex-Specific Earnings on Sex Imbalance", *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 123, Issue 3, pp. 1251–1285
- Yuyu Chen, Y., H. Li and L. Meng (2013). "Prenatal Sex Selection and Missing Girls in China: Evidence from the Diffusion of Diagnostic Ultrasound", *Journal of Human Resources*, Vol. 48 (1), pp. 36-70.

### Unit 13 – Parental discrimination II: Unequal investments in boys and girls

- Rose, Elaina. 1999. "Consumption Smoothing and Excess Female Mortality in Rural India." *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 81, 1: 41–49.
- Soo Hong Chew, J. Yi, J. Zhang and S. Zhong (2018), "Risk Aversion and Son Preference: Experimental Evidence from Chinese Twin Parents", *Management Science*, Vol 64 (8), pp. 3469-3970

Barcellos, Silvia Helena, Leandro S. Carvalho, and Adriana Lleras-Muney. 2014. "Child Gender and Parental Investments in India: Are Boys and Girls Treated Differently?" *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 6 (1): 157-89.

**Unit 14 – Economic conditions and domestic violence (subject to available time)**

Aizer, Anna. 2010. "The Gender Wage Gap and Domestic Violence." *American Economic Review*, 100 (4): 1847-59.

Anderberg, D., H. Rainer, J. Wadsworth and T. Wilson (2016). "Unemployment and Domestic Violence: Theory and Evidence", *The Economic Journal*, Volume 126, Issue 597, pp. 1947-1979.

Erten, B. and P. Keskin (2018). „For Better or for Worse?: Education and the Prevalence of Domestic Violence in Turkey”, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, Vol. 10, (1): 64–105

Alesina, A., B. Brioschi and E. La Ferrara (2016) "Violence Against Women: A Cross Cultural Analysis for Africa", NBER Working Paper January 2016.

**Unit 15 – Gender and economic preferences (subject to available time)**

Grant Miller, G. (2008), "Women's Suffrage, Political Responsiveness, and Child Survival in American History", *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 123, Issue 3, pp. 1287–1327

Duflo, Esther. 2003. "Grandmothers and Granddaughters : Old-Age Pensions and Intrahousehold Allocation in South Africa". *The World Bank Economic Review*, Volume 17, Issue 1, pp. 1–25

Ingvild Almås & Alex Armand & Orazio Attanasio & Pedro Carneiro, 2018. "Measuring and Changing Control: Women's Empowerment and Targeted Transfers," *The Economic Journal*, vol 128(612), pages F609-F639.

**Unit 16 – Trade and gender inequality (subject to available time)**

Juhn C., G. Ujhelyi, and C. Villegas-Sanchez (2014), "Men, women, and machines: How trade impacts gender inequality", *Journal of Development Economics*, 106 , pp. 179-193.