

University of Toronto
Department of Economics

ECO332S: Economics of the Family
Winter 2012
UC 140

Instructor: Aloysius Siow
Office: 301, 150 St. George St.
Office hours: Wed 4-6 pm

Lectures: W9-11
Tutorial: F9-11 (mandatory)

This course **USES MICROECONOMICS** to study the economics of the family, including marriage, divorce, children, single parenthood and gender roles.

***** Test and exam are open book. Also bring a calculator.*****

Prerequisite: [ECO200Y1](#)/[ECO204Y1](#)/[ECO206Y1](#);

Grading scheme: 1 midterm (40%), 1 final (40%), class participation and homework (20%)

Class notes and readings on blackboard

If you miss the midterm and have a doctor's note, there will be a makeup midterm on Friday, Feb 17, 9-11am.

Reading schedule:

Jan 11, 18 Frontier research questions on the family according to Becker.
Investment in Children's human capital & dowries

Drolet, M. 2005. [Participation in Post-secondary Education in Canada: Has the Role of Parental Income and Education Changed over the 1990s? \(Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series\)](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/11f0019m/11f0019m2005243-eng.pdf) <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/11f0019m/11f0019m2005243-eng.pdf>

Duflo, E. "Grandmothers and granddaughters: Old-age pensions and intrahousehold allocation in South Africa" The World Bank Economic Review, 17(2003), 1-25.
<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTAFRREGTOPGENDER/Resources/duflgrandmothers.pdf>

Hongbin Li & Mark Rosenzweig & Junsen Zhang, 2008. "Altruism, Favoritism, and Guilt in the Allocation of Family Resources: Sophie's Choice in Mao's Mass Send Down Movement," <http://ideas.repec.org/p/egc/wpaper/965.html>

Jan 25, Feb 1 Quantity and quality of children

Readings: Bailey & Collins: Electrification and the baby boom.
<http://ideas.repec.org/a/aea/aejmac/v3y2011i2p189-217.html>

Albanesi and Olivetti: Baby boom II. <http://www.nber.org/papers/w16146>

Josh Lewis: Electrification and children's health

Feb 8 Nature versus nurture

Reading: Sacerdote.
<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~7Ebsacerdo/wpapers/Adoption1.doc>

Feb 15 Mid term (open book and notes)

Feb 29, Mar 7 Gender Neutral Marriages I.

Francis, Andrew M. "[Sex Ratios and the Red Dragon: Using the Chinese Communist Revolution to Explore the Effect of the Sex Ratio on Women and Children in Taiwan](http://ideas.repec.org/a/spr/jopoec/v24y2011i3p813-837.html)". <http://ideas.repec.org/a/spr/jopoec/v24y2011i3p813-837.html>

Mar 14 BSV slides

Readings: Large Shocks and Small effects in the Marriage Market.
On blackboard.

Mar 21 GNM II

Readings: Stevenson, Betsey and Justin Wolfson (2000), "Till Death do Us Part: Effects of Divorce Laws on Suicides, Domestic Violence and Spousal Murder" <http://www.nber.org/papers/w10175>

Caceres-Delphiano, Julio and Eugenio Giolito. 2012. "The Impact of Unilateral Divorce on Crime." *Journal of Labor Economics*. 30(1). p. 215-248.

Mar 28 Differential Fecundity & Marriage

Readings: Age of menarche, marriage and female education
Children and Female earnings
<http://ideas.repec.org/a/ucp/jpolec/v116y2008i5p881-930.html>

Apr 4 Reproductive technologies and the family

Readings: Buckles. Delaying infertility and female earnings.
<http://www.nd.edu/~kbuckles/natality.pdf>

Bailey. Pill and Female Earnings.

http://econpapers.repec.org/article/tprqjecon/v_3a121_3ay_3a2006_3ai_3a1_3ap_3a289-320.htm