

University of Toronto  
Department of Economics

ECO 432F/ 2808F: Topics on the economics of the family  
Fall 2012

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

Lectures: F11-1 SS1086

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

*Prerequisite:* Eco 200/ [ECO204Y1](#)/[ECO206Y1](#), multivariate calculus  
*Grading scheme:* pop quizzes (25%), homework (50%) & final (25%).  
*Class notes and some readings on blackboard*  
*\*\* Required readings\*\**

Reading schedule:

Sept 14: Efficient and inefficient investment in children.

\*\*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/duflograndmothers.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>

\*\*Botticini, M., and A. Siow. 2003. "Why dowries?" *American Economic Review* 93(4): 1385–1398.

**Sept 21:** Labor supply

**Sept 28, Oct 5:** Quantity and quality of children

Guinnane, T.W. 2011. "The Historical Fertility Transition: A Guide for Economists." *Journal of Economic Literature* 49(3): 589–614.

Jones, L.E., A. Schoonbroodt, and M. Tertilt. 2008. *Fertility theories: can they explain the negative fertility-income relationship?* National Bureau of Economic Research WP 14266.

\*\*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

**Oct 12:** Frictionless transferable utilities model of marriage, positive assortative matching

Choo, E., and A. Siow. 2006. "Who Marries Whom and Why." *Journal of Political Economy* 114(1): 175-201.

Decker, Colin, et. al.. 2011. " UNIQUE EQUILIBRIA AND SUBSTITUTION EFFECTS IN A STOCHASTIC MODEL OF THE MARRIAGE MARKET".  
<http://www.math.toronto.edu/mccann/papers/DLMS.pdf>

Galichon, A., and B. Salanié. 2011. *Cupid's invisible hand: social surplus and identification in matching models*. Columbia University mimeo.

Siow, A. 2010. "Testing Becker's model of positive assortative matching". University of Toronto manuscript.

**Oct 19**            Non transferable utility model of the marriage market (Directed Search).

Peter Arcidiacono, et. al., 2011. "Terms of Endearment".. Duke University manuscript.  
[http://public.econ.duke.edu/~psarcidi/PMP\\_current\\_clean3.pdf](http://public.econ.duke.edu/~psarcidi/PMP_current_clean3.pdf)

**Oct 26, Nov 2**            Dynamic models of marriage & search friction in marriage markets.

\*\*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>

**Nov 9:** Equilibrium matching in school, work and marriage

\*\*McCann, et. al.. 2011. "Becker meets Ricardo: A Social and Cognitive Skills model of human capabilities.", University of Toronto manuscript.

**Nov 16, Nov 23:** Gender & Marriage

\*\*Smith, J.P., and M. Ward. 1989. "Women in the Labor Market and in the Family." *The Journal of Economic Perspectives* 3(1): 9–23.

\*\*Ventura, S.J., and C.A. Bachrach. 2000. "Nonmarital childbearing in the United States, 1940–99." *National vital statistics reports* 48(16): 1–40.

\*\*Bailey, M.J., and S.M. Dynarski. 2011. *Gains and Gaps: Changing Inequality in US College Entry and Completion*. National Bureau of Economic Research. wp 17633.

Siow, A. 1998. "Differential Fecundity, Markets, and Gender Roles." *Journal of Political Economy* 106(2): 334-354.

Leung, Tommy and John Dalton. May 2012, [Why is Polygyny More Prevalent in Western Africa? An African Slave Trade Perspective](#)

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

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

Siow, A. 2002. *Do innovations in birth control technology increase the welfare of women?* mimeo, [http://www.economics.utoronto.ca/siow/papers/birth\\_control.pdf](http://www.economics.utoronto.ca/siow/papers/birth_control.pdf)

**Nov 30:** In class final exam (OPEN BOOK)