

University of Toronto
Department of Economics

ECO332F: Economics of the Family
Fall 2020

Instructor: Aloysius Siow
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Office hours: by appointment on skype.

Lectures: R9-11
Tutorial: F9-11 (mandatory)

Lectures on zoom. They will be recorded and posted. Tutorials will be on Bb collaborate.

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

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

Grading scheme: 8 lecture/tutorial quizzes (50%), 1 final (50%).

The final is open book. You can refer to your lecture notes and readings as necessary.

Dates of quizzes will be announced one week before they occur. The quizzes will be posted on Quercus or Crowdmark before the end of the lectures or tutorials. You will submit your answers on the platform by the end of the lectures or tutorials.

There will be five quizzes for the lectures and five quizzes for the tutorials. Your best four grades for the lectures and tutorials separately will count towards your final grade.

Lecture notes and readings are posted on:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/cbtjrbbtzhap6uy/AABz42k_vPShNfzSC7bOoTcqa?dl=0

The TA, Etienne Masson-Makdissi, etienne.masson.makdissi@mail.utoronto.ca will post his own quizzes and readings.

Reading schedule:

*Readings will covered in tutorials

Facts:

Jones, Larry E., and Michele Tertilt. "An economic history of fertility in the US: 1826-1960." (2008).

Bailey, Martha J., Melanie E. Guldi, and Brad J. Hershbein. *Is There a Case for a "Second Demographic Transition"? Three Distinctive Features of the Post-1960 US Fertility Decline*. No. w19599. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2013.

Sept 10 L1: Investment in Children's human capital

*Oster, Emily, Ira Shoulson, and E. Dorsey. 2012. Limited Life Expectancy, Human Capital and Health Investments: Evidence from Huntington Disease. NBER

*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>

Sept 17, 24 L2: Children as public goods

Cáceres-Delpiano, Julio, and Eugenio Giolito. "The Impact of Unilateral Divorce on Crime." *Journal of Labor Economics* 30.1 (2012): 215-248.

*Lundberg, Pollak and Wales (1997), "Do Husbands and Wives Pool their Resources?", *Journal of Human Resources*, p. 463-480

*Black, Sandra E., Paul J. Devereux, and Kjell G. Salvanes. "The more the merrier? The effect of family size and birth order on children's education." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 120.2 (2005): 669-700.

Oct 1 L3: Infectious disease – the SIR model

Abdelrahman, Melino, Siow. "The Diffusion of Covid-19 Across Ontario."

Oct 8, 15 L4, L5 Quantity and quality of children

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>

* Joshua Lewis,

["Infant Health, Women's Fertility, and Rural Electrification in the United States, 1930-1960,"](#) *Journal of Economic History*, Vol. 78, No. 1 (March 2018): 118-154.

Oct 22, 29

L6: Gender Neutral Marriages I.

Brandt, Siow, Vogel. 'Large Shocks and Small effects in the Marriage Market.'

*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/jopec/v24y2011i3p813-837.html)".
<http://ideas.repec.org/a/spr/jopec/v24y2011i3p813-837.html>

*Edlund, Lena, Elaine Liu, and Jin-Tan Liu. "Beggar-Thy-Women: Domestic Responses to Foreign Bride Competition, the Case of Taiwan." *Unpublished paper* (2013).

Nov 5, 19

L7: GNM II

*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 26,

L8: Marriage and gender I

*Sheryl Sandberg, Barnard College Commencement Address 2011.

*Atlantic, "Why women still can't have it all".

*Leonardo Bursztyn, Thomas Fujiwara, and Amanda Pallais. 'Acting Wife': Marriage Market Incentives and Labor Market Investments, 2016 working paper.

*Azmat, Ghazala, and Rosa Ferrer. "Gender gaps in performance: Evidence from young lawyers." *Journal of Political Economy* (2017). 24(3): 1071–1100.

Dec 3, L9: Marriage and gender II

Lafortune, Salisbury, Siow. "Evolution of US marriage market over the 20th century".

Bailey. Pill and Female Earnings.

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