Instructor: Professor S Anukriti
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Office: Maloney 445
Phone: (617) 552-1570
Office Hours: Mondays 10 am – 12 noon, or by appointment

Lectures: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3 – 4:15 pm (Fulton 210)

Description: This course examines gender disparities through an economic lens. We will explore potential explanations for these differences in the context of both developed and developing countries, and consider the role for policy interventions in each context.

Pre-requisites: Intermediate Microeconomics and Macroeconomics.

Course Website: All course-related materials will be posted on Blackboard Vista.

Requirements and Grading:

Students are expected to read the papers in advance of the lecture and should actively participate in classroom discussions. There is no final exam. The grade will be based on:

• A group presentation (10%): On Sep 12, we will divide the class into 4 groups. Each group will be assigned a popular book on gender and will make a 30-35 min presentation to the class on Dec 5 or Dec 10.
• A presentation on a starred paper in the reading list (15%): These presentations should be 10-15 min long and will take place throughout the semester.
• Two problem sets (10% each): The problem sets will be posted on Sep 17 and Nov 12 and the respective due dates are Sep 27 and Nov 26.
• A 4-5 page review of an academic paper (15%): The due date is Oct 17 (before midnight).
• A 10-15 page paper (40%): The due date is Dec 15 (before midnight).

More details about the papers and presentations will be provided in class.

Books for Group Presentations:

Kristof, Nicholas D. and Sheryl WuDunn (2010), Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide, Vintage

Hvistendahl, Mara (2012), Unnatural Selection: Choosing Boys Over Girls, and the Consequences of a World Full of Men, PublicAffairs


Sandberg, Sheryl (2013), Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead, Knopf
Notes:

• If you require accommodation for a documented disability or an athletic event, please let me know at least a week in advance.
• I will try to respond to all course-related emails within 24 hours. However, please do not expect any response over the weekend (Sat and Sun).
• Before sending me an email, make sure that the information you need is not available on Blackboard Vista.
• Late assignments will not be accepted, irrespective of the reason.
• All questions about your grade on an assignment must be presented in writing over email within one week of its return. In response, I will re-grade the entire assignment which might result in a lower grade than the original.

Reading List:

There is no textbook for this course. * readings are optional. Papers marked with a $ will be used for classroom presentations by students.

1. Introduction


2. Gender and Behavior

Croson, Rachel, and Uri Gneezy (2009), “Gender Differences in Preferences,” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 47(2), 448-474


3. Prenatal Sex-Selection


4. Marriage and Divorce


5. The Pill


6. Women in the Labor Market


7. Women and Politics


8. Female Entrepreneurship


9. Women and Religion


10. Domestic Violence


11. Prostitution


12. Patriarchy and Matrilineality


