Instructor: Dr. Sarinda Taengnoi  
Office: Sage Hall 2479  
Phone: 424-0979  
Email: taengnos@uwosh.edu  
Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 10-12:30PM and by appointment  
Pre-requisite: Econ 106 or 206

Course Description:  
“Women earn on average only about 75 cents for every dollar a man earns.” “There are only 15 Fortune 500 companies with a female chief executive.” “Obese women who work full time earn $1,855 less annually than non-obese women…. the wages of obese men are not significantly different from non-obese men.”

Above are some of the topics we will discuss in this course. Specifically, we will use economic theory to analyze gender differences in education, occupation, pay as well as labor market discrimination in the United States. Comparisons between the U.S. and other countries will be made, when appropriate. Economic approach to family: marriage, divorce, and childcare will also be explored. Each topic will incorporate economic theory into current events and statistics, contemporary research studies, and government policies.

Required Material:  
1. No required textbook for this course. There will, however, be articles from various sources assigned on a regular basis.  
2. D2L: can be accessed at the following site: www.uwosh.edu/d2l. I will post chapter outlines, assignments, supplemental readings, grades, and course announcements there. Students are advised to access the course’s site frequently.

Course Objectives:  
The objectives of this course are (1) to introduce the economics of human resources with an emphasis on gender; (2) to apply basic economic models to explain gender differences in both non-market and market activities; (3) to examine the possibility of discrimination in the U.S. labor market against females and minorities; (4) to be aware of contemporary issues and empirical studies relating to gender.

After taking this course, students will be able to gain an understanding of economic outcomes across gender, and to develop a critical thinking skills and discussion on policies that would promote economic and social equality.

Method of instruction:  
The course will be constructed on the basis of lecture and discussion. Therefore, students will be continually challenged to respond to proposed questions and to express opinion on the topic discussed.
Course Requirements:

1. **Quizzes** (14% of the grade)

   There will be 7 quizzes given in class *every other Tuesdays*, starting from Sep. 17th. Questions will be from assigned articles and posted on the D2L. A variety of question types (short answers, multiple choices, etc.) is used. No make-up quiz will be given unless students can provide me with legitimate written documentation.

2. **Homework sets** (4 homework sets, 4.5% each, total of 18% of the grade)

   Four homework sets will be given throughout the semester. Questions will be based on class lectures as well as supplemental news articles and reports. Students must hand in *typed* assignment at *the beginning of class on the due date*. Late homework sets are accepted only if submitted within 24 hours after the due date and will be subject to a 30% reduction in points. The due dates are as follows: Homework 1 due on Oct. 8th, homework 2 due on Oct. 24th, homework 3 due on Nov. 14th, and homework 4 due on Dec 5th.

3. **Group Project Presentation** (10% of the grade)

   Students will work in small groups of 3-4 students to prepare a short (15 minutes) Power Point presentation on your choice of topic relevant to gender. Each group must send me an email indicating your choice of topic by Oct. 3rd, 6PM. We will have two group presentations in every class, starting from Nov. 5th. Presentation schedule will be posted on the D2L.

4. **Attendance and Class Participation** (8% of the grade)

   As stated above, this course format is lecture and discussion. Student participation is therefore crucial. To earn points, you are expected to come to class prepared (by reading assigned articles) and engage with questions, answers, and comments. I will call on people (especially when no one volunteers) and will record your attendance and participation class on a regular basis. Keep in mind that your presence in class alone is not sufficient. For instance, if you have excellent attendance, but have “poor” participation (do not answer questions, or demonstrate a lack of preparation for class readings), you would receive only 4% for your attendance and participation grade.

5. **Examinations** (20% for the mid-term, 30% for the final)

   The examinations consist of one mid-term exam and one final exam. The objective of the exams is to evaluate your understanding of the subjects presented in the class. The mid-term exam will be held in class on Oct 31st and the final exam will be on Dec 12th. The exams will be a combination of multiple choices and short answer/essay format.
Other Important Course Guidelines and Policies

Academic Integrity: (from UWS 14.01, Wisconsin Administrative Code) “Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others’ academic endeavors. Students who violate these standards must be confronted and must accept the consequences of their actions.” Academic dishonesty is intolerable and will automatically result in an F for the assignment or examination.

Religious Observance: Students who are unable to attend class or to participate in examination, study or work requirement on a particular day because of religious beliefs will be provided with a reasonable opportunity to make up such work.

Emergencies: A written proof of emergencies will be accepted for make-up works and exams.

Use of Electronic Devices: Use of electronic devices during class and exams will not be permitted unless otherwise specified by your professor. Cell phones, i-phones, calculators, laptops, and all other electronic devices should be turned off and put away if brought into class (unless the student is given approval). Students that wish to use laptops to type up class notes may be used only if given approval upon student request and if the student is willing to show the professor the class notes periodically.

Grading Summary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graded Assignments</th>
<th>Percent of grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quiz</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework sets</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The grading scale is as follow:

- 93-100% = A
- 90-92.99% = A-
- 87-89.99% = B+
- 83-86.99% = B
- 80-82.99% = B-
- 77-79.99% = C+
- 72-76.99 = C
- 67 -71.99% = C-
- 65-66.99% = D+
- 63-64.99% = D
- 60-62.99% = D-
- Less than 60% =
COURSE OUTLINE

The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course. Deviations may be necessary as the semester progresses. It is the student’s responsibility to be on top of changes in assignments, material to be covered, etc.

** Readings can be found on the course D2L website **

1. Introduction
   - Gender differences and stereotypes
   - Overview: Changing gender role in the US. economy
   - Review some important economics concepts: supply and demand in labor market

Readings:

2. Economics of Family and Marriage

   2.1) Family
   - Specialization and division of labor in household
   - Advantages of family
   - Trends in American family

Readings:

   2.2) Marriage and Divorce
   - Economics model of marriage and divorce
   - Trends in marriage and divorce in the US.

Readings:

   2.3) Fertility and child care

Readings:
2.4) Economics of gay, lesbian families

**Readings:**

3. Women in the labor market

- Trends in labor force participation
- Economics model of labor supply decision

**Readings:**

4. Occupational differences by gender

4.1) Occupation segregation: theory and evidence

**Readings:**

4.2) Earning gap

- Human capital approach
- Evidence of gender gap in earnings
- Labor market discrimination

**Readings:**

4.3) Employment policies and discrimination law

**Readings:**