

Sociology 644: Gender, Work and Family Fall 2013

Tuesday, 6:30-9:00 p.m., ASY 2115

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Office hours: By appointment

This is the core required course for students specializing in Gender, Work, and Family in sociology. We will develop a familiarity with the empirical, theoretical and methodological foundations of research on the interrelation of gender, work and family; develop the ability to critically analyze work in this field; and advance students' own research.

The following books are required reading:

- Esping-Andersen, Gosta. 2009. *The Incomplete Revolution: Adapting to Women's New Roles*. Polity.
- Williams, Joan C. 2010. *Reshaping the Work-Family Debate: Why Men and Class Matter*. Harvard University Press.
- Gerson, Kathleen. 2009. *The Unfinished Revolution: Coming of Age in a New Era of Gender, Work, and Family*. Oxford University Press.
- Ridgeway, Cecilia L. 2011. *Framed by Gender: How Gender Inequality Persists in the Modern World*. Oxford University Press.

Additional readings are listed below. URL links are provided as a convenience and may be subject to IP authentication and/or pay walls. Please leave yourself enough time to obtain the articles however necessary.

Course requirements

Class participation: Students are expected to do all required readings prior to class. We will address the readings' conclusions and implications, as well as their methods and empirical findings. To facilitate the discussion and develop your writing facility, write a short essay each week (1-2 pages), addressing at a critical issue or question inspired by the readings for that week. Email me your statement by 5 p.m. each Monday so I can prepare the discussion.

Other rules:

- Class discussion runs on a system of courtesy and collaboration, with facilitation by me as needed. It's great to disagree with or question each other's points of view, but please don't interrupt, belittle, mock, or ignore each other. Be polite.
- This is not a public discussion; no external dissemination of each other's comments without permission.
- Laptops and tablets may be used for taking notes and reading course readings. No phones, no surfing, email, etc. If after a trial your devices become too distracting I'll ban them.

Seminar paper: Students are expected to write an in-depth research proposal on a specific gender, work, and family issue. The seminar paper is to be a research proposal, with the following parts: (a) literature review; (b) statement on how the proposed study would contribute to this literature, and its limitations; (c) a description of methods and data, with as much specificity as possible (e.g., sample and variables or research site and collection strategy); and (d) statement of your thesis and hypotheses to be tested or explored. Good final papers will probably be about 20-25 pages. Students should submit their topic for approval, with some preliminary references, by **October 22**. A working outline, including review of the literature, is due on **November 5**. Seminar papers will be due in final form on **December 10**. (Note short essays are also due on these days, so plan ahead.)

Grading: The final grade will be based on roughly equal weighting of (a) class participation, (b) discussion questions and short papers, and (c) the seminar paper.

Academic integrity: There is zero tolerance for academic dishonesty in this course. Students should familiarize themselves with the UMD Code of Academic Integrity, available here: <http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/docs/III-100A.pdf>. (Assignments for this course are exempted from the Honor Pledge requirement.)

Notes: Assignments or classes missed because of religious conflicts can be made up within a reasonable time, with prior notice. Students with disabilities should inform me of any special needs at the beginning of the semester.

Schedule

September 3 – Overviews

- Bianchi, Suzanne M. and Melissa A. Milkie. 2010. "Work and Family Research in the First Decade of the 21st Century." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72:705-725. [Link](#)
- Ferree, Myra Marx. 2010. "Filling the Glass: Gender Perspectives on Families." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72:420-439. [Link](#)
- Cotter, David, Joan M. Hermsen and Reeve Vanneman. 2011. "The End of the Gender Revolution? Gender Role Attitudes from 1977 to 2008." *American Journal of Sociology* 117(1):pp. 259-289. [Link](#)

September 10 – Stalled progress toward equality

- Blau, Francine, Marianne A. Ferber and Anne E. Winkler. 2014. *The Economics of Women, Men, and Work*. 7th edition. Chapters 5 & 7 (pp. 76-89; 135-161)
- England, Paula. 2010. "The Gender Revolution: Uneven and Stalled." *Gender & Society* 24(2):149-166. [Link](#)
- Pettit, Becky and Stephanie Ewert. 2009. "Employment Gains and Wage Declines: The Erosion of Black Women's Relative Wages since 1980." *Demography* 46(3):pp. 469-492. [Link](#)

September 17 – The persistence of gender inequality

- Ridgeway: *Framed by Gender: How Gender Inequality Persists in the Modern World*.

September 24 – Work-family

- Williams: *Reshaping the Work-Family Debate: Why Men and Class Matter*.

October 1 – Studying work-family decisions

- Shafer, Emily Fitzgibbons. 2011. “Wives' Relative Wages, Husbands' Paid Work Hours, and Wives' Labor-Force Exit.” *Journal of Marriage and Family* 73(1):250-263. [Link](#)
- Percheski, Christine. 2008. “Opting out? Cohort differences in professional women’s employment rates from 1960 to 2005.” *American Sociological Review*, 73 (3): 497-517. [Link](#)
- Read, Jen’nan G. and Sharon Oselin. 2008. “Gender and the education-employment paradox in ethnic and religious contexts: The case of Arab Americans.” *American Sociological Review* 73 (2): 296-313. [Link](#)

October 8 – Philip @ the Penn State Symposium on Family Issues

October 15 – Race, class and intersectionality

- Furstenberg, Frank F. 2007. “The making of the black family: Race and class in qualitative studies in the twentieth century.” *Annual Review of Sociology* 33:429-448. [Link](#)
- Harknett, Kristen and Arielle Kuperberg. 2011. “Education, Labor Markets and the Retreat from Marriage.” *Social Forces* 90(1):41-63. [Link](#)
- Choo, Hae Y. and Myra M. Ferree. 2010. “Practicing Intersectionality in Sociological Research: A Critical Analysis of Inclusions, Interactions, and Institutions in the Study of Inequalities.” *Sociological Theory* 28(2):129-149. [Link](#)

October 22 – Economics and feminism

Paper topic due

- Blau, Ferber and Winkler, Chapters 3 & 4 (pp. 35-50; 58-75).
- Hartmann, Heidi I. 1981. “The Family as the Locus of Gender, Class, and Political Struggle: The Example of Housework.” *Signs* 6(3):pp. 366-394. [Link](#)
- Nelson, Julie A. “Feminism and Economics.” *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 9(2):131-148. [Link](#)
- Folbre, Nancy and Julie A. Nelson. “For Love or Money – Or Both?” *Journal of Economic Perspectives* , Vol. 14, No. 4 (Autumn, 2000), pp. 123-140. [Link](#)

October 29 – Housework studies

- West, Candace and Don H. Zimmerman. 1987. “Doing Gender.” *Gender & Society* 1(2):125-151. [Link](#)
- Bianchi, Suzanne M., Liana C. Sayer, Melissa A. Milkie, and John P. Robinson. 2012. “Housework: Who Did, Does or Will Do It, and How Much Does It Matter?” *Social Forces* 91(1): 55-63. [Link](#)
- Sayer, Liana C. and Leigh Fine. 2011. “Racial-Ethnic Differences in U.S. Married Women’s and Men’s Housework.” *Social Indicators Research* 101(2):259-265. [Link](#)
- Gupta, Sanjiv. 2007. “Autonomy, Dependence, or Display? The Relationship Between Married Women’s Earnings and Housework.” *Journal of Marriage and Family* 69(2):399-417. [Link](#)

November 5 – The gender pay gap

Paper outline due

- Blau, Ferber and Winkler, Chapter 10 (pp. 221-251).
- O’Neill J. 2003. “The Gender Gap in Wages, circa 2000.” *American Economic Review* 93(2)309-314. [Link](#)
- Budig, Michelle and Melissa Hodges. 2010. “Differences in Disadvantage: Variation in the Motherhood Penalty across White Women’s Earnings Distribution.” *American Sociological Review* 75(5): 705-728. [Link](#)
- Cohen, Philip N. and Matt L. Huffman. 2003. “Individuals, Jobs, and Labor Markets: The Devaluation of Women’s Work.” *American Sociological Review* 68(3):443-63. [Link](#)

November 12 – Care work

- England, Paula. 2005. “Emerging Theories of Care Work.” *Annual Review of Sociology* 31:381-399. [Link](#)
- Lopez, Steven H. 2006. “Emotional Labor and Organized Emotional Care: Conceptualizing Nursing Home Care Work.” *Work and Occupations* 33(2):133-160. [Link](#)
- Smyke, Anna T. et al. 2010. “Placement in Foster Care Enhances Quality of Attachment Among Young Institutionalized Children.” *Child Development* 81(1):212-223. [Link](#)

November 19 – Gender, family and women’s empowerment in Asia

- Desai, Sonalde and Lester Andrist. 2010. “Gender Scripts and Age at Marriage in India.” *Demography* 47(3):667-687. [Link](#)
- Rammohan, Anu and Meliyanni Johar. 2009. “The Determinants of Married Women’s Autonomy in Indonesia.” *Feminist Economics* 15(4):31-55. [Link](#)
- Cohen, Philip N. and Wang Feng. 2009. “The Market and Gender Pay Equity: Have Chinese Reforms Narrowed the Gap?” Pp. 37-53 in *Creating Wealth and Poverty in Post-Socialist China*, Deborah S. Davis and Wang Feng (eds.). Palo Alto: Stanford University Press. [Link](#)

November 26 – Masculinity and fathering

- Connell R.W. and J.W. Messerschmidt JW. 2005. “Hegemonic Masculinity: Rethinking the Concept.” *Gender & Society* 19(6):829-859. [Link](#)
- Parrenas, Rhacel S. 2008. “Transnational fathering: Gendered conflicts, distant disciplining and emotional gaps.” *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 34(7):1057-1072. [Link](#)
- Milkie, Melissa A., Kendig, SM, Nomaguchi, KM and Denny, KE. “Time with Children, Children’s Well-Being, and Work-Family Balance among Employed Parents.” *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72(5):1329-1343. [Link](#)

December 3 – Generational change in work-family perspectives

- Gerson: *The Unfinished Revolution: Coming of Age in a New Era of Gender, Work, and Family*.

December 10 – State policy

- Esping-Andersen: *The Incomplete Revolution: Adapting to Women’s New Roles*. Polity.

Final paper due