

Field course: Gender Economics Fall 2025

Dr. Federica Braccioli

WU Vienna University of Economics and Business

Fall 2025

Motivation & disclaimer

- ▶ The next few slides offer one of the (many) motivations to study gender economics.
- ▶ Disclaimer (maybe redundant): this is a class for EVERYONE, both women and men are invited to attend.

Motivation

[Equality in the labor market] Pain Points

Despite positive backdrop, important hurdles remain on the path toward gender equality in the labor market. Two pain points:

1. Educational choices

- ▶ less enrollment into STEM degrees

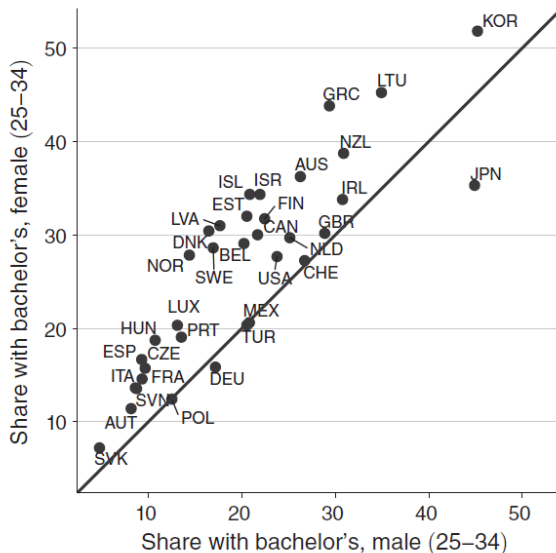
2. Motherhood penalty

- ▶ changes to their labor supply decisions that translate into large and persistent losses in labor market earnings

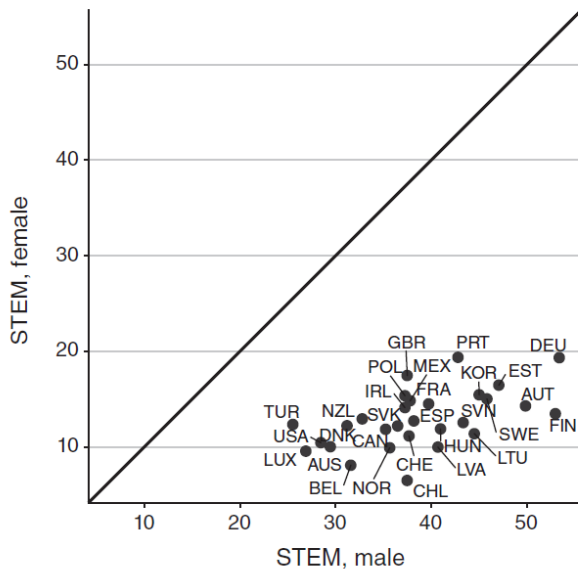
Example: education

- ▶ Increase in the overall female education (next slide).
- ▶ However, women enroll less in math intensive degree, which happen to be the ones with higher returns in the labour market (in two slides).

Share of graduates



Share of STEM graduates



[Equality in the labor market] Why happening?

- ▶ Pain points directly relate choices.
- ▶ Why are women making such different choices?

[How stereotypes operate] Social psychology

- ▶ Stereotypes are not only descriptive but also prescriptive.
- ▶ Gender stereotypes are beliefs, shared by men and women, about what men and women should or ought to do (or how they should or ought to be).
- ▶ The prescriptive nature of gender stereotypes motivates men and women to adjust their self-view to what seems appropriate for their gender group.

This course

[In this course] topics

- ▶ Review the literature on causes and consequences of gender disparities.
- ▶ Address why it matters.
- ▶ When needed, borrow tools from other literature.
- ▶ The methodology will be discussed along with the literature.

[In this course] what to expect

3h per week:

- ▶ 1h hour lecture
- ▶ 1h students presentation
- ▶ 1h discussion

Schedule

Day	Date	Time	Room
Thursday	10/16/25	08:00 AM - 11:00 AM	TC.5.04
Thursday	10/23/25	08:00 AM - 11:00 AM	TC.5.04
Thursday	10/30/25	08:00 AM - 11:00 AM	TC.5.04
Thursday	11/06/25	08:00 AM - 11:00 AM	TC.5.04
Thursday	11/13/25	08:00 AM - 11:00 AM	TC.5.04
Thursday	11/20/25	08:00 AM - 11:00 AM	TC.5.04
Thursday	11/27/25	08:00 AM - 11:00 AM	TC.5.04
Thursday	12/04/25	08:00 AM - 11:00 AM	TC.5.04
Thursday	12/11/25	08:00 AM - 11:00 AM	TC.5.04
Thursday	12/18/25	08:00 AM - 11:00 AM	TC.5.04
Thursday	01/15/26	08:00 AM - 11:00 AM	TC.5.04
Thursday	01/22/26	08:00 AM - 11:00 AM	TC.5.04

Evaluation

- ▶ 20% in-class participation.
- ▶ 40% individual/group* presentations of a research paper.
- ▶ 30% individual/group* research proposal.
- ▶ 20% individual/group* in-class assignments.

Individual and/or group size will be determined based on the final class size.
Some minor changes might apply. Check the syllabus again before enrolling.

See you in class!

`federica.braccioli@wu.ac.at`