

**Spring 2017**

**Econ 1060-001**

**Political Economy of Race, Ethnicity, and Gender**

This course fulfills DV diversity requirement.

Class meets: T/TH from 9:10 am to 10:30 am

Classroom: BU C 212

Instructor: Sophie Wu

Email: [sophiewu.pro@gmail.com](mailto:sophiewu.pro@gmail.com)

Office hours: T/TH 3:00 pm-4:30 pm

(Please make an appointment first.)

**Course Overview**

This course is designated to meet the university's DV requirement. It will primarily concentrate on studying subtle differences in race, ethnicity, and gender as critical social-economic factors to affect economic outcomes among subgroups of populations in the macroeconomy. We will also attempt to examine whether the assumptions upon rational economic agents actually constrain or promote economic development.

**Expected Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this semester, students are expected to understand methodologies applied to studying the role of social differences in political economy and complete their research projects. Students should be able to comment on current economic problems.

**Required Readings:**

The readings for this course consist of a series of scholarly articles, book chapters, and excerpts from books. All the readings on the syllabus are available in the electronic forms on the canvas website.

### **Evaluations:**

This course encourages students to participate in class discussion and contribute their comments in a respectful environment. Most importantly, students are expected to equip with adequate tools to complete their synthesis/term paper.

Grades are determined by attendance for 5%, weekly assignments for 20%, two debates for 40%, and term paper and two related presentations for 35%.

For attendance, you are expected to attend every class to receive 5%. I understand sometimes life may be difficult and you have a reason to miss a class. With this consideration, you can miss three times without being downgraded. If you miss 4 or 5 classes, you will receive 2% for your attendance. If you miss more than five classes, you will not receive any credit for attendance. The attendance sheet will be passed around as soon as I arrive in class. After twenty minutes, you will not be eligible to sign your name on it and your late come will be regarded as missing a class. However, students who are volunteering in university activities can be exempted from this attendance policy with adequate supporting documents.

For the synthesis/term paper, with class progress, you will need to complete each stage of submission on time. By February 28th, you need to submit an outline for 1 to 2 pages and include what topic you would like to do with your term paper, which questions you are trying to answer, a brief literature review, what kind of methodologies you will adopt (you can use quantitative or qualitative methodologies), and references. I will give you a feedback about your research outline and guide you where you can go further. In week 9 (March 7th or 9th), you will prepare a five-minute presentation to talk about your research ideas to the class. By April 15th, you should finish 4 to 5 pages, and I will ask to view your progress around this time. On April 18th,

20th, and 25th, you will prepare a PowerPoint involved presentation for 10 minutes to the class. Your writing should be double-spaced, 12-point times font. Please submit in a pdf format and upload your file to the canvas.

For debates, we will run five debates throughout the whole semester. Each student should participate in two debates with their groups. For those who are not in the debate team at the time will need to sit in audience to observe the debate and fill in the questionnaire afterwards.

For weekly assignments, almost each week, you will need to come on the canvas website to complete a small project. You will be asked to contribute your ideas to this class or simply write a 500 word comment about the readings which will be discussed in the following week.

Final grades will be assigned according to the following rubric:

Grading Scale	Letter Grade
94% or above	A
90% ~ < 94%	A-
87% ~ <90%	B +
84% ~ <87%	B
80% ~ <84%	B-
77% ~ <80%	C+
74% ~ <77%	C
70% ~ < 74%	C-
<70%	E

### **Tentative Schedules:**

Week 1: Introductions & Overviews in Economic Roles (1/10, 1/12)

Week 2: Feminist Economics Perspectives: A Thematic Overview and A Critique

(1/17, 1/19)

Week 3: An alternative and Capability Approach (1/24, 1/26)

Week 4: Gender Division of Labor in Historical Perspective (1/31, 2/2)

Week 5: Gender Division of Labor in the Household: Accounting for Unpaid Work (2/7, 2/9)

Week 6: Labor Market Discrimination in Gender (2/14, 2/16)

**Debate 2/16 (TH): Should there be specific roles for women and for men in the family setting?**

Week 7: Labor Market Discrimination in Race and Ethnicity (2/21, 2/23)

Week 8: Segregation and Economic Development (2/28, 3/2)

**Debate 3/2 (TH): Should unpaid internships be banned across globe?**

Week 9: Presentations (3/7, 3/9)

You need to prepare a five minute presentation to talk about your research outline and topic.

Week 10: Spring Break, No Classes. (3/14, 3/16)

Week 11: Human Capital and Economic Development (3/21, 3/23)

Week 12: Gender, Race & Ethnicity and Poverty (3/28, 3/30)

**Debate 3/30 (TH): Is poverty everyone's responsibility?**

Week 13: Labor Migration & Economic Development (4/4, 4/6)

**Debate 4/6 (TH): Is migration good or bad to economic growth?**

Week 14: Income Inequality and Poverty (4/11, 4/13)

**Debate 4/13 (TH): Should government have role in setting worker's wages to ensure equal pay for equal job?**

Week 16 & 17: Presentations (4/18, 4/20, 4/25)

You need to prepare a 10 minute presentation involving the PowerPoint to summarize your findings and methodologies in your synthesis/term paper.

- Your synthesis/term paper will be due to April 30th, 2017 by 11:59 pm.

### **Class Policies:**

This class will be reading and writing intensive, and therefore, your paper submissions should cite the references in appropriate places. You cannot copy and paste any sentences from any articles without indicating where they are coming from. If you copy and paste someone else's articles and claim theirs as your own, you will not receive a passing grade once you are caught. I am obligated to report your case to your dean if you cheat on exams or have any academic misconduct.

Incomplete will be given only for reasons of illness or a family emergency. You need to supply written evidence for the reason. According to the university regulations, you must supply written evidence for the reason.

**ADA Statement:** "The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 581- 5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations."

**Rights and Responsibilities:** "All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of that Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, and I will do so, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee."

NOTE: The schedule and syllabus are subject to change