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**ECP 3555: Women and the Economy**

**Fall A 2025**

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| Professor Information Table | |
| **Course Introduction** | |
|  | **Instructor:** Irma T. Alonso  **E-mail:**Canvas Inbox (Please only use Canvas Inbox so there is a record our communication)  **Phone Number (Department of Economics):**   * (305) 348–2317 * (305) 348-3281   **Office of the Department of Economics:**DM-316 (MMC) [Please be aware that I do not have an office at FIU]  **Fax at the Department of Economics:**(305) 348 - 1524  **Office Hours:**All communications will take place online. Please contact me through Canvas and I will be responding within 48 hours, if not sooner. |

****General Information

**Course Description and Purpose**

This course studies women and the economy in the United States. Topics to be studied include family, work, and pay.

This course is offered fully online. The work to be performed during the semester has been divided into modules, each of which contains one or more activities. The due dates for each activity are specified in the relevant pages of the Content Modules. The work to be performed has been divided into activities lasting a few days. The deadlines have been set to 11:59 PM as specified in the Calendar of Events. Each activity will involve taking a quiz, participating on discussions, reviewing news related to the class, and/or submitting other assignments for each one of the chapters under consideration. Throughout the semester students will be working in a group research project and at the end of the semester, each group will be making a presentation to the class and then the classmates will discuss the research reports. Strict deadlines are followed, and late work is not accepted. There is no penalty for submitting work ahead of time so that if you want to be free during weekends and/or national holidays, plan to submit your work ahead of time. If you cannot comply with the due dates, this course is not right for you.

**Course Objectives**

This course serves as an elective in Economics, and it can be used as a free elective in other majors, like Women’s and Gender Studies, as approved by the corresponding academic advisors.

Upon completing this course, students will be able to:

* **CO 1**: Quantify the effects on women’s lives in aspects of marriage, the family, and the labor market
* **CO 2**: Describe changes in perspectives of women’s lives in the 21st Century as compared to the 20th.
* **CO 3**: Analyze family issues, including marriage and fertility.
* **CO 4**: Explain contemporary issues affecting women as they are related to the labor market, like employment, occupation, earnings, and education.
* **CO 5:** Analyze economic data in terms of issues affecting women.
* **CO 6**: Develop experience working in a team.

**FIU Career Resources:**

If interested, you can visit Career and Talent Development for career planning, job search resources, resume review, interview preparation, and more at **career.fiu.edu**

[**Login to Handshake.**](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/fiu.joinhandshake.com/login?ref=app-domain__;!!FjuHKAHQs5udqho!Nd86rRz51i9EwBhT73iCOxPeE0tibJA7W0jtzmBDNJDgzkL5vlEx0Y0CM4502Q-JGGFgS1_Ix2TZmCwbtWvp%24)

**Meet with a Career Coach**

Students and alumni can access resources and make appointments through FIU Handshake.

[**Individual Career Prep**.](https://career.fiu.edu/resources/schedule-an-appointment/)

**Handshake**is the school’s official job/internship portal. Thousands of employers are hiring students on Handshake. Once you fill in your career interests, you’ll get personalized recommendations for jobs and events and direct outreach from employers interested in students like you—*80% of students with a complete Handshake profile get messaged by employers*!

* Activate your account at <https://fiu.joinhandshake.com/login.>
* Download the Handshake app from [Apple](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/apps.apple.com/app/apple-store/id1220620171?pt=96161867&ct=edu-stu-ig-giveaway&mt=8__;!!FjuHKAHQs5udqho!Nd86rRz51i9EwBhT73iCOxPeE0tibJA7W0jtzmBDNJDgzkL5vlEx0Y0CM4502Q-JGGFgS1_Ix2TZmPY0VJfn%24) or [Google Play](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.joinhandshake.student&hl=en_US&utm_campaign=edu-stu-ig-giveaway&utm_medium=social&utm_source=insta__;!!FjuHKAHQs5udqho!Nd86rRz51i9EwBhT73iCOxPeE0tibJA7W0jtzmBDNJDgzkL5vlEx0Y0CM4502Q-JGGFgS1_Ix2TZmEapvfI6%24) to receive notifications on the latest jobs, events, and employers
* Learn more at: [“5 Reasons You Need Handshake More Than Other Career Sites”](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/joinhandshake.com/blog/students/5-reasons-you-need-handshake-more-than-other-career-sites/__;!!FjuHKAHQs5udqho!Nd86rRz51i9EwBhT73iCOxPeE0tibJA7W0jtzmBDNJDgzkL5vlEx0Y0CM4502Q-JGGFgS1_Ix2TZmNqjC1Uy%24)

**Students with Disabilities**

As a college, we care about students with special needs.  To receive these services it is required for the student to self-identify as a student with a disability and to present the required documentation.  For further information and to register at the Disability Resource Center, you can visit the DRC at the MMC in Graham Center, Room 190 or at the BBC in Wolfe University Center Room 131.  To make an appointment you have the following options: call MMC at 305-348-3532, or send an email to: [drcupgl@fiu.edu](mailto:drcupgl@fiu.edu); at the BBC you can call 305-919-5345  or send an email to [drcbbc@fiu.edu](mailto:drcbbc@fiu.edu)

Important Information

Before starting this course, please review the following pages:

* [Policies](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/pages/policies-2)

**Course Prerequisites**

This course has a pre-requisite Principles of Economics (ECO 2023) or instructor’s approval.

**Textbook and Course Materials**

*FIU has implemented the Panther Book Pack rental program, which provides your required print and digital course materials at a flat rate of $20 per undergraduate credit hour. When you registered for your classes this session, you were notified via email of the required course materials that are included in the Panther Book Pack. The Panther Book Pack program applies to all undergraduate credit hours per academic session. I recommend that you review the pricing for all materials across your classes this session compared to the Panther Book Pack flat rate. If the Panther Book Pack is not your best option, you may opt-out up to three days after the add/drop deadline. You may opt back into the Panther Book Pack up to three days after the add/drop deadline. If you do not opt-out of the Panther Book Pack rental program, you will be charged $20 per credit hour and the course materials will be reserved for you for the undergraduate courses for which you are registered. For more details, visit*[***bookpack.fiu.edu***Links to an external site.](http://bookpack.fiu.edu/)*”*

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| Textbook and Course Materials | |
| **Textbook and Course Materials** | |
|  | **Women and the Economy: Family, Work, and Pay**  **(Textbook Required)**  Saul D. Hoffman, Susan Averette, and Laura M. Argys New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2025.  ISBN: 978-13504-2066-3 (printed version) ISBN: 978-1-3504-2068-7 (for eText)  You may purchase your textbook online at the [FIU Bookstore](http://fiu.bncollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/BNCBHomePage?storeId=21551&catalogId=10001). |
| Some useful websites:   * [US Census Bureau](https://www.census.gov/) * [Vital Statistics Division of the National Center for Health Statistics](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/) * [US Bureau of Labor Statistics](http://bls.gov/) * [US Bureau of Labor Statistics: Women in the Labor Force: A Databook](https://www.bls.gov/opub/reports/womens-databook/archive/women-in-the-labor-force-a-databook-2015.pdf) * [Labor Force Statistics from the Current Population Survey US Census Bureau](https://www.bls.gov/cps/) * [IMF World Economic Outlook](https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2016/12/31/Recovery-Risk-and-Rebalancing) * [United Nations Economic and Social Development](https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/home) * [United Nations Statistics Division](https://unstats.un.org/home/) * [United Nations Development Program](http://www.undp.org/) * [Human Development Report](http://hdr.undp.org/en/) * [The Shriver Report: A Woman’s Nation Pushes Back from the Brink](http://ezproxy.fiu.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=edsglr&AN=edsglr.A366459585&site=eds-live) (FIU Library link, you will be prompted to log in if you are not on campus) * [The Shriver Report: A Woman's Nation Changes Everything](https://www.americanprogress.org/press/the-shriver-report-a-womans-nation-changes-everything/) * [The Wall Street Journal Women in the Economy, 2012](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/files/35384750?wrap=1)   [Actions](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/syllabus)   * [The Wall Street Journal Women in the Economy, 2011](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/files/35384752?wrap=1)   [Actions](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/syllabus)   * Other reports from the [Wall Street Journal](https://womenin.wsj.com/) are available * Additional videos on Women and the Economy from the Financial Times are also available for you to explore. | |

**Expectations of this Course**

This is an online course, which means all of the coursework will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same as for a traditional course. In fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills which can make these courses more demanding for some students.

**Students are expected to:**

* **review the getting started page** located in the course modules
* **introduce yourself to the class and tp your instructor** during the first week by posting a self-introduction in the appropriate discussion
* **take the practice quiz** to ensure that your computer is compatible with Canvas, our learning management system
* **interact** online with instructor and peers
* **review** and follow the course calendar and outlines
* log in to the course at least **4 times**per week
* respond to discussions by the due date specified. **No late work will be accepted**
* respond to **emails** within **2 days;**
* submit assignments by the corresponding deadline.

**The instructor will:**

* log in to the course **every** few days;
* respond to discussion postings within**3 days of the deadline**;
* respond to **emails** within **48 hours,**if not sooner;
* grade assignments within **3 days** of the assignment deadline.



**Course Structure**

The course will cover a total of 12 chapters of the textbook. There will be quizzes and/or additional assignments as indicated for some chapters. In particular, the course will require each student to submit reviews of news related to issues discussed in class. As well, there is the requirement of a Group Project.

The topics to be covered in the course are:

* Chapter 1: Women and the Economy
* Chapter 2: Economic Tools and Thinking
* Chapter 3: Gender and Economics
* Chapter 4: Marriage and the Family: an economic approach
* Chapter 5: Marriage: A Deeper Look
* Chapter 6: The Economics of Fertility
* Chapter 7: The Economics of Fertility: Applications and Extensions
* Chapter 8: Women at Work
* Chapter 9: Women’s Labor Force Participation: Applications and Extensions
* Chapter 10: Women’s Earnings, Occupation, and Education: An Overview
* Chapter 11: Gender Differences in Earnings: Explanations
* Chapter 12: Gender Differences in Earnings: Methods and Evidence

**Course Communication**

* **E-mail:**Contact your instructor via Canvas messages. Use of FIU email should not be used for course-related matters as there is no record of it.
* **Discussion Forum:** It will be used for postings of general interest that are directly related to the course. Everyone can read Discussion Forum postings; therefore, do not post private information.
* **Announcements:** will be used to indicate news of importance as related to the course.

**Quizzes**

This course will have a syllabus quiz and ten-chapter quizzes, corresponding to chapters 3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12. The syllabus quiz will be available the first week of classes with two attempts and the highest score will be kept. The ten chapter quizzes will have a time limit of 20 minutes for 8 questions, with up to 2 attempts and the highest score will be kept. Students will be able to see their scores upon completion.

**Discussions**

This course will have an introduce yourself discussion and 10 module discussions based on news relevant to the topics considered that you will select from the [FIU Library](https://library.fiu.edu/?b=g&d=a). Students will be required to submit a total of 2 news per Unit, as indicated in the Calendar of Events.

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| News Review Discussion Rubric | | | |
| **Criteria** | **Ratings** | | **Points** |
| **Post # 1** | **1 pts**  **Excellent**  Review is relevant to topics discussed in class | **0 pts**  **Deficient**  Review not relevant and/or not submitted. | 1 Pt |
| **Post # 2** | **1 pts**  **Excellent**  Review is relevant to topics discussed in class | **0 pts**  **Deficient**  Review not relevant and/or not submitted. | 1 Pt |

**Assignments**

**Analysis of Gender Inequality Index**

Instructions can be found for each of these relevant assignments within each assignment dropbox. These are assignments that are to be completed separately from your Group Projects. The assignment topic will be based on the 2nd module of the course.

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| Analysis of Gender Inequality Index rubric | | | | |
| **Criteria** | **Ratings** | | | **Points** |
| **Depth of Response and Analysis** | **12 pts**  **Full Marks** | **5 pts**  **Partial Credit** | **0 pts**  **No Marks** | 12 pts |
| **Statistics and information provided** | **5 pts**  **Full Marks** | 3 pts  Partial credit | **0 pts**  **No marks** | 5 |
| **References/sources and use of the Internet** | **3 pts**  **Full Marks** | **1 pts**  **Partial Credit** | **0 pts**  **No Marks** | 3 pts |

**Group Project**

Students will be able to research some of the major problems affecting women in the economy.

Some topics for Group Projects include research issues like:

* How do changes in women’s labor-market opportunities affect their well-being in marriage?
* How contraceptives and abortion may have affected the incidence of non-marital births?
* Why marriage rates for young black men and women have fallen so much?
* Why has the marriage rate fallen?
* Why has the fertility rate fallen?
* Why are more married women working?
* Why earnings for women have increased relative to men yet remain stubbornly lower?
* Anti-discrimination policies
* Policies to help women balance work and family
* Women and Social Security
* Any other topic of your choice, with the approval of the instructor

Select a Group to belong to (maximum of 5 students per Group]

Members of each group will communicate to decide on a topic and to approve and submit a Group Agreement.

Each student will submit two Individual Progress Reports.

The length of the written report should be a maximum of the equivalent of 5 double-spaced pages. The writing style is your choice. A rubric will be used to evaluate the paper, including references, internet sources, use of recent articles, etc.

Each student will discuss and evaluate the papers submitted by two of the teams.

The steps to be taken in writing your paper include:

1. Choosing a topic (5 points)
2. Submitting a Group Agreement (4 points)
3. Submitting an Individual Progress Report # 1 (5 points)
4. Submitting an Individual Progress Report # 2 (5 points)
5. Posting of the Final Report to the Discussion Board (25 points)
6. Discussion by each student of two of the Group Reports submitted (3 points each)

Total points: 50 points for Research Report and discussions.

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| Group Agreement Rubric | | | |
| **Criteria** | **Ratings** | | **Points** |
| **Completion of the Group Agreement Form** | **4 pts**  **Full Marks** | **0 pts**  **No Marks** | 4 pts |

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| The topic of Team Research Rubric | | | |
| **Criteria** | **Ratings** | | **Points** |
| **Indication of Topic** | **5 pts**  **Full Marks** | **0 pts**  **No Marks** | 5 pts |

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| Individual Progress Report #1 Rubric | | | |
| **Criteria** | **Ratings** | | **Points** |
| **Summary of Project Submitted** | **5 pts**  **Full Marks** | **0 pts**  **No Marks** | 5 pts |

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| Individual Progress Report #2 Rubric | | | |
| **Criteria** | **Ratings** | | **Points** |
| **Summary of Project Submitted** | **5 pts**  **Full Marks** | **0 pts**  **No Marks** | 5 pts |

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| Final Research Project Rubric | | | | |
| **Criteria** | **Ratings** | | | **Points** |
| **Content** | **15 pts**  **Full Marks** | **10 pts**  **Satisfactory** | **0 pts**  **No Marks** | 15 pts |
| **Statistics and information provided** | **5 pts**  **Full Marks** | **3 pts**  **Satisfactory** | **0 pts**  **No Marks** | 5 pts |
| **Bibliography, internet sources, and use of Recent Articles** | **5 pts**  **Full Marks** | **3 pts**  **Satisfactory** | **0 pts**  **No Marks** | 5 pts |

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| Final Research Report Discussion Rubric | | | | |
| **Criteria** | **Ratings** | | **Points** | **Points** |
| **Peer Review # 1** | **3 pts**  **Full Marks** | **1 pts**  **Improvement needed** | **0 pts**  **No Marks** | **3 points** |
| **Peer Review # 2** | **3 pts**  **Full Marks** | **1 pts**  **Improvement needed** | **0 pts**  **No marks** | **3 points** |

**Grading**

| Course Grades Distribution Table | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Required Graded Assignments** | **Number of Items** | **Point Values** | **Maximum Usable Points** |
| Introduce Yourself Assignments | 2 | 5 | 10 |
| Syllabus Quiz | 1 | 10 | 10 |
| Gender Inequality Index (GII) Assignment | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| Quizzes (Chapters 3-12) | 10 | 10 | 100 |
| Reviews of news related to topics discussed in class | 10 | 1 | 10 |
| GROUP PROJECT |  |  |  |
| Group Agreement | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Research Project Topic | 1 | 5 | 5 |
| Individual Progress Reports | 2 | 5 | 10 |
| Final Report | 1 | 25 | 25 |
| Class discussion of Group Research Projects | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| **Total** | **44** | **N/A** | **200** |

| Letter Grade Distribution Table | |
| --- | --- |
| **Letter** | **Points** |
| A | 200 - 190 |
| A- | 189 - 180 |
| B+ | 179 - 174 |
| B | 173 - 166 |
| B- | 165 - 160 |
| C+ | 159 - 154 |
| C | 153 - 140 |
| D | 139 - 120 |
| F | 119 or less |

**The Meaning of Letter Grades**

* "A" is given only for excellent work.
* "B" is awarded for good work.
* "C" is fair or satisfactory work.
* "D" is given for poor work.
* "F" is unsatisfactory or failing.

Course Calendar Banner

**The course is outlined in**[**Modules**](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/modules)**. Everything you need to read, watch, and complete can be found there, in order. You can find specific due dates in the Course Summary below.**



**All assignments and readings are provided with the modules.**

Course Summary:

| **Date** | **Details** | **Due** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Wed , Oct 22, 2025 | Assignment [Introduce Yourself to Your Instructor](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047360) | due by 11:59pm |
| Quiz [Syllabus Quiz](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047336) | due by 11:59pm |
| Discussion Topic [Introduce Yourself to Your Classmates](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047353) | due by 11:59pm |
| Fri, Oct 24, 2025 | Assignment [Analysis of Gender Inequality Index (GII)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047354) | due by 11:59pm |
| Mon, Oct 27, 2025 | Assignment [Group Agreement](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047357) | due by 11:59pm |
| Discussion Topic [Module 2 News Review #1](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047344) | due by 11:59pm |
| Assignment [Topic of Team Research Project](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047361) | due by 11:59pm |
| Quiz [Chapter 3 Quiz](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047334) | due by 11:59pm |
| Thurs, Oct 30, 2025 | Quiz [Chapter 4 Quiz](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047335) | due by 11:59pm |
| Discussion Topic [Module 2 News Review #2](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047343) | due by 11:59pm |
| Sun, Nov 2, 2025 | Discussion Topic [Module 3 News Review #1](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047352) | due by 11:59pm |
| Quiz [Chapter 5 Quiz](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047337) | due by 11:59pm |
| Mon, Nov 3, 2025 | Assignment [Individual Progress Report #1](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047358) | due by 11:59pm |
| Thu, Nov 6, 2025 | Quiz [Chapter 6 Quiz](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047333) | due by 11:59pm |
| Thu, Nov 6, 2025 | Discussion Topic [Module 3 News Review #2](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047351) | due by 11:59pm |
| Sun, Nov 9, 2025 | Quiz [Chapter 7 Quiz](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047341) | due by 11:59pm |
| Discussion Topic [Module 4 News Review #1](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047350) | due by 11:59pm |
| Wed. Nov 12, 2025 | Quiz [Chapter 8 Quiz](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047339) | due by 11:59pm |
| Discussion Topic [Module 4 News Review #2](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047349) | due by 11:59pm |
| Sun, Nov 16, 2025 | Quiz [Chapter 9 Quiz](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047340) | due by 11:59pm |
| Assignment [Individual Progress Report #2](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047359) | due by 11:59pm |
| Discussion Topic [Module 5 News Review #1](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047348) | due by 11:59pm |
| Wed, Nov 19, 2025 | Quiz [Chapter 10 Quiz](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047331) | due by 11:59pm |
| Discussion Topic [Module 5 News Review #2](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047347) | due by 11:59pm |
| Sat, Nov 22, 2025 | Quiz [Chapter 11 Quiz](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047332) | due by 11:59pm |
| Discussion Topic [Module 6 News Review #1](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047346) | due by 11:59pm |
| Tue, Nov 25, 2025 | Quiz [Chapter 12 Quiz](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047338) | due by 11:59pm |
| Discussion Topic [Module 6 News Review #2](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047345) | due by 11:59pm |
| Tue, Dec 2, 2025  Thu, Dec 4, 2025 | Assignment [Final Research Report](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047356) | due by 11:59pm |
| Discussion Topic [Final Research Report Discussion](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/217037/assignments/3047342) | due by 11:59pm |
| Mon-Fri, Dec 1-5,2025 | Extra Credit for completion of SPOTs and  Assignment Extra Credit for Gateway Survey |  |