

## Bridging the Gender Gap in Economic Theories 8-Step PBLP (Grades 7-12)

**Objective:** To explore how women's perspectives have influenced economic theories, policies, and practices. Students will engage in an interdisciplinary STEAMS Approach, investigating historical contributions, current policy impacts, and the role of women in shaping global economies.

### Round Table

- ❖ **Opening Question:** How have women contributed to economic theory and policy, and why is it important to acknowledge their impact?
- ❖ **Purpose:** Introduce the significance of women's roles in economics, highlighting key figures who reshaped economic thought.
- ❖ **Materials:** Articles, videos, and speeches from influential women economists and activists in economic policy.

### Reflection Point

- ❖ **Discussion Questions:**
  - What are some common economic theories, and how might they have been different had women's perspectives been included earlier?
  - How can the inclusion of women in economic decision-making change the trajectory of society?
- ❖ **Materials:** Excerpts from key works of female economists, such as "The Feminine Economy" or selected writings by Elinor Ostrom and others.
- ❖ Journal for personal reflections on how women in economics impact society.

## Knowledge Setting

<b>Science (S): Women's Health and Economic Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Examine how health policies influenced by female economists have shaped economic outcomes.</li><li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Study the relationship between women's health and economic productivity, especially in developing nations. Research how gender-specific healthcare policies could enhance economic growth.</li></ul>
<b>Technology (T): Women in Tech and Innovation in Economic Policies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Explore the role of women in advancing technology-driven economic theories and their application in policy-making.</li><li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Investigate female tech leaders who have contributed to economic policy reforms on digital economies.</li></ul>
<b>Engineering (E):</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Understand how engineering and infrastructure policies have been influenced by gender-based economic approaches.</li><li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Observe solutions that have been proposed to address gender inequality in engineering-driven industries, particularly those that impact economic development.</li></ul>

<b>Arts (A): Visualizing Women in Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Explore how art and media have shaped the perception of women in the economic field.</li> <li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Study a series of artworks or digital posters that celebrate female economists and their influence on economic policy.</li> </ul>
<b>Mathematics (M): Gender Disparity in Economic Data</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Analyze the gender disparities in income, education, and employment within economic datasets.</li> <li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Use statistical analysis tools to visualize the gender wage gap, differences in wealth distribution, or disparities in education between genders.</li> </ul>
<b>Social Studies (SS): Economic Empowerment and Social Justice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Understand the intersection of economic empowerment for women and social justice movements.</li> <li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Study the work of women activists who have shaped policies advocating for economic equality, such as the work of Ruth Bader Ginsburg in advocating for equal pay.</li> </ul>

## Project

### Progress Map for Project Delivery

- ❖ **Week 1: Project Proposal**
  - Students create a written proposal outlining the focus of their project and community benefit.
- ❖ **Week 2: Project Approval and Community Engagement Plan**
  - Students submit their proposals and outline how their work will positively impact the community, ensuring alignment with the project's learning objectives and addressing real-world needs.
- ❖ **Week 3: Research Progress Update**
  - Students conduct research and gather data related to their chosen focus area.
- ❖ **Week 4: Draft of Final Project**
  - Students compile their findings into a draft report or presentation.
- ❖ **Week 5: Final Project Refinement and Approval for Implementation**
  - Final feedback is provided, and the projects are presented at a community event involving local leaders and stakeholders.

### Science (S): Gender and Economic Productivity

- ❖ **Project Example:** Research how women's health and reproductive policies have influenced economic productivity in both developed and developing countries. Investigate how economic policies addressing women's health (e.g., maternity leave, healthcare access) have impacted national economies. Create a public health campaign comparing historical and current policies. Partner with local

	<p>health centers to raise awareness about the economic impact of women's health policies.</p>
<p><b>Technology (T): Women and Technology in Economic Development</b></p>	<p>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Investigate how women have contributed to economic policy through the lens of technological advancements. Research the role of female innovators in tech-driven industries and how they've reshaped economic systems. Create a digital interactive timeline or infographic that showcases women's contributions to technology and economic policy. Host a virtual showcase to engage with local students.</p>
<p><b>Engineering (E): The Role of Women in Sustainable Economic Engineering</b></p>	<p>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Examine how engineering projects led by women have contributed to sustainable economic policies. Research key projects where women have influenced green energy solutions or infrastructure development that supports economic equality. Develop a proposal for a modern, women-driven infrastructure project that promotes sustainability and economic inclusion. Present the proposal to local city planners or community leaders.</p>
<p><b>Arts (A): Women in Economic Art</b></p>	<p>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Analyze how the portrayal of women in art and media has influenced public perception of economic policies. Examine historical and modern depictions of women in political campaigns and their impact on policy changes (e.g., women's suffrage, equal pay campaigns). Create a</p>

	<p>mixed-media artwork or digital campaign poster that reflects the economic impact of women's contributions. Collaborate with a local museum or art gallery to showcase the artwork and discuss its historical significance.</p>
<p><b>Mathematics (M): Economic Data Analysis and Gender Equality</b></p>	<p>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Research gender disparities in income, education, and employment across different countries and time periods. Use statistical tools to analyze the gender wage gap and the economic impact of closing this gap. Create a data visualization (e.g., pie charts, bar graphs) that compares gender disparities in key economic sectors over the last century. Create a mock economic policy proposal focused on gender equality in economics to present to local city officials.</p>
<p><b>Social Studies (SS): The Legacy of Women's Economic Policy Impact</b></p>	<p>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Investigate the historical impact of female leaders and activists on economic policy (e.g., Eleanor Roosevelt's role in social security reform). Develop an interactive map that traces key decisions and policies implemented by women in leadership roles that shaped global economies. Partner with a local historical society or museum to present the findings and discuss the ongoing relevance of these policies in today's economy.</p>

## Community Involvement

- ❖ **Objective:** Partner with local advocacy groups or organizations to discuss how women's perspectives can influence global economic policies.
- ❖ **Activity:** Invite community members to provide feedback and engage in discussions with students during project presentations.

## Assessment

- ❖ **Objective:** Evaluate projects based on the depth of research, creativity in presenting economic theories, and integration of women's perspectives into their analysis.
- ❖ **Methods:** Peer, community, and teacher evaluations, including a community showcase or discussion session on the real-world implications of their findings.

## Feedback Loop

- ❖ **Activity:** Reflect on the ways in which women's perspectives can continue to shape and reshape global economic policies.
- ❖ **Journal Prompt:** What can we learn from the women economists and policymakers who have shaped our economic systems, and how can we apply their insights to address current global economic challenges?

## Resume Integration

- ❖ Schedule appointments with school advisors to discuss how to highlight their involvement in the project under research, public speaking, policy analysis, and community engagement, emphasizing their skills in critical thinking, teamwork, and advocacy.

For more 8-Step Project-Based Lesson Plans check out our website at [www.steamsinitiative.org](http://www.steamsinitiative.org)

For all inquiries, please email **[info@steamsinitiative.org](mailto:info@steamsinitiative.org)**

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