



# Graduate Seminar

Department of  
Economics and Finance

College of Business  
and Economics

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Supervisor: Thanasis Stengos



### **The Impacts of Female Education and Total Life Expectancy on Economic Growth in the Middle East and North Africa: A Panel Data Analysis**

The overall image that emerges from the literature on the relation between human capital and economic growth suggests that the results vary substantially depending on the countries' development levels, methodology in empirical analysis and country-specific factors that differ from region to region. This study covers the effects of female education and total life expectancy on per capita GDP growth in the Middle East and North Africa region between 1965 and 2014 by using a panel data analysis. Empirical findings suggest a negative relationship between the variables and economic growth. In order to address the problem, I examined the region-specific factors and found that low female participation in the labor force and high dependency ratios are the explanatory factors of the results. This study is a part of growing body of research on the impacts of human capital on per capita GDP and aims to provide evidence from the region which policy makers can use to translate the recent improvements in education and life expectancy in the region into economic gains.

**Date: Thursday August 18th 2016**

**Time: 11:00am**

**Room: Mackinnon 720**

