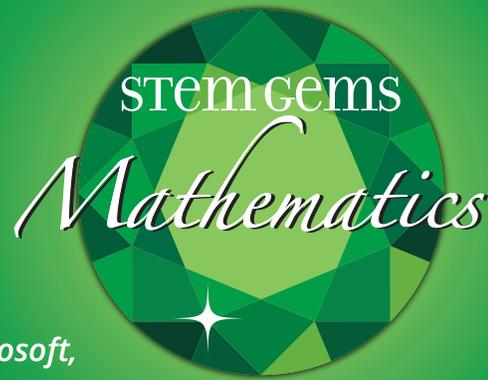


STEM Gem Career:  
**ECONOMIST**

STEM Gem:  
**SUSAN ATHEY**

*“There has never been a better time for young women to enter the field of economics. Google, Facebook, eBay, Pandora, Uber, Instagram, Microsoft, Coursera – all of these firms, as well as the latest start-up firms, need economists.”*



Is a career in Economics in your future? STEM Gem Susan Athey has made her mark in the complex world of position auctions – billions of Internet searches each day trigger auctions among hundreds of thousands of advertisers who want to appear in the searches. Her breakthrough findings hold major implications. Read her story and digest. Watch one of her videos. Then, with your STEM Gems Tribe, **discuss, explore, reflect,** and **act.**

## **DISCUSS**

1. How do Economists like Professor Athey make a difference in the world?
2. What experiences did Professor Athey have that led to her pursuit of a career as an Economist?
3. What is Professor Athey's educational background?
4. What are some of the challenges that Professor Athey faced along her journey?
5. What are some of Professor Athey's key accomplishments?
6. What inspired you most about Professor Athey's story?
7. Professor Athey says: *“There has never been a better time for young women to enter the field of economics. Google, Facebook, eBay, Pandora, Uber, Instagram, Microsoft, Coursera – all of these firms, as well as the latest start-up firms, need economists.”* Could there be a place for you in Economics? Don't count it out. Take the time to learn more.

## EXPLORE

1. To pursue a career as an Economist, what college majors should you consider?
2. What colleges and universities have programs in these areas?
3. What companies hire Economists? What is the salary range for an Economist?
4. What classes should you take in middle and high school to prepare for college and a career as an Economist?
5. Name at least two other women Economists. How are they similar to Professor Athey? How are they different?
6. What professional organizations support women in Economics? Do they have programs available for middle and high school students?

## REFLECT

Professor Athey always had an appetite for learning. At a young age, she would request additional math problems and read textbooks to get ahead. Reflect on your appetite for learning. What kinds of things do you do or can you do to ensure that you have a solid foundation in your math and science classes?

## ACT

It's time to step outside your comfort zone. Name one concrete thing you will do before your next meeting that will have you one step closer to becoming a STEM Gem. Blog about it. Include it in your written or photo journal. Hold yourself accountable.

***Work hard. Be brave. Stay curious.***

**BE A GEM!**

*Stephanie Espy*

P.S. I'd love to hear about your journey. Share on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram and tag @STEMGemsBook #STEMGemsTribe, or email me at [tribe@STEMGemsBook.com](mailto:tribe@STEMGemsBook.com).