

Degree programme	Type	Course
Sociocultural Gender Studies	FB	1

Contact lecturer

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Teaching staff

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Group languages

You can consult this information at the [end](#) of the document.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites to take this course.

Objectives

This course introduces the principles of gender theory within the framework of contemporary feminist thought. Throughout the course, students will analyze the ways in which gender functions as an analytical category, a power relationship, and a technology of subjectivation, drawing on the diverse theoretical traditions that have contributed to its conceptualization. Concepts such as identity, power, discourse, difference, body, sexuality, justice, and materiality will be explored, ranging from the foundational debates on the sex/gender distinction to intersectional critiques of feminism's unitary subject, including the ethics of care and feminist epistemologies. The course aims to develop students' critical competence to analyze discourses, practices, and institutions from situated gender perspectives that are attentive to the interplay of multiple axes of inequality.

Objectives

- To become familiar with the main currents and debates in contemporary feminist theory regarding gender.
- To understand how gender is produced, regulated, and transformed in relation to other power structures such as race, class, and sexuality.
- Identify and compare different theoretical positions within feminism, recognizing their underlying assumptions and political implications.
- Develop the ability to critically read theoretical texts and analyze public discourse from a gender perspective.
- Develop conceptually rigorous arguments of one's own, both orally and in writing.

Learning outcomes

- KM30 (Identify the fundamental establishing narratives of different feminist approaches, taking intersectional considerations and context into account.) Identify the fundamental establishing narratives of different feminist approaches, taking intersectional considerations and context into account.
- KM31 (Critically analyse popular discourses, particularly those related to ideology and ethnocentric and sexist biases.) Critically analyse popular discourses, particularly those related to ideology and ethnocentric and sexist biases.
- KM32 (Describe the fundamental principles of gender theory and relate them to the cultural substratum in which they are found.) Describe the fundamental principles of gender theory and relate them to the cultural substratum in which they are found.
- KM34 (Contrast debates on feminism and masculinities to find commonalities, clashes and possible biases derived from androcentric assumptions.) Contrast debates on feminism and masculinities to find commonalities, clashes and possible biases derived from androcentric assumptions.
- SM27 (Use genealogical accounts to contextualise different socio-cultural manifestations of gender from different periods.) Use genealogical accounts to contextualise different socio-cultural manifestations of gender from different periods.
- SM28 (Justify in an orderly, coherent and distinctive narrative the specifics of debates on gender, its branches and related aspects, in different socio-cultural contexts.) Justify in an orderly, coherent and distinctive narrative the specifics of debates on gender, its branches and related aspects, in different socio-cultural contexts.
- SM31 (Use organised and correct discourse both in writing and to be performed aloud, in the corresponding language, which relies on inclusive language and is suitable for all kinds of situations.) Use organised and correct discourse both in writing and to be performed aloud, in the corresponding language, which relies on inclusive language and is suitable for all kinds of situations.

Contents

Section 1. Introduction to Gender Theory.

The term "gender" in academic studies. The sex/gender distinction. The sex/gender system as a structure.

Authors: Mary Wollstonecraft, Simone de Beauvoir, Gayle Rubin, Joan Scott, Teresa de Lauretis, Anne Fausto-Sterling.

Section 2. Power, Body, and Subjectivation

Power as a relationship and as a mechanism. Gender as a technology of subjectivation. Body and normalization. Gender performativity. Vulnerable bodies, rebellious bodies.

Authors: Judith Butler, Michel Foucault, Monique Wittig, Sara Ahmed, Paul B. Preciado, Silvia Federici, Rita Segato.

Section 3. Difference, Equality, and Recognition

Equality versus difference. Recognition of identities versus a critique of essentialism. Feminist critique of Enlightenment universalism.

Authors: Nancy Fraser, Geneviève Fraisse, Martha Nussbaum, Carole Pateman, Iris Marion Young.

Section 4. Justice, Care, and Relations of Dependency

Critique of the autonomous liberal subject. Interdependence and relational justice. Ethics of care and care as a political issue.

Authors: Carol Gilligan, Joan Tronto, Eva Kittay, María Puig de la Bellacasa, The Care Collective.

Section 5. Intersectionality and Relationships of Multiple Oppression

Intersectionality: origins and development. Critiques of the notion of "woman" as the sole subject of feminism. Non-hegemonic feminisms.

Authors: Kimberlé Crenshaw, Patricia Hill Collins, bell hooks, Angela Davis, Gloria Anzaldúa, Maria Rodó.

Section 6. Science, Knowledge, and Gender

Science and Objectivity: A Critique of the Neutral Point of View. Situated Knowledge and Embodied Knowledges. Nature and Gender: How the Logic of Domination Is Articulated.

Authors: Donna Haraway, Sandra Harding, Alicia Puleo, Karen J. Warren, Val Plumwood.

Learning activities and methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Tutorials.	22.5	0.9	
Preparation of topics and texts. Presentation preparation. Textual analysis preparation. Exam preparation.	75	3	
Course presentation. Theoretical presentations of the main concepts. Textual analysis. Evaluation of course content and methodology	45	1.8	

Classroom sessions will combine lectures with time set aside for the analysis and group discussion of the texts.

Active and collaborative learning methods.

Moodle will be used to share materials and post grades.

Annotation: within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continuous assessment activities

Title	Weight	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Final exam	50%	4	0.16	KM30, KM31, KM32, SM27, SM28, SM31
Text commentary	30%	2.5	0.1	KM30, KM31, KM32, KM34, SM27, SM28, SM31

Oral presentation	20%	1	0.04	KM30, KM31, KM32, KM34, SM27, SM28, SM31
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Course assessment is continuous and requires class attendance and consistent participation throughout the course.

To pass the course, students must earn a grade of at least 5 on the final exam. If this requirement is not met, students must take the retake exam. Students may also take the retake exam to make up a text analysis assignment or improve their exam grade.

Students who have completed less than 30% of the assessment activities will receive a grade of "not evaluable."

Active participation in class beyond the required presentation will be taken into account.

At the time each assessment activity is conducted, students will be informed of the procedure and date for reviewing exams.

If a student commits any irregularity that could lead to a significant change in the grade for an assessment, that assessment will be graded as a 0, regardless of any disciplinary proceedings that may be initiated. If multiple irregularities occur in the assessments for the same course, the final grade for that course will be 0.

Assessment dates are announced at the beginning of the academic year and cannot be changed.

Use of AI

Restricted use: For this course, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies is permitted exclusively for support tasks, such as bibliographic or information searches, text correction, or translations. Students must clearly identify which parts were generated using this technology, specify the tools used, and include a critical reflection on how these tools influenced the process and the final result of the activity, as well as the link and all corresponding prompts. Failure to disclose the use of AI in this graded assignment will be considered a breach of academic integrity and may result in a partial or total deduction from the assignment grade, or more severe penalties in serious cases.

This course does not include a single evaluation system.

Bibliography

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Software

There is no specific software for this subject.

Course groups and languages

The information provided is provisional until November 30. After this date, you will be able to consult the language of each group through this [link](#). To access the information, you will need to enter the course CODE

Type of teaching	Group	Language	Semester	Shift
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan/Spanish	second semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	1	Catalan/Spanish	second semester	morning-mixed