

SOCI 525

Current Issues in Gender

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Course Description¹: This course is a seminar that is designed to explore some of the major theoretical and empirical approaches that feature gender as a focal point of analysis and study. The topic of gender has had a complex treatment, and it is continually being treated differently as disciplines grow and interdisciplinary projects evolve. Gender sits in a nexus with other social relations and power structures, it mingles with capitalism, it has many meanings as a concept, and is often sent to the margins of sociological thought.

This seminar will follow some of the different developments in gender and related interdisciplinary theories, and it is designed to help cultivate your own thinking and theorizing in this area. It is meant to be a somewhat comprehensive and dynamic overview or survey of the field. It will include work from various perspectives and social and global locations. In general, readings will include both theoretical or conceptual works and empirical works, and my hope is to introduce you to topics and readings that work with your own interests, but also move you outside of what you might typically read and think about as well.

Students are encouraged to come to this seminar with their own research projects, whatever stage they may be at. This might be a term paper or a thesis chapter they'd like to develop or try to publish in a peer-reviewed journal, a dissertation or master's proposal, or an idea for a review article or book review they'd like to develop and try to publish. Ideally, through this seminar, you'll have the opportunity to move forward with a project that's important to you. There will be many peer-workshops, student lead talks/presentations/discussions, and a spirit of support and collaboration with each other.

Required Resources May Include: At this time, most course readings will be made available via Brightspace or will be available through the library. Students may be required to buy a book or two.

Mode of Delivery: This class is a seminar style class and is very hands on for students. Students will be class leaders wherein they facilitate class. This is a face-to-face course and will not be recorded. Students are expected to come to class. There may be several in-class workshops. There may be a few classes held over zoom to accommodate guest speakers. This course will make use of many of the online tools on Brightspace.

¹This online outline is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students before the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.