

SOCI 281

Sociology of Genders

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Course Description: This course offers an introduction to the social construction of sex and genders, particularly in relation to other structures of inequality such as race, class, ethnicity, and sexualities. In this course, you will learn to *sociologically* examine the gendering of everyday social interactions, the role of gender in major social institutions, how gender is a main organizing factor in society, and we will look critically at the idea that sex and gender are fixed biological realities. The course will focus on a sociological approach to sociology of genders, and readings will draw on empirical research that draws on these sociological theories and concepts. We will cover topics like family, health, education, work, gendered economies, sport, masculinities, feminist movements, postcolonial feminism and the politics of representation, gender and culture, sexualities, transgender and intersex topics, embodiment, and gendered violence.

Course Objectives: The overall objectives of this course are to provide a space to discuss the major theoretical approaches and debates in the sociology of genders, to explore research in the fields of gender and feminist studies, and to evaluate and apply course readings in your discussions, written work, and everyday life (locally and globally). By the end of this course, students will have a deeper knowledge of: 1) the key theories in the sociology of genders; 2) how these theories have been used to understand gendered processes, and 3) how gender is reproduced (or resisted) on different levels, such as in discourses, interactions, structures, social relations, and in embodied ways.

Course Pre-requisites: Recommended prior to SOCI 382, SOCI 389, and SOCI 435.

Required Resources May Include: Some required readings will be made available via Brightspace. You may be required to purchase a textbook for this course.

Expected mode of delivery: This is a face-to-face course and will not be recorded. Students are expected to come to class. There will 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.

This course description is provided in advance of the course to help with planning and to help students make decisions about their studies. The course focus and direction may change by the time the course is offered.