



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL SCIENCES

GS1101 Gender Studies, Introductory Level, 30 credits

Genusvetenskap, grundkurs, 30 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by The Faculty of Arts on 2016-06-27 and was last revised on 2020-06-22 by Department of Cultural Sciences to be valid from 2021-01-18, spring semester of 2021.

Field of education: Arts 100%

Department: Department of Cultural Sciences

Position in the educational system

The course is a freestanding course given at first cycle. The course is included in a Bachelor's Degree in Gender Studies.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Culture, Bachelor's Programme (H1KLT)

Main field of studies

Gender Studies

Specialization

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Entry requirements

General entrance requirements

Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Use and critically review central concepts of Gender Studies.

- Give an account of the emergence of the Gender Studies research field.
- Problematiser the norms, ideas and structures that create differences and hierarchies.
- Describe and reflect on how inequalities and hierarchies are produced and converted intersectionally.
- Review how power relations are created, maintained and challenged in different cultural products.
- Discuss the use of the term politics and how feminist theory and activism challenges traditional definitions of politics.
- Analyse the relationship between research, activism and political reforms.

Competence and skills

- Structure the reading of a text and critically review it.
- Use library and database resources in the field of Gender Studies.
- give an account of and problematise the different perspectives of the course, in oral and written form.
- Review different historiographic constructions.
- Individually and together with other students distinguish and discuss questions, concepts, problematizations and empiricism relevant to Gender Studies.

Judgement and approach

- Reflect on the normative and contextual condition of knowledge.
- Reflect on their knowledge process.
- Listen to, critically review and build on other students' arguments.

Course content

The introductory course in Gender Studies gives students knowledge of concepts and theoretical perspectives in Gender Studies. It problematises the norms and ideas that create inequalities, hierarchies and structural inequalities. The introductory course also gives students tools to individually and in groups relate to, review and evaluate the different spheres of the society from a gender research perspective. The course contains four modules with 7.5 credits each. For a more detailed description of the modules, please see further down in the syllabus.

During the introductory course, we discuss how difference can be understood as a theoretical concept and how difference-making practices can be understood from a Gender Studies perspective. Focus is placed on how difference-making practices are both criticised and used as critical tools within Gender Studies theory and feminist contexts.

Sub-courses

1. **Introduction to Gender Studies** (*Introduktion till genusvetenskap*), 7.5 credits
Grading scale: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U)
In this module, an introduction is given to Gender Studies and the subjects broad and interdisciplinary research field. The course introduces feminist theory and gives an understanding of concepts both central and relevant to the field.

2. **Intersectional constructions** (*Intersektionella konstruktioner*), 7.5 credits
Grading scale: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U)
In this module, students study how intersectionality has grown from an interaction between how hegemonic feminist communities design and naturalise exclusions and how these are challenged and remade to integrate discriminated groups in the fight against structural forms of oppression.

3. **Politics and feminist critique** (*Politik och feministisk kritik*), 7.5 credits
Grading scale: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U)
The theme for this module is about how knowledge is political and how feminist movements and theory can be challenged and changed. We discuss different analyses of inequality and injustice.

4. **Gender and culture** (*Genus och kultur*), 7.5 credits
Grading scale: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U)
The theme for this module is culture from a feminist and critical perspective. Based on how different cultural artefacts and theories of culture are highlighted and are problematised how power relations are represented, created and challenged.

Form of teaching

The education is mainly conducted through lectures, credit-granting seminars and seminars. The students work together in groups to prepare before the credit-granting seminars.

Language of instruction: Swedish and English

Assessment

The course is assessed through collective, as well as individual analytical exercises, for example, a written take-home examination and a group oral examination.

A student who has failed the course, or a part of a course, examination twice without obtaining a passing grade is entitled to the nomination of another examiner unless there

are special reasons to the contrary (HF 6 chap. 22§). Such a request should be made in writing to the department responsible for the course.

If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for special pedagogical support, the examiner may, if it is compatible with the course outcomes and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, decide to give the student an adapted examination or alternative examination form.

If a course has ceased or undergone major changes, the student must be guaranteed at least three examination attempts (including the regular examination) during at least one year, but no longer than two years after the course has ended/changed. Concerning internships and teaching practices, the same applies, but with a limitation to only one additional examination attempt.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

The requirement for a passing grade is to be able to achieve the intended learning outcomes. The requirement for a "Pass with distinction" grade is to also demonstrate a special ability to have a reflexive approach to the material studied.

To pass the course with distinction, a "Pass with distinction" grade is required for at least 50% of the course credits.

Course evaluation

Course reflections are made either orally or in writing. The aim is for both the teachers and students should reflect on their learning processes. The students may learn of the result from the course evaluation in writing or orally

Additional information

Equality aspects should be taken into consideration in the content, literature, teaching and evaluation. Also, the course should, to the extent that it is relevant sensitise about and problematise ecologically, economically and socially and culturally sustainable development.

Gender Studies may not be included in a degree together with Women studies at the same level.