

Gender and Society (Edu 4.0)

TTh 10:30-11:45

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This course is an introductory course on gender studies, with an emphasis on anthropology and other social sciences. Gender is a subject that can be approached in every field of the humanities and the social sciences, but to view gender roles and differences from the viewpoint of anthropology is unique. Cultural anthropology focuses on cultural variations and differences across different populations all over the world. Thanks to this cross-cultural approach, anthropology provides a comparative perspective on gender. During this course, key issues in gender studies will be examined mostly under the anthropological lens, but approaches in other fields in humanities and social sciences will be introduced as well.

The goal of this course is to gain an understanding on gender issues in contemporary society, and to obtain an anthropological perspective that we can apply to our own thinking in our everyday lives. During the lectures, we will put an emphasis on understanding basic concepts such as sex, gender, sexuality, LGBT, identity politics, equality, agency, performance, stereotypes, ideology, discourse, meaning, and social reproduction. These and other concepts shall be described and explained during lectures based on concrete examples given in the weekly reading assignments.

While the term feminism has become a colloquial term with negative connotations viewing it as an agenda of interest groups, keep in mind that gender issues started out as a problem of human rights. Similar to any other social movement that struggled for human rights, the early women's movement focused on gaining political rights and legal equality. In order to put feminism in perspective, we shall examine how the earliest forms of the women's movement started and how it has developed into the present state.

Important Reminder:

- Every lecture material for this course has been produced and published expressly for educational purposes for an undergraduate course at KAIST. This material cannot be used for any other purposes and cannot be shared with others who are not enrolled in the course. Individuals who violate these terms and restrictions are legally responsible for any violation of intellectual property laws.
- Capturing and recording the lecture or lecture materials and uploading them on the Internet or sharing and sending them to others online or on SNS networks can violate international copyright laws, subjecting those individuals to serious legal action. They will also fail the course and referred to the disciplinary board of KAIST.

- By enrolling in this course, the student acknowledges the above and gives consent to turning on their cameras and showing their presence for checking attendance and for any lecture-related activity such as presentations or discussions.

Textbook

On-line resources (KLMS, accessible to registered students only)

Some Readings are also available at the Reserve Stack of the Library (도서관 지정도서실)

Assignments:

We are going to meet for group discussions on Zoom every Tuesday.

Weekly Readings & Response Paper (due every Tuesday before class discussion): You will be required to post short response papers (Times New Roman 11pt, single spaced, maximum 1 page in A4) on KLMS, in preparation for the group discussion on Tuesdays. The response paper should answer the discussion questions, and reflect your understanding of the on-line lectures and the reading material. Use this assignment to prepare your own opinion and questions you want to ask other group members during discussion.

Mid-term & Final Exams: The exams will consist of short answer questions asking basic information and understanding of concepts and theories. A list of key words and concepts will be distributed in the review sessions before each exam to help your studies.

Grading:

The final grade will be determined based on the following:

Attendance and Participation (Response Paper) 40%

Mid-term & Final Exams 60%

Lecture and Reading Schedule:

Week 1 (9/1, 3): Course Overview & Logistics

Week 2 (9/8): What is Gender?

W.E.B. Du Bois (US). 1919. "The Damnation of Women"

Simone De Beauvoir (France). 1949. Excerpt from *The Second Sex*.

Week 3 (9/15): Nature or Nurture?

Baron-Cohen, Simon. 2004. *The Essential Difference: Male and Female Brains and the Truth about Autism*. Basic Books. (pp. 1-20)

Week 4 (9/22): Marriage and Family

Mate Selection Theories (Handout)

[Optional Reading] Fuentes, Agustin. 2012. "Myths about Sex." In Fuentes, *Race, Monogamy, and other Lies They Told You*. Berkeley: University of California Press. (pp. 184-205)

Week 5 (9/29): Sexuality

[Selected parts from] James K. Rilling, Jan Scholz, Todd M. Preuss, Matthew F. Glasser, Bhargav K. Errangi, Timothy E. Behrens, Differences between chimpanzees and bonobos in neural systems supporting social cognition, *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, Volume 7, Issue 4, April 2012, Pages 369–379, <https://doi.org/10.1093/scan/nsr017>

Week 6 (10/6): Body and the Performative

<https://aeon.co/ideas/gender-is-dead-long-live-gender-just-what-is-performativity>

Week 7 (10/13): Patriarchy

Johnson, Allan G. 2014. *The Gender Knot: Unravelling Our Patriarchal Legacy*, 4th Edition. Temple University Press. (pp. 26-42)

Week 8 (10/20): (Study Week)

Week 9 (10/27): Mid-term Exam

Week 10 (11/3): New Reproductive Technologies

Documentary "Google Baby"

[Optional Reading] Hartouni, Valerie. 2008. "Reproducing Public Meanings: In the Matter of Baby M." In Hartouni,

Week 11 (11/10): Intersectionality - Race, Gender, and Class & Transgenderism

Goldberg, Michelle. 2014. "What is a Woman? The Dispute between Radical Feminism and Transgenderism." July 28, 2014. *The New Yorker*.

(<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2014/08/04/woman-2>)

Hooks, Bell. 1986. "Sisterhood: Political Solidarity between Women." *Feminist Review* 23: 125-138.

North, Anna. 2019. "'I am a woman and I am fast': what Caster Semenya's story says about gender and race in sports." 3 May, 2019. Vox.

(<https://www.vox.com/identities/2019/5/3/18526723/caster-semenya-800-gender-race-intersex-athletes>)

Week 12 (11/17): Marriage or Partnership?

Ferguson, Ann. 2007. "Gay Marriage: An American and Feminist Dilemma." *Hypatia* 22(1): 39-57.

Week 13 (11/24): Gender, Education, and Professionalism

Barnett, Rosalind, and Caryl Rivers. 2005. "Do the Math." In Barnett and Rivers, *Same Difference: How Gender Myths are Hurting Our Relationships, Our Children, and Our Jobs*. Basic Books. (pp. 149-172)

Movie: *Hidden Figures* (US, 2016, dir. by Theodore Melfi)

Week 14 (12/1): Gender Violence, Hate Speech, and Misogyny

Ratcliffe, Rebecca. 2015. "Nobel scientist Tim Hunt: female scientists cause trouble for men in labs." 10 June, 2015. *The Guardian*. (<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/jun/10/nobel-scientist-tim-hunt-female-scientists-cause-trouble-for-men-in-labs>)

(& Reply to Tim Hunt by Anne Perkins)

Week 15 (12/8): Final Exam

Week 16 (12/15): Study Break (Official Final Week)