



C-ID Descriptor

Introduction to Gender

Descriptor Details

- **Descriptor Title:** Introduction to Gender
- **C-ID Number:** 140
- **Units:** 3.0
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General Description

Sociological analysis of the social construction of gender, masculinity, and femininity historically and cross-culturally. It examines the debates on sex and gender. It analyzes the impact of economic and political change on gender expectations and practices. It focuses on macro-analyses of how institutions shape gender and microanalyses of how individuals are socialized and how they “do” and practice gender.

Prerequisites

N/A

Corequisites

N/A

Advisories

N/A

Content

Course will include:

1. Introduction to the Sociology of Gender and the Issues of Women and Men
2. Major Theoretical Paradigms and Research Methods in Sociology
3. Biological, Psychological, and Socio-Cultural Construction of Sex and Gender
4. Gender, Agents of Socialization, the Socialization Process, and Gender Development
5. Gender, Language, Communication, and Social Interactions
6. Gender, Intimate Relations, Family Relations, and Lifespan
7. Gender and the Social Construction of Sexuality
8. Variations of Gender, Masculinity, and Femininity
9. Economic, Racial, Ethnic, Migrant, Sexuality, and Cross-Cultural Variations
10. Gender and Social Institutions (including Education, Politics, Religion, Work, Healthcare, Media, and the Economy)
11. Gender Politics, Women's Movements, Men's Movements, and Feminist Struggles

Other topics may include:

1. Gender, Crime, and Deviance
2. Gender and Violence
3. Women's Life and Multicultural Perspectives.

Lab Activities

N/A

Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. Compare and contrast sociological perspectives used to interpret gender relations
- B. Differentiate between the terms sex and gender and discuss their differences within the larger social context of gendered relations

- C. Identify the main agents of gender socialization and their impact on children's and adults' gender construction
- D. Describe gender ideology and practices in multiple social institutions and across cultures and societies
- E. Identify the interplay of race, ethnicity, class, and sexuality affecting gender relations
- F. Outline the process by which people negotiate power and gender boundaries through their relationships with others (including violent relationships)
- G. Identify social and political movements to change gender inequalities and gender practices

Evaluation Methods

May include:

- Objective exams
- Written assignments
- Application exercises
- Research Project
- Field Journal
- Oral Presentations
- Reflection and discussion
- Small group activities
- Out-of-class activities

Textbooks

- Linda L. Lindsey. Gender Roles
- Kimmel and Aronson. The Gendered Society Reader
- Renzetti and Curran. Women, Men and Society
- Richardson, Laurel, Verta Taylor, and Nancy Whittier (eds.). Feminist Frontiers
- Satow, Roberta. Gender and Social Life