

Syllabus

Course description

Course title:	Gender and sexuality studies
Course year:	1st Social Work 2nd Social Education
Semester:	2nd
Course code:	51112 Social Work 64209 Social Education
Scientific sector:	SPS/07
Lecturer:	Bacio Marco
Module:	no
Lecturer other module:	/
Credits:	4
Total lecturing hours:	30
Total Hours of availability for students and tutoring:	12
Office hours:	from Monday to Friday on request
Attendance:	according to the regulation
Teaching language:	English
Propaedeutic course:	none
Course description:	<p>What is sex? What is gender? What is sexuality? How are these concepts related to culture and/or nature? The course explores how gender and sexuality are pronounced, embodied, and negotiated within specific historical and cultural contexts. Indeed, we will examine how categories of gender and sexuality inform and shape our understanding of the world.</p> <p>Moreover, we will investigate the institutions of patriarchy, religion, familial organization, and colonialism, among others, as well as how communities launch movements for social change. In addition, we will consider how gender and sexuality intersect with other identity categories such as race, class, ethnicity, nationality, age, and ability, among others. Finally, sexuality studies examine the social construction of sexual desires, practices, and identities, and investigates how sexuality is connected to power and inequality.</p>
Specific educational objectives:	<p>This is an introductory course. Although its core is sociology, it grabs perspectives from other disciplines. It gives a general overview of scientific content on gender and sexuality. We will use a range of interdisciplinary concepts, tools, and methods to understand and analyze sex, gender, and sexuality. On how sex, gender, and sexuality mark our bodies, influence our perceptions of self and others, organize families and institutions, delimit opportunities for individuals and groups of people, and impact lived experiences. At the end of the course, students will acquire the tools to navigate the spectrum of gender and sexuality.</p>
List of topics covered:	<p>The course is divided into two parts: the first is devoted to the most prominent theories in the fields of gender, sex, and sexuality, while the second part is dedicated to a case study. In the beginning, we will discuss and analyze the basic principles of gender, sex, and sexuality, their history and why sex matters; we will then move to the sexual script theory, the sexual fields</p>

	theory, and the macro theory on sexuality. Then, we will engage with the LGBTIQ+ theories, and we will discuss the invention of heterosexuality. In the second part of the course, we will engage with a phenomenon that intersects gender and sexuality simultaneously, namely sex work. In particular, we will discuss male sex work.
Teaching format:	Lectures
Learning outcomes:	<p>Following the Dublin Descriptors, the learning outcomes are the following:</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding: Exhibit a rich comprehension of the different tools and approaches for analyzing gender, sex, and sexuality; develop a critical understanding of the intersections of gender, sexuality, race, class, ethnicity, nationality, age, and ability; develop a rich comprehension of both feminist and queer approaches to the social and cultural construction of gender, sex, and sexuality; to construct and enhance a critical understanding of intersectionality; to develop a basic knowledge of the gendered and racialized historical legacies of colonialism that structure society today.</p> <p>Applying knowledge and understanding: Investigating the intersections and collisions of gender and sexuality with race, class, ethnicity, nationality, age, and ability; the class will consider societal and institutional systems of power, privilege, oppression, and marginalization; students need to demonstrate their ability to use the knowledge gained through studying the concepts and theoretical perspectives presented during the course on the topics related to LGBTIQ+ people and community.</p> <p>Making judgments: To develop consciousness about the self and others through a deepened understanding of how social, cultural, and biological categories shape our lives and our understandings of the world; students need to demonstrate a critical view of what they have learned and show the ability to think differently on the topics of sex, gender, and sexuality.</p> <p>Communication skills: To cultivate a language framework for thoughtfully articulating the critical vocabulary in the field of gender, sexuality, and women's studies; students need to articulate in a clear, understandable, and linear way all the knowledge they have acquired, using the specific vocabulary of the discipline appropriately.</p> <p>Learning skills: To understand and be able to utilize feminism as a lens for self-reflection as well as a point for discussion and comprehension of popular culture, music, films, and other media; students need to make critical and relevant use of the concepts learned, employing the appropriate categories for the analysis of specific social phenomena related to sex, gender, and sexuality.</p>
Assessment:	<p>For those who attend class (<i>frequentanti</i>): A short essay (up to 4.000 words) plus a final oral exam.</p> <p>For those who do not attend class (<i>non frequentanti</i>): An extended essay (up to 8.000 words) plus a final oral exam.</p>
Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks:	<p>Relevant to the essay is the ability to argue and describe the phenomena analyzed, logical structure, accuracy, and ability to think critically.</p> <p>Relevant for the oral exam is the ability to argue and to</p>

	summarize in one's own words, reflection, and critical analysis skills.
Required readings:	<p>Please note that the teacher is responsible for providing the following material to students.</p> <p>For those who attend class (<i>frequentanti</i>):</p> <p>First part: DeLamanter, J., & Plante, R. F. (Eds.). (2015). <i>Handbook of the Sociology of Sexualities</i>. Springer. Only chapters two, three, four, eleven, fifteen, and twenty-three. Ghaziani, A. (2017). <i>Sex Cultures</i>. Polity. Only chapters: introduction, three, and conclusions. Plante, R. F. (2015). <i>Sexualities in Context. A Social Perspective</i>. Routledge. Only chapters one, two, and three.</p> <p>Second part: Bacio, M. (2023). <i>Masculinities at work. Male-to-male internet escorting in Italy and Sweden</i>. Lund University. Only chapters five and six.</p> <p>For those who do not attend class (<i>non frequentanti</i>):</p> <p>First part: DeLamanter, J., & Plante, R. F. (Eds.). (2015). <i>Handbook of the Sociology of Sexualities</i>. Springer. Only chapters: introduction, two, three, four, eleven, fifteen, twenty-two, and twenty-three. Ghaziani, A. (2017). <i>Sex Cultures</i>. Polity. Only chapters: introduction, one, two, three, and conclusions. Plante, R. F. (2015). <i>Sexualities in Context. A Social Perspective</i>. Routledge. Only chapters one, two, three, four, five, six, and seven.</p> <p>Second part: Bacio, M. (2023). <i>Masculinities at work. Male-to-male internet escorting in Italy and Sweden</i>. Lund University. Only chapters one, two, five, and six.</p>
Supplementary readings:	<p>Barker, M.-J., & Iantaffi, A. (2019). <i>Life Isn't Binary. On Being Both, Beyond, and In-Between</i>. Jessica Kingsley.</p> <p>Connell, R. (2005). <i>Masculinities</i>. University of California Press (1st edition, 1995).</p> <p>Crenshaw, K. (1989). Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory and Antiracist Politics. <i>University of Chicago Legal Forum</i>, 1, 139-167.</p> <p>Crenshaw, K. (1991). Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics, and Violence against Women of Color. <i>Stanford Law Review</i>, 43(6), 1241-1299.</p> <p>Gagnon, J. H., & Simon, W. (1973). <i>Sexual conduct: The social sources of human sexuality</i>. Aldine.</p> <p>Giddens, A. (1992). <i>The transformation of intimacy. Sexuality, love and eroticism in modern societies</i>. Polity.</p> <p>Foucault, M. (1978). <i>The history of sexuality: Volume 1</i>. Pantheon Books.</p> <p>Messerschmidt, J. W. (2018). <i>Hegemonic masculinity. Formulation, reformulation, and amplification</i>. Rowman & Littlefield.</p> <p>Pateman, C. (1988). <i>The Sexual Contract</i>. Polity.</p>