



SGR017F Gendering the Classics, 7.5 credits, third cycle

The course was established by the board of the Faculty of Social Sciences at Lund University on 2021-11-25 and the course syllabus was approved by the Research Studies Council on 2021-12-08.

The syllabus is valid from spring semester 2022.

General information

The course is offered as a freestanding, third cycle course at the Faculty of Social Sciences.

The language of instruction is English or Swedish, depending on the group of course participants.

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Reflect upon the complexity of social science classics from a gender/feminist perspective.
- Locate various positions in classical social science debates and their interrelation with gender/feminist interventions.

Competence and skills

- Critically examine various contributions in classical social science theories and their gender/feminist counterparts.

- Explore the ways in which a gender/feminist contribution to mainstream analytical concepts in the social sciences informs the study of social processes.
- Identify key concepts in social science theories as well as gender/feminist studies and their relevance for various social science disciplines and research.

Judgement and Approach

- Evaluate major developments in the field of the social sciences with a particular focus on gender/feminist critiques.
- Be able to apply a gender/feminist perspective in one's own research/doctoral dissertation.

Course content

How to include a gender/feminist perspective in a more substantial way? This course offers insights into the ways in which classical social science theories could be enhanced by a gender/feminist perspective. Through participants' careful reading of mainstream social science theories against gender/feminist interventions, the course encourages critical dialogue between various positions.

Focusing on theoretical, yet empirically anchored, themes such as postcolonialism, decolonialism, zones of in/justice, powers, belonging, mobility, labour, reproduction, practices, care, corporality, techniques, space, intimacies, queer, politics, and recognition, the course unfolds strengths and limitations of established social science theories from a gender/feminist perspective, as informed by a range of intersectional complexities.

Thus, the course aims at providing students with epistemological and ontological tools by the aid of which classical social sciences theories can be critically considered and invigorated by

including a gender/feminist perspective and taking into consideration the intersections of a variety of societal parameters.

Course design

The course is built on thematic sessions each of which is composed of a lecture and a seminar. Each session will begin with a brief lecture and be followed by a seminar at which groups make presentations to critically introduce and discuss notions and perspectives brought up in the course literature under a specific theme.

Intending to provide a platform for a course participant's own research, each doctoral student is invited to consider the ways in which course readings could enrich their own thesis work. In a final essay, course participants would explore such connections.

Assessment

The course is based on lectures and seminars. Active participation is a precondition and thus required by course participants. Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation is required in seminars. Students who have been unable to participate due to circumstances such as accidents or sudden illness will be offered the opportunity to compensate for or re- take compulsory components. This also applies to students who have been absent because of duties as an elected student representative.

Each course participant concludes the course by writing a final essay designed as a thesis chapter or a scientific article to engage classical social science theories directly with their gender/feminist counterparts.

Grades

The grades awarded are Pass or Fail. To receive a Pass the doctoral student must fulfil the learning outcomes of the course.

At the beginning of the course, students will be informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus as well as the grading scale and how it is applied at the course.

Entry requirements and selection

Applicants must be admitted to a doctoral programme. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of available places at the course, students from the Faculty of Social Sciences, Lund University, will be given priority.