



Course Outline

UNIVERSITY STUDIES

**Sociology 301
Sociology of Gender Roles
Fall, 2012**

**3 CREDITS
3 HOURS PER WEEK**

INSTRUCTOR: Laura Roberts

INSTRUCTOR: Laura Roberts
PHONE NUMBER: (780) 791-4827
E-MAIL: laura.roberts@keyano.ca
OFFICE NUMBER: S211A

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday	2:00 – 2:50 PM
Tuesday	10:00 – 11:50 PM
Wednesday	3:00 – 4:00 PM
Thursday	11:00 – 11:50 AM

HOURS OF INSTRUCTION:

Wednesday	6:30-9:30 PM	Room 210
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PRE-REQUISITE(S):

None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is a study of gender roles from the perspective of social inequality. It will examine the explanations of gender differences from an interdisciplinary perspective, with particular emphasis on sociological explanations. A brief look at historical as well as cross-cultural gender inequalities will also be attempted. The primary focus of this course is on gender differentiation which exists in major social institutions such as family, economy, polity, education and religion, with special reference to contemporary Canadian society.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The major objectives of this course are threefold: a) to inform students about research on gender (which is by no means exhaustive); b) to enable students to critically analyze their views about (particularly) womens' (but not excluding men) gender/sex roles and behaviors in the context of our everyday lives; and c) to enable them to think critically about the issues related to the broader theme of gender.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

This course will be largely taught by applying participatory learning tools and techniques, incorporating activities geared towards different learning styles and adhering to the main principles of Adult Education. Therefore, the class will incorporate a variety of learning activities, such as large and small discussion groups, reflection papers, and review of documentary films, in-class examinations, and quizzes. The

variety of learning tools applied in this course will enrich student learning and also appeal to a wide variety of different learning styles.

You will be expected to critically engage yourself in the course materials, lectures, and discussions (both online and in-class). You might ask yourself, what does “critical engagement” mean? Well, this means that you will be actively processing what you are learning from week to week, by comparing the various perspectives and concepts you will be introduced to, by challenging what you think you know, and expanding on previous ideas.

In addition, to your “critical engagement” in the class, the following practices will make for a better classroom environment and go a long way towards building and deepening your understanding of the course materials:

- ✓ Read the assigned chapter(s) before class. When you do your readings, focus on understanding the key concepts, try to link examples to ideas, to understand differences and debates in approaches to sociology, to think about knowledge in context, and to ask probing questions about social life. Take notes. Read each chapter twice.
- ✓ Be present, listen, and think. *Turn off your cell phone* (or put it on ‘vibrate’ if necessary) and *turn off the wireless connection on your laptop*. Also be sure to *take notes* on main and supporting points during class.
- ✓ Make sure you attend all classes and contribute positively to the class environment. Engage with lecture material, ask questions, listen to what others have to say, and respectfully add to discussion.

EVALUATION:

Assignment	Percentage	Due Date
Seminar & Class Participation	15%	Throughout the Course
Class Presentation & Handout	15%	TBA
Mid-term Examination	20%	October 17, 2012
Research Paper	20%	November 28, 2012
Final Examination	30%	TBA

1) SEMINAR & CLASS PARTICIPATION (15%)

Students will be expected to attend and actively participate in all classes. During each week’s class seminar students will give presentations related to the week’s topic. During seminar students will be expected to demonstrate they are familiar with the week’s required readings. Students will be expected to discuss, and to ask questions of the presenter and of each other. Participation will also include written assignments, including short reflection papers and quizzes (both online and in-class).

2) CLASS PRESENTATION & HANDOUT (15%) - TBA

Students will be expected to prepare a 10-15 minute presentation and handout for one of the week’s topics. Students will be graded on both their presentation skills and the content of their presentation.

2) *IN-CLASS MID-TERM EXAM (20%) – Monday, October 17th*

The mid-term exam will consist of multiple choice questions, fill-in-the-blank questions, and short essay questions. The exam will be administered in class for the full period, and will cover materials from Chapters 1-6.

4) *RESEARCH PAPER (20%) – Friday, November 28TH*

A detailed handout regarding the requirements of the research paper, with potential paper topics, will be distributed in class and posted on Moodle. A library research session, specifically looking into how to research information on gender, will be organized for the second week of classes.

5) *FINAL EXAMINATION (30%) – Date TBA*

The final exam will consist of multiple choice questions, fill-in-the-blank questions, true/false questions, and short essay questions. The exam will cover all course materials with emphasis on the later topics covered in class.

GRADING SYSTEM:

Letter Grade	Description	Grade Points
A+		4
A	Excellent	4
A-		3.7
B+		3.3
B	Good	3
B-		2.7
C+		2.3
C	Satisfactory	2
C-		1.7
D+		1.3
D	Minimal Pass	1
F	Failure	0

Students intending to transfer to other institutions must receive a minimum grade of ‘C-’ in order to have their courses transferred for credit. Transfer information on each course is available at the [Alberta Council on Admission and Transfers](#).

MISSED CLASSES

Regular attendance is recorded for all classes and is essential for optimal performance in this course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or other legitimate reasons, notify your instructor by e-mail. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get notes from another student. The instructor will not provide notes.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments will be docked 0.3 points for each day (including weekends) that they are late. In cases of potentially excusable late assignment submissions due to illness or other legitimate reasons, notify your instructor by e-mail.

TEXT(S)/MATERIALS REQUIRED:

1. Margaret L. Anderson and Dana Hyshock Witham. (2011). *Thinking about Women: Sociological Perspectives on Sex and Gender, 9th edition*, Toronto: Pearson.

IMPORTANT DATES:

September 11, 2012	Last day to add course(s) for academic programs Fall semester fees due
September 18, 2012	Last day to drop course(s) for academic programs
September 21, 2012	Fall Awards Application Deadline
October 8, 2012	College Closed (Holiday for Thanksgiving)
October 12, 2012	Last day to withdraw from course(s) with 50% refund of tuition fees
October 17 th , 2012	Mid-term Exam
October 26, 2012	Last day to withdraw from course(s) without academic penalty
November 12, 2012	College Closed (Holiday in place of Remembrance Day)
November 28, 2011	Due date for term paper
December 7, 2012	Last day of classes
December 10-19, 2012	Final Exams

MOODLE

Go to <http://ilearn.keyano.ca>

This course is supported through Moodle. Assignments, readings, powerpoint presentations, and handouts will be posted on Moodle. Students will be expected to post all assignments on Moodle.

Access to Moodle

Go to <http://ilearn.keyano.ca>. Log in information will be provided by your instructor. For further instructions please see the Moodle handout. Go to Log In. Type in your student ID number with the dashes in the user name box (000-00-0000). Repeat the same ID number in the password box. A course syllabus will be posted in Moodle. Please check your Moodle frequently. Also, check the S-drive for detailed course outlines.

Equality, Equity, and Respect

The Keyano College is committed to providing an environment of equality, equity, and respect for all people within the College community. All members of this community are considered partners in developing teaching and learning contexts that are welcoming to all. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to use inclusive language to create a classroom atmosphere in which

students' experiences and views are treated with equal respect and valued in relation to their gender, ethnic and cultural background, and sexual orientation.

Students should consult:

http://www.keyano.ca/Committees/IRA/Individual_Rights_Policy.asp

Plagiarism and Cheating

Every student expects to be treated and evaluated fairly in a course. Plagiarism and cheating robs everyone of this right.

No student may submit words, ideas, or data of another student or person as his or her own in any writing, project, assignment, quiz, electronic presentation, exam, etc. Any work used that is not the student's own must be clearly cited as belonging to someone else. There are penalties for using other's work and not citing it. The Student's Rights & Responsibilities document clearly outlines these penalties and the appeal process.

- No learner can obtain information from another student during an exam.
- No learner can bring unauthorized information (paper or electronic) into an exam or quiz.
- No student can submit work done in another course for grading in this course without the written prior approval of the course instructor.
- No student can submit copyright protected or commercially produced materials as part or all of an assignment without proper citation & permission.

TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

Please Note:

This course outline may be modified to facilitate unforeseen time constraints. Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change. Additional readings, videos, relevant links, and other resources will be posted to Moodle. Students are also encouraged to post relevant materials and resources to Moodle.

Date	Topic	Required Reading
Week 1: Sept 5	I. Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Matrix of Domination	
Week 2: Sept 12	II. Gender, Culture, and Sex <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Feminist Perspective• The Social construction of gender	Chapter 1 & 2
Week 3: Sept 19	Gender, Culture and the Media <i>Video: Killing us Softly by Jean Kilbourne</i> Introduction to Online Research session with Kimberley Kerr	Chapter 3
Week 4: Sept 26	Sexuality and Intimate Relationships	Chapter 4
Week 5: Oct 3	III. Gender and Social Institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gender, Work, and the Economy <i>Video: Who's Counting? By Marilyn Waring</i>	Chapter 5
Week 6: Oct 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gender and Families	Chapter 6
Week 7: Oct 17	MIDTERM EXAM	
Week 8: Oct 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Women, Health, and Reproduction	Chapter 7
Week 9: Oct 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Women and Religion	Chapter 8
Week 10: Nov 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Women, Crime, and Deviance	Chapter 9
Week 11: Nov 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gender, Education, and Science	Chapter 10

Week 12: Nov 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women, Power, and Politics 	Chapter 11
Week 13: Nov 28	IV. Gender and Social Change: Frameworks of Feminism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women and Social Reform: Liberal Feminism 	Chapter 12
Week 14: Dec 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contemporary Frameworks in Feminist Theory 	Chapter 13

Date of Final Examination TBA

Notes:

1. Weekly breakdowns are tentative.
2. Additional readings and/or other resources may be added to Moodle or distributed in class.

