

The University of Calgary
Faculty of Arts
Department of Sociology

Sociology Department Home Page: <http://www.soci.ucalgary.ca>

Sociology 677: Graduate Seminar
Fall, 2011

SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER RELATIONS

[DRAFT ONLY]

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COURSE OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

This seminar will engage with current theory and research on gender. Theoretically, methodologically and substantively, the field is richly diverse; we will explore this diversity thematically through discussions of the way gender is conceptualized as both structure and process, on a global scale and in interpersonal interactions. Readings from a variety of sources will be supplemented by one short text. Connell's *Gender* is a wide-ranging introduction to the sociological study of gender by one of its leading theorists.

Because this is a seminar, its success is contingent on the informed and thoughtful participation of all members. Students are expected to do the assigned readings, and to come to the seminar prepared to discuss them. A small proportion of the course grade is allocated to participation. In addition, each student will be responsible for leading the discussion on one of the weekly topics. This will involve some extra reading which will be selected in consultation with the instructor. The discussion leader will write a short paper on the discussion topic, and prepare for the class a brief outline of the supplementary readings, the major themes to be addressed, and a bibliography.

TEXT

Connell, Raewyn.
2009 *Gender*. Cambridge: Polity Press. (2nd edition)

Compilation of weekly readings

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Three short essays (about 1,000 words each), based on the discussions of theory at the start of the course, will be due in class on Oct. 18. The major course requirement is a research paper (of 6,000-8,000 words) in the student's area of interest. A brief proposal, including a select bibliography, will be due on Nov. 8. Papers will be presented in class on Dec. 6, and due on Dec. 13 at 12 noon. (Late assignments will incur a penalty of 5% per day, unless the delay is for medical or other legitimate reasons, which can be documented, and which have been discussed in advance with the instructor.) As noted earlier, leadership of one seminar, the writing of a seminar discussion paper, and ongoing participation, will also be graded. *Please note that although the proportion of the mark allocated for participation is small, a pass in this component is required to pass the course.* The grade components are as follows:

Theory essays.....	25%
Paper proposal.....	5%
Seminar leadership.....	5%
Seminar discussion paper	10%
Paper presentation.....	10%
Participation.....	5%
Term paper.....	40%

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

A+ = 95-100	B+ = 80-84	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 54-58
A = 90-94	B = 75-79	C = 63-66	D = 50-53
A- = 85-89	B- = 70-74	C- = 59-62	F = 49 or less

OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:

Emergency evacuations:

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point in the Social Sciences food court.

Deferrals:

If at all possible you must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take a test or pass in an assignment or essay on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student. *Assignments submitted late without appropriate documentation will be penalized 5% per day.*

If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Department of Sociology.

Deferred Term Work Form:

Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It's available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

Ethics Research: Students are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Academic Misconduct: Plagiarism, cheating and other academic misconduct are regarded as serious academic offences. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor's office or the Department main office. Written assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor's office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Safewalk: The University of Calgary provides a "safe walk" service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the "Help" phones located around Campus.

Academic Accommodation: Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, phone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. It is a student's responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.

Handing in papers outside of class, return of final papers, and release of final grades:

1. When students are unable to submit papers in class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant. Papers will not be accepted in the main Sociology Department office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the main Sociology Department office. The Freedom of Information and Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place (i.e. outside an instructor's office, the department office etc.) Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will be available for pick-up only during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or at the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are available only online.

COURSE SCHEDULE

The following is a tentative schedule of topics for discussion. Please note that the schedule may change if discussions and emerging interests during the term suggest that other topics may be more appropriate. (See separate list for readings.)

Week 1 (Sept. 13)	Administration: introduction to the course
	Explorations in theory
Week 2 (Sept. 20)	Getting started (Connell)
Week 3 (Sept. 27)	1950s to 1970s
Week 4 (Oct. 4)	1970s and 1980s
Week 5 (Oct. 11)	1980s and on
Week 6 (Oct. 18)	Research on gender: an overview (<i>Theory essays due</i>)
Week 7 (Oct. 25)	Families
Week 8 (Nov. 1)	Work
Week 9 (Nov. 8)	Bodies and sexualities (<i>Proposals due</i>)
Week 10 (Nov. 15)	Health and illness
Week 11 (Nov. 22)	Religion and culture
Week 12 (Nov. 29)	Deviance and social control
Week 13 (Dec. 6)	<i>Presentation of student papers</i>
	<i>Dec. 13: Papers due.</i>

READINGS

The following is a tentative list of readings to accompany seminar topics. Please note that, as with course topics, these readings may change if class discussion suggests that other material may be more appropriate.

Explorations in theory

Week 1 (Sept. 13) Introduction

Week 2 (Sept. 20) Connell Chs. 1-7

Week 3 (Sept. 27) *(i) 1950s to 1970s: a focus on structure*

Parsons, Talcott, and Robert F. Bales

1955 "The American family: its relation to personality and to the social structure", in Talcott Parsons and Robert F. Bales, *Family, Socialization and Interaction Process*, Glencoe: The Free Press, pp. 3-26

Bernard, Jessie

1972 *The Future of Marriage*, New Haven: Yale University Press. Chs 1-3, pp3-53.

Acker, Joan, and Donald R. Van Houten

1974 "Differential recruitment and control: The sex structuring of organizations", *Administrative Science Quarterly*, 19, 2: 152-163.

Smith, Dorothy E.

1974 "Women's perspective as a radical critique of sociology", *Sociological Inquiry*, 44 (1): 7-13

Hartmann, Heidi

1976 "Capitalism, patriarchy and job segregation by sex", *Signs*, 1, 3: 137-169.

Week 4 (Oct. 4) *(ii) 1970s and 1980s: turning to process and deconstruction*

Goffman, Erving

1977 "The arrangement between the sexes", *Theory and Society*, 4: 301-336.

Kessler, Suzanne and Wendy McKenna

1978 *Gender: An Ethnomethodological Approach*, New York: John Wiley and Sons. Ch. 1, pp 1-20.

West, Candace and Don Zimmerman

1987 "Doing gender", *Gender & Society*, 1, 2: 125-151

Collins, Patricia Hill

1986 "Learning from the outsider within: the sociological significance of Black feminist thought", *Social Problems*, 33, 6: 14-32.

Week 5 (Oct. 11) ***(iii) 1980s and on: further “discoveries”, more deconstruction***

Mohanty, Chandra Talpade

1984 “Under Western eyes: Feminist scholarship and colonial discourses”, *Boundary 2*, 12, 3: 333-358.

Flax, Jane

1987 “Postmodernism and gender relations in feminist theory”, *Signs* 12, 4: 621-643.

Seidman, Steven

1994 “Symposium: Queer theory/Sociology: a dialogue”, *Sociological Theory*, 12, 2: 166-177.

Collinson, David and Jeff Hearn

1994 “Naming men as men: Implications for work, organization and management”, *Gender, Work and Organization*, 1, 1: 2-22.

Connell, R.

1993 “The big picture: masculinities in recent world history”, *Theory and Society* 22: 597-623.

Sample readings for substantive topics:

Deviance and social control

Kaplan, Danny and Eyal Ben-Ari

2000 “Brothers and others in arms: managing gay identity in combat units of the Israeli army”, *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, 29, 4: 396-432

Miller, Jody

1998 “Up it up: gender and the accomplishment of street robbery”, *Criminology*, 36, 1: 37-65.

McCorkel, Jill

2003 “Embodied surveillance and the gendering of punishment”, *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, 32, 1: 41-76.

Frost, Ginger

2004 “‘She is but a Woman’: Kitty Byron and the English Edwardian criminal justice system”, *Gender & History*, 16, 3: 538-560.

Wilkins, Amy

2004 “‘So full of myself as a chick’: Goth women, sexual independence, and gender egalitarianism”, *Gender & Society*, 18, 3: 328-349

Bodies and sexualities

Lucal, Betsy

1999 “What it means to be gendered me: life on the boundaries of a dichotomous gender system”, *Gender & Society*, 13, 6: 781-797

Martin, Karin A.

1998 "Becoming a gendered body: practices of preschools", *American Sociological Review*, 63: 494-511.

Gerschick, Thomas and Adam Miller

2003 "Coming to terms: masculinity and disability", in Michael A. Kimmel and Michael S. Messner (eds.) *Men's Lives* (6th edition). Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Gamson, Joshua and Dawne Moon

2004 "The sociology of sexualities: queer and beyond", *Annual Review of Sociology* 30: 47-64.

Gagne, Patricia and Richard Tewkesbury

1998 "Conformity pressures and gender resistance among transgendered individuals", *Social Problems*, 45, 1: 81-101.