

## SOU33181— Sociology of Gender and Sexuality

| Module Information |                                   |
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| Module Code        | SOU33181                          |
| Module Title       | Sociology of Gender and Sexuality |
| Department         | Sociology                         |
| Year Group         | Junior Sophister                  |
| Module Personnel   | Dr Camille Portier                |
| Academic Year      | 2026-2027                         |
| Credit Weighting   | 5 ECTS                            |
| Semester           | Michaelmas Term                   |
| Contact Hours      | 1 lecture per week + 1 tutorial   |

| Module Content     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| Module Description | <p>This course introduces students to the sociological study of sex, gender, and sexuality. Drawing on both foundational and current scholarship, it examines how sociological theories and concepts deepen our understanding of contemporary gender relations and sexualities, exploring how gender and sexuality are socially constructed, shaped by class, ethnicity, and other axes of identity and experience. A gender lens is applied to everyday practices and institutions, from families and labor markets to political movements, and how they relate to gender equality nowadays. Topics include foundational theories of gender and intersectionality, masculinity, gender roles in work and family, the social construction of sex and gender, and sexualities.</p> |
| Learning Outcomes  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read, understand, and analyse theoretical perspectives on sex, gender, and sexuality from a sociological standpoint.</li> <li>• Read, understand, and evaluate empirical sociological research on sex, gender, and sexuality.</li> <li>• Demonstrate a critical understanding of how the social construction of gender shapes everyday life and social institutions.</li> <li>• Identify and explain the patterns and mechanisms that produce gender inequalities, including their</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

| Module Content                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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|                                       | <p>intersections with race, class, sexuality, and other axes of inequality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communicate sociological arguments effectively, connecting course concepts to broader social life and to contexts beyond the classroom.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Indicative Reading / Resources</b> | <p><b>Books</b></p> <p>Ridgeway, Cecilia L. 2011. <i>Framed by Gender: How Gender Inequality Persists in the Modern World</i>. New York: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Wade, Lisa and Myra Marx Ferree. 2019. <i>Gender: Ideas, Interactions, Institutions</i>. New York: W.W. Norton.</p> <p><b>Articles</b></p> <p>Acker, Joan. 1990. "Hierarchies, Jobs, Bodies: A Theory of Gendered Organizations." <i>Gender &amp; Society</i> 4(2):139–158.</p> <p>Collins, Patricia Hill. 2015. "Intersectionality's Definitional Dilemmas." <i>Annual Review of Sociology</i> 41:1–20.</p> <p>Gamson, Joshua and Dawne Moon. 2004. "The Sociology of Sexualities: Queer and Beyond." <i>Annual Review of Sociology</i> 30:47–64.</p> <p>Ridgeway, Cecilia L. and Shelley J. Correll. 2004. "Unpacking the Gender System: A Theoretical Perspective on Gender Beliefs and Social Relations." <i>Gender &amp; Society</i> 18:510–531.</p> <p>Schrock, Douglas and Michael Schwalbe. 2009. "Men, Masculinity, and Manhood Acts." <i>Annual Review of Sociology</i> 35:277–295.</p> |

| Assessment                   |                                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Assessment Components</b> | Group Work 1 (30%); Group Work 2 (20%); Coursework (50%)                                                                                      |
| <b>Assessment Details</b>    | Failure to attend at least half of the tutorials will automatically result in a 10% deduction (one full grade) from the overall module grade. |