UCLouvain

2023

Interdisciplinary Introduction to Gender Studies

5.00 credits

15.0 h

Q2

Teacher(s)	Merla Laura ;Quennehen Marine (compensates Merla Laura) ;				
Language :	French				
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve				
Main themes	The aim of the course is to encourage students to develop a critical reflexion on the roles of men and of women in society and to use gender as category of analysis since the first cycle of their studies. The programme gives an interdisciplinary training that raises important epistemological issues such as the neutrality of knowledge and gender biases in science.				
Learning outcomes	At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to : The course expects to offer an introduction to gender studies and to present the interest of the field by considering contributions from different scientific disciplines (as history, sociology, anthropology, economics, demography, law, philosophy, psychology, ergonomics and neurosciences). We will specify the field of study by an historical introduction to gender inequality (in politics and citizenship, work, health, social security benefits, etc.). We will show how the field shed light on the social rules that differentiate 1 people into men and women and hierarchize them. We will question the values, believes and social practices that intend to justify a supposedly neutral approach to science. Moreover, this year will be focus on the theme «gender and work». We will study feminist readings in social sciences that give a complex account of <i>all forms of work</i> and challenge the dichotomous frameworks (production/reproduction, paid/unpaid, recognised/unrecognised, formal/informal, etc.) through which they are generally considered (or omitted).				
Evaluation methods	Written exam				
Teaching methods	Lecture course				
Content	As a multidisciplinary category, gender challenges the idea of a supposedly natural biological dualism of the sexiand its political and social effects. The main objective of this course will be to present, and encourage students use, a critical gendered analysis approach. In order to do so, the course will be divided into two main parts: - The first part will serve as an introduction to gender studies' central concepts as well as the various femini approaches to the construction/deconstruction of scientific knowledge. In this part, we will understand how the different disciplines have integrated these concepts and analytical approaches over time - and the impact this had on the production of knowledge The second part will address, on the basis of a portfolio of compulsory readings, some major transversal them in gender studies. Among them: feminist epistemologies, intersectionality, and masculinities. In this part, we will see how gender critical analysis makes it possible to approach these themes and we will practice applying the analysis together, in view of the final evaluation.				
Bibliography	La bibliographie générale ainsi que des lectures conseillées seront déposées sur Moodle.				
Faculty or entity in charge	ESPO				

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)						
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes		
Bachelor in Human and Social Sciences	HUSO1BA	3		ø		
Bachelor in Sociology and Anthropology	SOCA1BA	3		ø		
Minor in Gender Studies	MINGENRE	5		٩		