

Syllabus

for course at first level

**Gender and Sexuality
Genus och sexualitet**

**7.5 Higher Education
Credits
7.5 ECTS credits**

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| Course code: | SA2021 |
| Valid from: | Spring 2010 |
| Date of approval: | 2007-06-11 |
| Changed: | 2010-02-08 |
| Department | Department of Social Anthropology |
| Main field: | Social Anthropology |
| Specialisation: | G1N - First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements |

Decision

Syllabus approved by the departmental board 2007-06-11.
New literature approved 2008-09-22.
New literature approved 2009-04-21.
Syllabus approved 2010-02-08

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Swedish upper secondary school course English B, or equivalent.

Course structure

| Examination code | Name | Higher Education Credits |
|------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| B603 | Gender and sexuality | 7.5 |

Course content

Single subject course and course in Social Anthropology II (B603).

This course aims to provide students with knowledge about the anthropological study of gender and sexuality. The lectures cover five progressively successive themes: (i) "History," (ii) "Feminism," (iii) "From Sex to Gender," (iv) "Queer," and (v) "Contemporary Approaches to Gender and Sexuality."

More specifically, the course seeks to explore the following questions:

- * What are the main debates and modes of inquiry related to gender and sexuality that anthropologists have engaged in?
- * What are the relations between the questions anthropologists have been asking and the historical moments in which they emerged?
- * What problematizations of "sex," "gender," and "sexuality" do these modes of inquiry assume?
- * Finally, what characterizes contemporary approaches to gender and sexuality in anthropology?

Learning outcomes

After having satisfactorily completed the course students are expected to have:

- * an understanding of the main concepts and theories found in current anthropological research into gender and sexuality
- * a good understanding of how anthropological research has developed in this area and how it both challenges and reflects existing views of gender and sexuality
- * knowledge of the diversity and variation in gender and sexuality in both time and space
- * a clear insight into the role of gender and sexuality in creating and maintaining social hierarchies and power relations
- * have sufficient knowledge to be able critically to identify and analyse the gendered and sexual dimension of social and cultural phenomena.

Education

The course is examined in the form of a home assignment consisting of an extended essay. Absence from one lecture and one seminar is allowed. Any further absences will lead to a reduced grade.

The course evaluation will assess how well-related the implementation of the course was in regard to achieving the learning objectives.

The course is given in English.

Forms of examination

The course will be examined in the following way:

Take home essay

Exams and assignments may be written in Swedish or English.

In order to receive a grade for the course you must be formally registered for it and attend at least 50% of the scheduled classes.

Grades will be assigned according to a seven-step, goal-related grading scale (A-F). Students receiving the grades Fx or F (failing) have the possibility of supplementing their assignments or exams and improving their grades. Supplemented or late assignments or exams cannot receive a grade higher than a C (Exceptions may be made in certain situations after consultation with the Director of Studies).

Students receiving the grades Fx or F on an exam may take the exam at least four more times (as long as the course is being given) in order to attain a grade of at least E. In order to get a final grade for the course, all assignments and exams must be passed with at least a grade of E on the seven-step grading scale.

Students who have received at least an E may not take an exam again to attempt to get a higher grade.

Students who have received an Fx or and F on a course exam twice from the same examiner may request another examiner to grade the exam. Such requests should be directed to the Department Board.

Grading criteria:

A – Excellent

- * Demonstrates an excellent and well-expressed understanding of the empirical material and theoretical issues treated during the course
- * Contains a high level of originality and critical synthesis
- * Demonstrates a high level of comparative ability where literature from earlier studies is used in the analysis
- * Contains independent reflections and interpretations that are based on the course readings

B – Very Good

- * Shows a high level of independence and originality in the discussion and analysis of the course literature
- * Demonstrates a high level of understanding of the relationship between theory and empirical material
- * Indicates a high level of comparative ability
- * Contains well-written and independent reflections and analyses which are based on the course literature

C – Good

- * Shows a thorough understanding of the course literature and the important issues which the course discusses
- * Demonstrates an ability to make use of this understanding in well-structured arguments and presentations

- * Shows and ability to contextualize and compare important parts of the course readings
- * Has produced a well-written exam with a clear introduction, body and conclusion which are related to the exam question

D – Satisfactory

- * A careful review of the course reading has been undertaken
- * Information from the obligatory lectures and seminars has also been used and integrated into the answers to the exam questions
- * The exam is well-structured and well-written
- * Shows a good understanding of the literature and the important empirical and theoretical issues discussed in the course
- * A well-written text with a clear introduction, body and conclusion

E – Sufficient

- * The student shows that s/he has read the literature and has an acceptable level of knowledge and understanding of the material covered and its most important issues
- * Demonstrates an acceptable amount of knowledge based on the lectures and seminars of the course
- * Provides a text that is structured based on the examination questions

FX – Insufficient

- * Shows a limited knowledge and understanding of the literature and its central themes
- * Lacks appropriate organization and structure in exam answers
- * Makes uncontextualized claims without backing them up
- * Has made a number of factual errors in the answers to the exam questions
- * Provides a too brief and unstructured text

F – Unacceptable

- * Demonstrates very limited knowledge and understanding of the literature and central issues of the course
- * Provides answers to exam questions that are irrelevant or erroneous
- * Provides answers which are so short as to make evaluation impossible

Interim

Students may demand to be examined on this syllabus no more than three times during a two-year period after the course has ceased to be given. Demand for examination should be directed to the Departmental Board. Other obligatory parts of the course are also included in this rule.

Required reading

BOOKS:

Bunzl, Matti. 2004. *Symptoms of Modernity: Jews and Queers in Late-Twentieth-Century Vienna*. Berkeley: University of California Press. (Available as E-book at www.sub.su.se)

Erzen, Tanya. 2006. *Straight to Jesus: Sexual and Christian Conversions in the Ex-Gay Movement*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Kessler, Suzanne J., and Wendy McKenna. 1985 [1978]. *Gender: An Ethnomethodological Approach*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

Malinowski, Bronislaw. 2001 [1927]. *Sex and Repression in Savage Society*. New York and London: Routledge. (It is possible to download the entire book from <http://www.archive.org/details/sexrepressionins00mali>.)

ARTICLES FROM McGEE AND WARMS (eds), *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*:

Ortner, Sherry B. 2007 [1974]. "Is Female to Male as Nature is to Culture?" in R. Jon McGee and Richard Warms, *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*. Fourth Edition. Mountain View, California: Mayfield Publishing Company.

Slocum, Sally. 2007 [1975]. "Woman the Gatherer: Male Bias in Anthropology," in R. Jon McGee and Richard Warms, *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*. Fourth Edition. Mountain View, California: Mayfield Publishing Company.

Please note that there may be substitutions of course literature when necessary.