

2008–2009 Academic Year

Fall 2008

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

SOCI 303

Sociology of Gender Relations

Fall 2008

Instructor: Sarah Newman

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Office Hours: Mondays 10-11am or by appointment.

Lecture Location: ST135

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the sociology of gender relations by asking the questions: What is gender? How are gender norms (re)produced and maintained? How do these ideas differ across time and space? How do these ideas intersect with notions of race, class, sexuality and ability? Answering these questions will require students to engage with sociological concepts, theories and practices.

Objectives of the Course:

Students will be challenged to ask critical questions about their daily realities, enabled to make connections between and (re)think differences across diverse countries and locations; and compelled to think about how the social world is organized and how it can be changed.

This course will include lectures, readings, guest lectures, television and video clips, and class activities.

Textbook and Required Readings

Kimmel, Michael S. (2008) *The Gendered Society 3rd Edition*.

Kimmel, Michael S. (2008) *The Gendered Society Reader: Candian Edition*.

Assignments and Evaluation:

Test #1 15%

Test #2 30%

Reflection Paper 15%

Final Exam 40%

Tests: There will be **two** major multiple choice mid-term tests.

Final Exam: This will be a register-scheduled final exam that will include **all** the material from the course. It will consist of **100** multiple-choice questions.

Reflection Paper: This will be a **4** page paper. You will be asked to write a comparative analysis of any set of class readings. You must submit this assignment before **NOVEMBER 17, 2008**. The guidelines for the assignment will be posted on BB.

Scaling Grades. The grades in any course component may be scaled to conform with departmental norms and maintain equity across sections.

Exam Policies: You must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take an exam. All requests for deferral of an examination 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. Deferred exams may be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. If you have missed an exam for a legitimate reason, you will be able to write a “make up” exam as close to the original exam as possible. The date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferred exam. Deferred exams will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

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: cheating is regarded as a serious academic offense. 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. Term 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, telephone 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 at class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant rather than at the Sociology Department main office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the Sociology Department main office. The Freedom of Information and Protection of 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 only be available for pick-up during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology department. They are only available online.

Policy for Late Assignments

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

Writing Skills Statement

Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

If you need help with your writing, you may use the Writing Centre. Visit the website for more details: www.efwr.ucalgary.ca

Grading System

The following grading system is used in this course:

A+ (96-100); A (92-95); A- (86-91); B+ (81-85); B (77-80); B- (71-76);
C+ (65-70); C (62-64); C- (59-61); D+ (55-58); D (50-54); F (0-49)

Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offence. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources.

Please consult your instructor or the Writing Centre (SS 106, efwr.ucalgary.ca) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

Reading/Lecture Schedule:

WEEK 1: Sept 8—Introduction to the course, expectations, evaluation methods, and assignments

INTRODUCTION

WEEK 2: Sept 10/12—An Introduction to the Concept of Gender

Michael S. Kimmel 'Chapter#1: Introduction'

SECTION I: DISCOURSES OF GENDER

WEEK 2: Sept 15/17/19—Biological Construction of Gender

Michael S. Kimmel 'Chapter #2: Ordained by Nature: Biology Constructs the Sexes'

Judith Lorber 'Believing is Seeing: Biology as Ideology'

Robert M. Sapolsky 'Testosterone Rules'

WEEK 3: Sept 22/24/26— Historical and Social Construction of Gender

Michael S. Kimmel 'Chapter #3: Cultural Constructs Gender'

Peggy Sanday 'Rape-Prone versus Rape-Free Campus Cultures'

Margaret Hillyard Little and Ian Morrison 'The Pecker Detectors are Back: Regulation of the Family Form in Ontario and Welfare Policy'

******SEPTEMBER 29, 2008 TEST #1******

SECTION II: INERSECTIONALITY

WEEK 5: Oct 1/3/6—Gender and Sexuality

Michael S. Kimmel 'Chapter #4: So, That Explains It: Psychoanalytic and Developmental Perspectives on Gender'

Patricia Gagne, Richard Tewksbury and Deanna McGaughy 'Coming Out and Crossing Over: Identity Formation and Proclamation in a Transgender Community'

SECTION III: GENDERED INSTITUTIONS

WEEK 6: Oct 8/10/15 — The Gendered Family

Michael S. Kimmel 'Chapter #6: The Gendered Family'

Scott Coltrane 'Household Labour and the Routine Production of Gender'

Lillian Rubin 'The Transformation of Family Life'

*******OCTOBER 13, 2008: THANKSGIVING: NO CLASS*******

WEEK 7: Oct 17/20/22— The Gendered Classroom

Michael S. Kimmel 'Chapter #7: The Gendered Classroom'

Myra Sadker, David Sadker, Lynn Fox, and Melinda Salata 'Gender Equity in the Classroom: The Unfinished Agenda'

'Brenda Beagan 'Micro Inequalities and Everyday Inequalities: 'Race', Gender, Sexuality, and Class in Medical School'

WEEK 8: Oct 24/27/29-- The Gendered Workplace

Michael S. Kimmel 'Chapter #8: Separate and Unequal: Gendered World of Work'

Joan Acker 'Hierarchies, Jobs and Bodies: A Theory of Gendered Organizations'

Joan A. Evans 'Cautious Caregivers: Gender Stereotypes and the Sexualization of Men Nurses' Touch'

*******OCTOBER 31, 2008 TEST #2*******

SECTION IV: GENDERED EXPERIENCES

WEEK 8: Nov 3/5/7— Gendered Violence

Michael S. Kimmel 'Chapter#12: The Gender of Violence'

Viviane K. Namaste 'Genderbashing: Sexuality, Gender, and the Regulation of the Public Sphere'

Christie Barron and Dany Lacombe 'Moral Panic and the Nasty Girl'

*******NOVEMBER 12, 2008: SPECIAL GUEST LECTURE*******

*****WEEK 9: NOVEMBER 10, 2008 READING BREAK: NO CLASS*****

WEEK 10: Nov 15/17/19— The Gendered Body

Michael S. Kimmel 'Chapter #11: The Gendered Body'

Ann Fausto-Sterling 'The Five Sexes: Why Male and Female Are Not Enough'

Susan Bordo 'The Body and the Representation of Femininity'

REFLECTION PAPER DUE!

WEEK 11: Nov 22/24/26--- Gendered Intimacies

Michael S. Kimmel 'Chapter #10: The Gendered Intimacies: Friendship and Love'

Fancesca M. Cancian 'The Feminization of Love'

Melanie Beres 'It Just Happens': Negotiating Casual Heterosexual Sex'

SECTION V: GENDER POLITICS AND ACTION

WEEK 12: Nov 28/ Dec1/3— Transforming Gender Relations

Michael S. Kimmel 'Epilogue: A Degendered Society?'

REVIEW: DECEMBER 5, 2008