

## **SOCI 281: Sociology of Genders<sup>1</sup>**

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### Course Description:

The sociology of genders revolves around the social construction of gender.

On the one hand, special attention will be paid to how gender is historically constructed within Western (North American) societies as well as how we engage in the re-creation and construction of gender in our everyday lives. An important focus will be on the ways in which constructions of gender are intertwined with “regimes of sexuality”.

On the other hand, the course will expand our horizon toward the social construction of gender in non-Western societies. We will examine mechanisms of control and resistance against gender norms in post-colonial societies that are modernized by colonialist cultural, political and economic forces. We will try to navigate how the critical, emancipatory Western discourse about gender is transformed when it is exported to the non-Western societies. The main objective of this part of the course will be to demonstrate that even the modern Western reading of gender come to take on different and even contradictory faces, due to the different cultural and historical factors at play in postcolonial societies.

### Course Objectives:

- 1) Students will be able to apply their sociological insights about gender to their own gendered lives and will be expected to explore new perspectives about their gendered selves and the gender relations in their society.
- 2) Student will become familiar with different mechanisms of controlling gender roles and sexuality during different historical era in the North American society which may help them to navigate the roots of the current gender debates from new and more critical perspective.
- 3) Students will get a better understanding of how Western dominant discourse about gender and sexuality was translated to non-western postcolonial societies and how this translation may affect the configuration of gender relations within the non-western cultures.

### Course Materials:

Wade, Lisa. Ferree, Myra, Marx .2019. Gender, Ideas, Interactions, Institutions. Second Edition. Norton& Company, Inc: New York. London.

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<sup>1</sup> This online outline is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.

Any other course materials (papers, book chapters, video) will be posted on Course Spaces.

**Mode of Delivery:**

If public health conditions continue to require it, the course will be taught online. Under online conditions, the course will be offered through a mixture of synchronous and asynchronous delivery. One session of each week will be live-streamed (by using Zoom or another online platform) during the designated course timetable to provide students with adequate space for participation and engagement with course materials.