

Women's Studies

Course Overview

Women's Studies is a course that is designed to help you understand the concepts of gender and gender roles, and the social discrimination that exists on the basis of gender. You will learn about the history of feminism and feminist theories. You will also learn about the social and political movements that raised awareness about equal rights for women and other marginalized groups. You will explore the role of media in reinforcing gender stereotypes. This course also looks at the difference in the Western and non-Western ideas of gender, feminism, and activism. The course ends with a discussion on the possible challenges in the path toward creating an equal society.

Course Goals

By the end of this course, you will:

- Describe the importance of the study of gender and gender roles in raising social consciousness and creating a just and equal society.
- Trace the history of feminism and analyze various feminist theories.
- Analyze different ideas about gender roles.
- Describe how social identities can overlap and explain how certain individuals can face higher levels of discrimination due to this overlap.
- Describe the social and political movements that have played a role in creating awareness about securing rights for women and other vulnerable groups.
- Describe the significance of socialization and identify prejudices, biases, and stereotypes that exist in society.
- Describe the role of media in creating stereotypes about gender roles and identities.
- Describe various forms of oppression and identify methods to help victims of oppression.
- Analyze changing social and family structures, and identify how these structures affect family life, work, and society.
- Compare Western and non-Western ideas of gender, gender roles, and feminism.
- Describe US laws related to women's rights and transgender people.
- Analyze the challenges of achieving equality for all citizens.

General Skills

To participate in this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Complete basic operations with word-processing software, such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs.
- Perform online research using various search engines and library databases.
- Communicate through email and discussion boards.

For a complete list of general skills that are required for participation in online courses, refer to the Prerequisites section of the Plato Student Orientation document, found at the beginning of this course.

Credit Value

Women's Studies is a 0.5-credit course.

Course Materials

- notebook
- computer with Internet connection and speakers or headphones
- Microsoft Word or equivalent
- Microsoft PowerPoint or equivalent
- Microsoft Paint or equivalent

Course Pacing Guide

This course description and pacing guide is intended to help you stay on schedule with your work. Note that your course instructor may modify the schedule to meet the specific needs of your class.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
1 day: 1	Syllabus and Plato Student Orientation <i>Review the Plato Student Orientation and Course Syllabus at the beginning of this course.</i>	Course Orientation
6 days: 2-7	Introduction to Women's Studies <i>Describe the importance of the study of gender and gender roles in raising social consciousness and creating a just and equal society.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 8-13	History of Feminism and Feminist Theories <i>Trace the history of feminism and analyze various feminist theories.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 14-19	Ideas About Gender <i>Analyze different ideas about gender roles.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 20-24	Intersectionality <i>Describe how social identities can overlap and explain how certain individuals can face higher levels of discrimination due to this overlap.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 25-28	Course Activity 1	Course Activity
1 day: 29	Course Discussion 1	Course Discussion
1 day: 30	Para Jumble	Game
6 days: 31-36	Social and Political Movements <i>Describe the social and political movements that have played a role in creating awareness about securing rights for women and other vulnerable groups.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 37-42	Social Interactions <i>Describe the significance of socialization and identify prejudices, biases, and stereotypes that exist in society.</i>	Lesson

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
5 days: 43-47	Media Literacy <i>Describe the role of media in creating stereotypes about gender roles and identities.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 48-53	Different Forms of Oppression <i>Describe various forms of oppression and identify methods to help victims of oppression.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 54-57	Course Activity 2	Course Activity
1 day: 58	Course Discussion 2	Course Discussion
1 day: 59	Space Jumble	Game
5 days: 60-64	Social and Family Structures <i>Analyze changing social and family structures, and identify how these structures affect family life, work, and society.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 65-70	International Activism and Gender <i>Compare Western and non-Western ideas of gender, gender roles, and feminism.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 71-76	Legal Rights <i>Describe US laws related to women's rights and transgender people.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 77-82	An Equal Society <i>Analyze the challenges of achieving equality for all citizens.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 83-86	Course Activity 3	Course Activity
1 day: 87	Course Discussion 3	Course Discussion
1 day: 88	Thwack-a-Mole	Game
1 day: 89	Course Review	
1 day: 90	End-of-Semester Test	Assessment