



GEN 110

Foundations in Gender Studies

S3 External 2017

Dept of Sociology

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Disclaimer

Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

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by appointment

Tutor

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Credit points

3

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

What it means to be male or female varies with time and place. This variety is patterned, and tied up with the dynamics of power, with the distribution of resources and with cultural representations in a society's gender order. Gender studies is an interdisciplinary intellectual project that seeks to understand patterned gender differences in social life, and how these differences shape human relationships and human experience at the individual level. This unit is an introduction to this project. We consider how gender has been theorised and researched, and explore how questions of gender are framed and investigated in a range of disciplines across the social sciences and humanities. Topics may include work, sexuality, war, media, literature, abortion, beauty and more. The unit can be taken as a one-off elective in any degree, or in pursuit of a major or minor in Gender Studies.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Analyse key concepts about gender, its intersections with other identities, and how these shape and are shaped by social, cultural, economic, and political institutions

Examine Gender Studies as an interdisciplinary field and its contribution to understanding the contemporary world

Review the historical development of different forms of feminism, what they have contributed the field of Gender Studies, and why they matter today

Demonstrate the ability to research and synthesise media and scholarly texts

Comprehend the relationship between scholarship, activism, and life. The material itself, which focuses on a range of contemporary issues to do with gender and other identities, will help you to develop a greater understanding of yourself and your world.

General Assessment Information

There are 4 assessments in GEN110. These consist of: online tutorial participation throughout the 5 weeks, multiple choice quizzes, a key concepts essay task, and a final essay. Taken together, the tasks are designed to aid your learning and test your understanding of the unit material.

Tasks 3 and 4 must be submitted via Turnitin.

Students should be aware of the following policies in regard to assignments:

Academic Honesty Policy: http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html. The university takes plagiarism very seriously and there are penalties for using other people's work as your own. This includes directly quoting other people's work without quotation marks and/or acknowledgement. Please check this unit's iLearn site for resources on how to cite your sources properly and avoid plagiarism.

Disruption to Studies Policy: http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html

Grading Policy: <http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Requests for Extensions and Late Penalties

To request an extension for a period up to and including 7 days, please email your tutor.

To apply for an extension of more than 7 days please complete the Disruption to Studies notification and submit it online through [AskMQ](#). See the Disruption to Studies Policy above and find further details here: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration/disruption-to-studies>

Late assessments without an approved extension will incur a penalty of two marks (out of 100) per business day.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Online discussion</u>	10%	No	Throughout
<u>Multiple Choice Quizzes</u>	20%	No	Twice weekly in weeks 1-5
<u>Key concepts comprehension</u>	30%	No	11.59pm Sunday Week 2 Dec 17
<u>Final essay</u>	40%	No	11.59pm Sunday 21 Jan 2018

Online discussion

Due: **Throughout**

Weighting: **10%**

Active engagement in discussion is an important part of university learning. In this unit, your tutorial discussions happen online and it is a requirement of this unit that you participate in them. Each lecture topic will require you to post 2 comments in response to the questions, each comment approx 150 words long. Your mark will reflect the quality and quantity of your participation. It takes into consideration:

- your knowledge of the material (you show evidence that you have listened to the lectures and done the reading)
- your active participation in discussions and tasks. This includes posting your responses to questions posed by the tutor *and* responding to what others in your tutorial have written.
- your overall contribution. You are expected to contribute to 80% of the online discussion (8 out of 10 topics). Therefore the minimum participation requirements are: 16 posts (150 words per post) dispersed over 8 lecture topics.

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- Demonstrate the ability to research and synthesise media and scholarly texts
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which focuses on a range of contemporary issues to do with gender and other identities, will help you to develop a greater understanding of yourself and your world.

Multiple Choice Quizzes

Due: **Twice weekly in weeks 1-5**

Weighting: **20%**

Students will be required to complete two multiple choice quizzes each week. Each quiz contains 2 questions (2 questions per topic, 2 topics per week=4 questions each week x 5 weeks = 20 questions total). The quizzes are based on content in the lectures and readings. Quizzes are scheduled to start on Mondays and Wednesdays and will each be available for 4 days. This means that these quizzes have a deadline, and they must be completed in the window of time that they are open.

Students are advised to start attempting the quizzes well ahead of the deadline. There are **no extensions**, including for last-minute technical problems or forgetting to submit on time. You will need to provide documentation explaining your absence for the entire duration of a quiz in order to apply for special consideration. **Please be advised that the convenor will not respond to any requests to re-open quizzes, to extend their deadlines or to open them early.**

It is very important to click on the save button for each answer as you go, and when you are happy with your answers, click on the submit button. Without saving each answer and submitting them at the end, they will not be counted. You will be able to change your mind on a saved answer, and save it again, as many times as you want before submitting it. Your saved answers can be retrieved even if you forget to submit them; if they are not saved, however, they cannot be retrieved and will not count.

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Key concepts comprehension

Due: **11.59pm Sunday Week 2 Dec 17**

Weighting: **30%**

Write a maximum **1,250 word** analytical response to the assignment task (see the document

with details on iLearn).

The aim of this assignment is to show your familiarity with key concepts in the course, to demonstrate you can use those concepts, and to demonstrate academic writing skills.

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- Demonstrate the ability to research and synthesise media and scholarly texts
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Final essay

Due: **11.59pm Sunday 21 Jan 2018**

Weighting: **40%**

Write a **1,500 word** analytical essay on **ONE** of the questions (see document on iLearn for details).

This essay will test your comprehension of the ideas and issues discussed during the unit.

You are to use at least 4 references from the unit, and to conduct some independent library research to locate at least 3 additional references related to your topic.

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Delivery and Resources

Recorded lectures are available on the iLearn site.

Please note that lectures and tutorials start in the first week of S3 classes.

All readings are available through the library, accessed via the Leganto link on the iLearn page.

Unit Schedule

Week 1	Mon 4 Dec Introduction Lecture 1	What is Gender Studies?
	Tutorial	Introductions
	Lecture 2	Bodies and Binaries
	Tutorial	19 th century beliefs: on brains and representations of Indigenous womanhood
	Weds 6 Dec Lecture 3	Feminisms <u>**discussion of key concepts essay</u>
	Tutorial	1970s feminist writings
Week 2	Mon 11 Dec Lecture 4	Femininities <u>**feedback on progress so far</u>
	Tutorial	Filipina and Muslim women
	Mon 13 Dec Lecture 5	Men's and Masculinity Studies
	Tutorial	Masculinities
Key concepts essay due	Sun Dec 16 by 11.59pm	
Week 3	Mon 18 Dec Lecture 6	Masculinities
	Tutorial	White and Chinese men
	Wed 20 Dec Lecture 7	Sexualities <u>**discussion of final essay</u>
	Tutorial	Queer theory and performativity
SESSION BREAK	25 DEC-7 JAN INCLUSIVE	

Week 4	Mon 8 Jan Lecture 8	Intersectionality and Third Wave Feminisms
	Tutorial	Intersectionality and national context
	Wed 10 Jan Lecture 9	Intersex and Trans* Spectrums
	Tutorial	Sexes and Genders
Week 5	Mon 15 Jan Lecture 10	Gender and Intimacy
	Tutorial	Sexual assault and pornography
	Wed 17 Jan Lecture 11	Gender and Nation & Conclusions
	Tutorial	Gender and Australian identity
Final essay due	Sun 21 Jan by 11.59pm	

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy_2016.html

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint_management/procedure.html

Disruption to Studies Policy (in effect until Dec 4th, 2017): http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html

Special Consideration Policy (in effect from Dec 4th, 2017): <https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/special-consideration>

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit [ask.mq.edu.au](#).

Requests for Extensions and Late Penalties

To apply for an extension of up to and including 7 days, please email your tutor.

To apply for an extension of more than 7 days, please complete the disruption to studies notification and submit it online through [AskMQ](#). See the Disruption to Studies Policy above and find further details here: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration/disruption-to-studies>

Late assessments without an approved extension will incur a penalty of two marks (out of 100) per business day.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Analyse key concepts about gender, its intersections with other identities, and how these shape and are shaped by social, cultural, economic, and political institutions
- Demonstrate the ability to research and synthesise media and scholarly texts
- Comprehend the relationship between scholarship, activism, and life. The material itself, which focuses on a range of contemporary issues to do with gender and other identities, will help you to develop a greater understanding of yourself and your world.

Assessment tasks

- Online discussion
- Key concepts comprehension
- Final essay

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Examine Gender Studies as an interdisciplinary field and its contribution to understanding the contemporary world
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- Comprehend the relationship between scholarship, activism, and life. The material itself, which focuses on a range of contemporary issues to do with gender and other identities, will help you to develop a greater understanding of yourself and your world.

Assessment tasks

- Online discussion

- Multiple Choice Quizzes
- Key concepts comprehension
- Final essay

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Examine Gender Studies as an interdisciplinary field and its contribution to understanding the contemporary world
- Comprehend the relationship between scholarship, activism, and life. The material itself, which focuses on a range of contemporary issues to do with gender and other identities, will help you to develop a greater understanding of yourself and your world.

Assessment tasks

- Online discussion
- Multiple Choice Quizzes
- Key concepts comprehension
- Final essay

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

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Assessment tasks

- Online discussion
- Multiple Choice Quizzes
- Key concepts comprehension
- Final essay

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Analyse key concepts about gender, its intersections with other identities, and how these shape and are shaped by social, cultural, economic, and political institutions
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Assessment tasks

- Online discussion
- Multiple Choice Quizzes
- Key concepts comprehension
- Final essay

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Analyse key concepts about gender, its intersections with other identities, and how these shape and are shaped by social, cultural, economic, and political institutions
- Review the historical development of different forms of feminism, what they have contributed the field of Gender Studies, and why they matter today
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Assessment tasks

- Online discussion
- Key concepts comprehension
- Final essay

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate the ability to research and synthesise media and scholarly texts
- Comprehend the relationship between scholarship, activism, and life. The material itself, which focuses on a range of contemporary issues to do with gender and other identities, will help you to develop a greater understanding of yourself and your world.

Assessment tasks

- Online discussion

- Key concepts comprehension
- Final essay

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Analyse key concepts about gender, its intersections with other identities, and how these shape and are shaped by social, cultural, economic, and political institutions
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Assessment tasks

- Online discussion
- Key concepts comprehension
- Final essay

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Analyse key concepts about gender, its intersections with other identities, and how these shape and are shaped by social, cultural, economic, and political institutions

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Assessment tasks

- Online discussion
- Final essay

Changes from Previous Offering

All existing material is updated each year to reflect relevant developments in society and in research.

We will continue to seek and respond to student feedback on all aspects of the unit, so that it works in well with student interests, capabilities, and needs.