General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Convenor
Emily Cachia
emily.cachia@mq.edu.au
W6A 831
email to arrange

Tutor
Katharine Hawkins
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Credit points
3

Prerequisites
12cp or admission to GDipArts

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit examines how gender functions in our day-to-day lives. We look closely at common activities like shopping, eating, grooming, talking, reading, going to the movies, using cosmetic surgery, getting married and more, to examine some of the discourses – biological, cultural, social, anthropological – that reproduce ideas of masculinity and femininity, of being a man or woman. We look at intersections of gender with class, ethnicity, and race. We also introduce students to some of the influential ideas on how gender works, theories by European philosophers like Freud and Foucault, as well as essays by feminist activists and post-modern writers on gender and sexuality.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the ways in which gender is conceived and found significant in everyday life
2. Understand what gender studies is about, why it has developed and why it matters today
3. Develop a sense of the complexity and significance of a number of key cultural issues
and debates (local and global) in contemporary gender studies

4. Understand how the writing of scholars like Freud, Foucault and others has been taken up and critically extended in gender studies.

5. Develop a practical sense of how to research a variety of texts in public circulation, how to evaluate their content and engage with it effectively.

6. Develop an understanding of the relationship between forms of knowledge and forms of everyday living. The topics covered will help the student to approach real-life situations, analyse them, and remedy problems when necessary.

7. Share information and debate ideas with peers. The material in this unit raises questions about everyday life, and by coming to grips with it, we expect that the student will have a stronger sense both of who they are and where they come from, and how others from very different backgrounds and situations view the world.

General Assessment Information

Detailed Assessment Guidelines explaining the requirements for each assignment are available on the GEN210 iLearn page in the Assessment Resources section. It is necessary to have read these guidelines in order to successfully complete each task.

All essays are to be submitted electronically through Turnitin on the GEN210 iLearn page.

Essay extensions of less than one week should be requested through the student's tutor. Longer extensions should be submitted through the convenor and Disruption to Studies. Approved extensions will not incur a late penalty.

The late submission of essays (without approved extensions) will be accepted but will incur a penalty of 3% on the first day and 1% per weekday thereafter.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Weeks 2-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two summaries</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Week 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>throughout</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Quizzes

Due: Weeks 2-12

Weighting: 30%
Starting from week 2, students will be required to complete one online multiple choice quiz each week (10 quizzes in total).

There will be three questions for each quiz based on the required readings and/or the lecture material.

Quizzes will be opened on the day of the lecture and remain open for one week.

Please see Assessment Guidelines in the Assessment Resources section on iLearn for further details.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the ways in which gender is conceived and found significant in everyday life
- Develop a sense of the complexity and significance of a number of key cultural issues and debates (local and global) in contemporary gender studies
- Understand how the writing of scholars like Freud, Foucault and others has been taken up and critically extended in gender studies.

Two summaries

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **20%**

- This assessment exercise requires students to write a short precis (a summary in one’s own words) of two readings chosen from a provided list (see iLearn Assessment Resources for reading list).
- The point of this exercise is for students to learn to reproduce a concise but accurate account of the principal argument of an academic text, rather than exploring their own opinions (this can be done during tutorials and within the research essay).
- The minimum number of words for each summary is 500 and the maximum without penalty is 750.
- Please see Assessment Guidelines in the Assessment Resources section on iLearn for further details.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

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- Understand how the writing of scholars like Freud, Foucault and others has been taken up and critically extended in gender studies.
- Develop a practical sense of how to research a variety of texts in public circulation, how
to evaluate their content and engage with it effectively.

**Essay**

Due: **Week 13**  
Weighting: **40%**

- Compose a 2000 word essay on one of the questions listed on iLearn for this task.  
- Please see Assessment Guidelines in the Assessment Resources section on iLearn for further details.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the ways in which gender is conceived and found significant in everyday life  
- Understand what gender studies is about, why it has developed and why it matters today  
- Develop a sense of the complexity and significance of a number of key cultural issues and debates (local and global) in contemporary gender studies  
- Understand how the writing of scholars like Freud, Foucault and others has been taken up and critically extended in gender studies.  
- Develop a practical sense of how to research a variety of texts in public circulation, how to evaluate their content and engage with it effectively.  
- Develop an understanding of the relationship between forms of knowledge and forms of everyday living. The topics covered will help the student to approach real-life situations, analyse them, and remedy problems when necessary.

**Participation**

Due: **throughout**  
Weighting: **10%**

- Regular attendance and contribution to group discussions within GEN210 tutorials is a requirement of this unit for internal students.  
- Participation should provide evidence of the student having done the readings, listened to the lecture and thought about the topics in relation to both local and global events and contexts.  
- 2 absences are permitted without penalty. Additional absences without supporting documentation will be penalised.  
- Please see Assessment Guidelines in the Assessment Resources section on iLearn for further details.

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Delivery and Resources

Delivery:
Day (on-campus) and Online (iLearn).
GEN210 comprises of 1 x 2 hour lecture and 1 x 1 hour tutorial each week. Lectures begin in Week One. Tutorials begin in Week Two.
Lecture: Mondays 2 - 4pm Y3A T1

For up to date times and locations of tutorial classrooms please consult the MQ Timetables website: http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au

Technologies used and required
This unit has an online presence in iLearn (http://ilearn.mq.edu.au). Students are required to have regular access to a computer and the internet. Mobile devices alone are not sufficient.

This unit will use Echo lecture recording (accessed via iLearn).

Required Readings

Required readings can be accessed through hyperlinks on iLearn or via MQ Library by searching Unit Readings. These can be read online, printed out by the student and/or downloaded.

Week 1


**Week 2**


**Week 3**


**Week 4**


Camhi, Leslie (1993) ‘Stealing Femininity: Department Store Kleptomania as Sexual Disorder.’ *Differences* vol. 5, no. 1

**Week 5**


**Week 6**


**Week 7**


**Week 8**


Week 9


Week 10


Week 11


Week 12


Butler, Judith (1990) 'Bodily Inscriptions, Performative Subversions’ and ‘Conclusion - From Parody to Politics' in Gender Trouble: feminism and the subversion of identity. New York: Routledge

Unit Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Reading Gender in Everyday Life - Lecture topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Having gender (biology): the brain and hormones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(no tutorials this week)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Having gender (sociobiology): rape; mothering</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Week 3 Representing gender (socialisation & coding): advertising

Week 4 Buying into gender (socialisation & consuming): shopping

Week 5 Playing out gender (socialisation & coupling): weddings

Week 6 Playing with gender (socialisation & queering): Barbie dolls

Week 7 Constructing gender (socialisation & psychoanalysis): stalking and jealousy

Week 8 Doing gender (cutting up the body; conforming/transforming): cosmetic surgery

Week 9 Doing gender (cutting up the body; conforming/transforming): inter-sex and trans-sexual surgery

Week 10 Doing gender (fighting back through the body): female body building

Week 11 Performing gender (fighting back through the body): madness and hysteria

Week 12 Performing gender (through the masquerade): make-up, masking and drag

Week 13 No lecture – film

### 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:


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.

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 Enquiry Service

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

Equity 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.

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

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**

- Understand the ways in which gender is conceived and found significant in everyday life
- Understand what gender studies is about, why it has developed and why it matters today
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- Share information and debate ideas with peers. The material in this unit raises questions about everyday life, and by coming to grips with it, we expect that the student will have a stronger sense both of who they are and where they come from, and how others from very different backgrounds and situations view the world.

**Assessment tasks**

- Quizzes
- Two summaries
- Essay
- Participation

**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**

- Develop a practical sense of how to research a variety of texts in public circulation, how to evaluate their content and engage with it effectively.
- Develop an understanding of the relationship between forms of knowledge and forms of everyday living. The topics covered will help the student to approach real-life situations,
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Assessment tasks

• Two summaries
• Essay
• Participation

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

• Understand what gender studies is about, why it has developed and why it matters today
• Develop a sense of the complexity and significance of a number of key cultural issues and debates (local and global) in contemporary gender studies
• Develop a practical sense of how to research a variety of texts in public circulation, how to evaluate their content and engage with it effectively.
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Assessment tasks

• Quizzes
• Two summaries
• Essay
• Participation

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/56275/unit_guide/print
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**

- Quizzes
- Two summaries
- Essay
- Participation

**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

• Understand the ways in which gender is conceived and found significant in everyday life
• Understand how the writing of scholars like Freud, Foucault and others has been taken up and critically extended in gender studies.
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Assessment tasks

• Quizzes
• Two summaries
• Essay
• Participation

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

• Develop a practical sense of how to research a variety of texts in public circulation, how to evaluate their content and engage with it effectively.
• Develop an understanding of the relationship between forms of knowledge and forms of everyday living. The topics covered will help the student to approach real-life situations, analyse them, and remedy problems when necessary.
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very different backgrounds and situations view the world.

Assessment tasks

- Two summaries
- Essay
- Participation

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

- Understand the ways in which gender is conceived and found significant in everyday life
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Assessment tasks

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- Two summaries
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- Participation

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**

- Develop a practical sense of how to research a variety of texts in public circulation, how to evaluate their content and engage with it effectively.
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**Assessment tasks**

- Two summaries
- Essay
- Participation

**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**

- Understand what gender studies is about, why it has developed and why it matters today
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Changes from Previous Offering

The assessment has changed in 2015. The Quiz component has been reduced from being worth 40% to 30%. This change is made in order to reduce the fail rate. The Essay component has been decreased from being worth 50% (in its previous, two-part total) to 40%. The Summaries component (worth 20%) no longer needs to be accompanied by an essay plan. This latter change is made in order to reduce confusion (each component is now stand-alone), and increase flexibility.