

Hacettepe University
Faculty of Letters
Department of English Language and Literature
Syllabus

IKA 606 Gender Studies
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Aytül Özüm
2012-13 Fall

Aim and Content: The aim of this course is to introduce and analyse the term and concept of gender from multiple perspectives and theoretical approaches. The idea of gender will be illustrated and discussed in relation to the concepts of politics, media, family, education, work, art, religion etc. Issues related to gender will be presented from a historical perspective in the first two weeks by the instructor. In addition to the British culture, there will be references to the other cultures in the world including ours to provide a comparative view point. Through the study of British culture mainly as reflected in historical and contemporary literary and non-literary sources such as novels, short stories, films and magazines, TV serials and video clips, the changes and developments in the gender studies will be highlighted in theory as well as in practice. The course aims to form a critical perspective through the analysis of how gender has been operating in different periods of a particular culture, namely British, and how this concept has been perceived and constructed and deconstructed through decades. Another focus of the course is discourse and identity construction within the framework of gender studies. A detailed study of the listed works of the cultural theorists will stimulate further reading and research for the students. There will be references to the situations of gender studies in Turkish culture, too.

Course Outline:

Week I and II: General Introduction to the term and concept of gender and historical perspective.

Week III: Historical perspective.

Raewyn Connell, *Short Introductions: Gender*

A.Fletcher *Gender, Sex, Subordination in England, 1500-1800*

R.W. Connell, *Gender and Power*

M.E. Weisner, *Women and Gender in Early Modern Europe*

Meade, et. al *A Companion to Gender History*

L. Adkins, *Revisions: Gender and Sex.*

D. Morley and K. Robins, *British Cultural Studies: Geography, Nationality and Identity.*

Week IV: Gender, Sex Roles and Identity

Goldberg and Kobayashi, *A Companion to Gender Studies*

Nickie Charles, *Gender in Modern Britain*

H. Brod, *Theorising Masculinities*

Raewyn Connell, *Gender*

Harrison and Williams, *Beyond Sex and Gender*

Buckley and Fawcett, *Fashioning the Feminine*

Williams and Stein, *Sexuality and Gender*

A.Oakley, *Subject Women*

*“Resignifying Masculinity: From ‘New Man’ to ‘New Lad’” in Morley and Robins,

*Rosi Braidotti, “Feminist Philosophies” in *A Comp. To Feminist Theory*,

*Sara Ahmed, “Feminist Features” in *A Comp. To Feminist Theory*

*Donna Haraway, “Situated Knowledges: The Science Question in Feminism and the Privilege of Partial Perspective” in *The Feminist Stand Point Theory Reader*

Relevant films.

Week V and VI: Gender and the Media

D. Gauntlett, *Media, Gender and Identity*

E. Goffmann, *Gender Advertisements*

M. Macdonald, *Representing Women: Myths of Femininity in the Popular Media*

Materials from Turkish and English Magazines.

Week VII and VIII: Gender and Language

Cristine Cristie, *Gender and Language*.

A Goddard and L.M. Patterson, *Language and Gender*.

Holmes and Mayerhoff, *The Handbook of Gender and Language*.

Week IX: Gender and Violence

Hester, Kelly and Radford, *Women, Violence and Male Power*.

“Marital Violence,” in Fletcher.

“State of Violence against Women in the Twentieth Century,” in Disch.

Relevant films.

Week X: Gender and Labour

“Gender and Labour in World History” in Meade and Weisner-Hanks.

Özyeğin, *Başkalarının Kiri*.

“Men’s Work, Women’s Work” in Fletcher.

“Changing Cultures of Work” in Morley and Robins.

Week XI: Gender and Homophobia

“He Defies You Still ...,” in Disch.

“Growing up Hidden,” in Disch.

“Homophobia in Straight Men,” in Disch.

Week XII: Gender, Race and Religion

“The Burka and the Bikini,” in Disch.

T. Benn, *Muslim Women in the United Kingdom*.

“Why Are There No Asian Anchorwomen on TV?” in Disch

“Gay Cultures, Straight Borders” in Morley and Robins.

Week XIII-XIV: Gender and Literature

Angela Carter, *Wise Children*

Margaret Atwood, *The Handmaid’s Tale*

John Banville, *The Newton Letter: An Interlude*

Jeannette Winterson, *The Passion*.

Some of the relevant films to be discussed in class:

“The Crying Game,” “The Outsiders,” “Priscilla, The Queen of the Desert,” “Fried Green Tomatoes,” “Alien,” “North Country,” “The Stepford Wives,” “Velvet Goldmine,” “The Rocky Horror Picture Show.”

Method: There will be lectures, seminars and class discussions. Articles and books on gender will be assigned before class meetings. Students are responsible to read and think about each topic that will be discussed in class.

Requirements: Attendance is obligatory, more than 3 weeks of absence will result in an F1. Students are expected to come to class on time having read the assigned material, watch the assigned film and participate actively in class discussions.

Assessment: Students are expected to orally present 2 formal papers on the relevant topic, they should support their argument with necessary theoretical work. There will be 4 or 5 discussion presentations on the works listed in the course outline. In the grading of all written and oral presentations, 25% will be taken off for English mistakes.

2 formal essays and their presentation: 30%

4-5 oral discussions: 20%

Class participation: 10%

In class Final Exam: 40%

Good Luck!

