GROSSMONT COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

Curriculum Committee Approval: 04/20/2021

GCCCD Governing Board Approval: 05/18/2021

SOCIOLOGY 140- SEX AND GENDER ACROSS CULTURES

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units

SOC 140 Sex and Gender Across Cultures 3

Semester Hours

3 hours lecture 48-54 total hours 96-108 outside-of-class hours 144-162 total hours

2. Course Prerequisites

None

Corequisite

None

Recommended Preparation

None

3. Catalog Description

An introduction to the sociological analysis of sex, gender and sexual orientation in a variety of socio-economic and cultural contexts. The course examines the impact sex, gender and sexual orientation have on the lives of men and women from different cultures in the areas of work, ethnicity, kinship, sexuality, politics, religion, health, arts, sports and communication. Gender and sexual relations in the contemporary USA are examined from the perspectives of different ethnic and racial groups.

4. Course Objectives

The student will:

a. Review the main sociological concepts and theories that explain sex, gender and sexual orientation as cultural and social reality.

b. Identify the principles of scientific research methodology used by sociologists in their analysis of sex, gender and sexual orientation.

c. Appraise the relevance of interdisciplinary research in the study of sex, gender and sexual orientation.

d. Examine historical and cross-cultural variations in the social organization of sex, gender and sexual orientation.

e. Appraise the relationship between sex, gender, sexual orientation, culture and social structure.

f. Analyze the interrelationships between gender, race-ethnicity and social class as systems of social stratification.

g. Evaluate the impact that sex, gender and sexual orientation have on the lives of men and women in the areas of work, ethnicity, sexuality, kinship, politics, economics and cultural production.

h. Identify and examine sociologically relevant problems and issues about sex, gender and sexual orientation in contemporary U.S. social life.

5. Instructional Facilities

Standard Classroom

6. Special Materials Required of Student

None

7. Course Content

1. Gender, sex and sexual orientation as biological, psychological, anthropological and sociological concepts.
2. Sociological theories of sex, gender and sexual orientation.
3. Scientific research methodology.
4. Cross-cultural perspectives on third and fourth genders.
5. Transgender lives.
6. Gendered sexuality: cross-cultural perspectives.
7. Bisexuality.
8. The construction of heterosexuality and homosexuality in non-western and western cultures.
9. The development of gay and lesbian communities in the USA.
10. Origin and evolution of gender inequality.
11. Gender, sex and sexual orientation in parenthood across cultures.
12. Gendered domestic work in different cultures.
13. Sex, gender and sexual orientation in the workplace.
14. Gendered race and ethnicity.
15. Gender, sex and sexual orientation in the experience of immigration.
16. Gender and sex in the process of colonialism, post-colonialism and globalization.
17. The intersections of race, class and gender.
18. The cultural production of sex and gender: religion, arts, education, media and sports.
19. Gender and sex in politics, health care and interpersonal communication.
20. Theories and practice of gender and sexual equality: why is it so difficult?

8. Method of Instruction

Lecture.

Group discussion.

1. Cooperative learning structured exercises.
2. Films, multimedia presentations, guest speakers.
3. Discussion of library materials and textbook readings.
4. Discussion of written assignments.

9. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on student proficiency in the subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, at least one of which must be a written essay. Combination of types of tests may be used along with use of computer technology in testing and self-testing. Evaluation methods may include:

* 1. One or more midterm exams evenly spaced throughout the semester.
  2. A comprehensive final exam that includes objective and essay questions.
  3. Small group or individual oral presentations where students present the result of their research and analyze a topic presented in class, such as the intersection of class, race and gender in wage disparities in the USA.
  4. Written assignments may include a research paper where students analyze a topic presented in class, such as gender in the media or the role a particular social institution play in perpetuating a sex/gender binary.
  5. Students are expected to write a minimum of 2,500 words as part of the writing requirements in the course

10. Outside Class Assignments

1. Weekly required readings before class meetings.
2. An auto-ethnographic gender analysis paper, where students do a self-analysis and incorporate research to examine the ways gender influences or shapes their own lives.
3. Written assignments analyzing a topic covered in class, such as sexual harassment in the workplace or the gendered wage gap in the USA with inclusion of different racial and ethnic groups. Students will be required to conduct a library search of scholarly sources to support their research topic.
4. Journals or written reflections of readings, guest speaker presentations or visual materials (films and artwork) presented in class.
5. Library research including web sources.
6. Interviews with peers, community members and/or professionals in the field.

11. Representative Texts

1. Representative Texts:
2. Wade, Lisa and Myra Ferree. 2019. *Gender: Ideas, Interactions, Institutions. Second Edition.* NY: W.W. Norton & Company.
3. Misra, Joya, Mahala Dyer Stewart, and Marni Alyson Brown. 2018. *Gendered Lives, Sexual Beings: A Feminist Anthology*. Los Angeles: SAGE.
4. Supplementary texts and workbooks:

None

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

1. Apply sociological concepts and theories when explaining sex, gender and sexual orientation as cultural and social reality.
2. Employ the tools of social scientific research when explaining sex, gender and sexual orientation as cultural and social phenomena.
3. Evaluate the impact that sex, gender and sexual orientation have on the lives of men and women in the areas of work, ethnicity, sexuality, kinship, politics, economics and cultural production in different societies.