

Department of Gender Studies
University of the Punjab, Lahore
Course Outline

Programme	BS Gender Studies	Course Code	GS 104	Credit Hours	3
Course Title	Socio-Cultural Aspects of Gender				
Course Introduction					
<p>This course explores the socio-cultural dimensions of gender, examining how gender identities and roles are constructed, maintained, and transformed within different cultural contexts. Through interdisciplinary approaches, students will critically analyze the intersections of gender with race, class, sexuality, and other social categories. The course will include readings from sociology, anthropology, psychology, and cultural studies, encouraging students to understand and challenge gender norms and inequalities.</p>					
Learning Outcomes					
<p>On the completion of the course, the students will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze the construction of gender roles in various cultural contexts. 2. Critically examine the intersections of gender with other social categories such as class, and sexuality. 3. Evaluate the impact of social institutions on gender relations. 4. Develop skills to challenge and address gender inequalities in different spheres of life. 					
Course Content				Assignments/Readings	
Week 1	Unit I				
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Historical Evolution of Gender Roles <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Women in Hunting and Gathering Society 1.2. Women in Ancient Civilizations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.2.1. Mesopotamia 1.2.2. Egypt 				
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.2.3. Greece 1.2.4. Rome 1.2.5. Indian Sub-Continent 			<p>James, S. L., & Dillon, S. (Eds.). (2015). A companion to women in the ancient world. John Wiley & Sons.</p> <p>James, S. L., & Dillon, S. (Eds.). (2015). A companion to women in the ancient world. John Wiley & Sons.</p>	

Week 2	1.3. Women in the Renaissance	Lamb, M. E. (2017). The Cooke sisters: attitudes toward learned women in the Renaissance. In Ashgate Critical Essays on Women Writers in England, 1550-1700 (pp. 427-446). Routledge.
	1.4. Women in the Enlightenment	Knott, S., & Taylor, B. (Eds.). (2005). Women, gender and enlightenment (p. 649). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
Week 3	1.5. Feminism 1.5.1. First Wave of Feminism	Raina, J. A. (2017). Feminism: An Overview. International Journal of Research, 4(13), 3372-3376.
	1.5.2. Second Wave of Feminism	
Week 4	1.5.3. Third Wave of Feminism	
	1.5.4. Fourth Wave of Feminism	
Week 5	Unit II 2. Theories of Gender Identity Development 2.1. Biological Theories	Steensma, T. D., Kreukels, B. P., de Vries, A. L., & Cohen-Kettenis, P. T. (2013). Gender identity development in adolescence. Hormones and behavior, 64(2), 288-297.
	2.2. Psychological Theories	Martin, C. L., Ruble, D. N., & Szkrybalo, J. (2002). Cognitive theories of early gender development. Psychological bulletin, 128(6), 903.
Week 6	2.3. Sociocultural Theories	Castañeda, N. N., & Pfeffer, C. A. (2018). Gender identities.

		Handbook of the Sociology of Gender, 119-130.
	2.4. Understanding Non-Binary Identities	
Week 7	Unit III 3. Gender and Social Institutions 3.1. Gender and Family 3.1.1. Family Structures and Dynamics 3.1.2. Marriage and Partnership	Chapter 19 Marchbank, J., & Letherby, G. (2014). Introduction to gender: Social science perspectives. Routledge.
	3.1.3. Parenting and Child-Rearing 3.1.3.1. Parenting Styles 3.1.3.2. Mothering 3.1.3.3. Fathering	Chapter 19 Marchbank, J., & Letherby, G. (2014). Introduction to gender: Social science perspectives. Routledge.
Week 8	3.2. Gender and Work 3.2.1. Gender disparities in the workplace.	Chapter 14 Marchbank, J., & Letherby, G. (2014). Introduction to gender: Social science perspectives. Routledge.
	3.2.2. Gender pay gap and its contributing factors. 3.2.3. Work-life balance and gender.	Chapter 14 Marchbank, J., & Letherby, G. (2014). Introduction to gender: Social science perspectives. Routledge.
Week 9	3.3. Gender and Education 3.3.1. The Gendered Classrooms 3.3.2. Traditional Educational Methodologies	Chapter 13 Marchbank, J., & Letherby, G. (2014). Introduction to gender: Social science perspectives. Routledge.
	3.3.3. Gender Equality in Education	Chapter 13

	3.3.4. Barriers, Possibilities and Reality: National Perspective	Marchbank, J., & Letherby, G. (2014). Introduction to gender: Social science perspectives. Routledge.
Week 10	3.4. Gender and Health 3.4.1. Health issues specific to different genders.	Chapter 12 Marchbank, J., & Letherby, G. (2014). Introduction to gender: Social science perspectives. Routledge.
	3.4.2. Gender differences in health behaviors and outcomes. 3.4.3. Access to healthcare and gender-specific health services.	Chapter 12 Marchbank, J., & Letherby, G. (2014). Introduction to gender: Social science perspectives. Routledge.
Week 11	3.5. Gender and Politics 3.5.1. Representation of different genders in politics. 3.5.2. The impact of gender on political policies and decisions.	
	3.5.3. Gender activism and advocacy movements.	
Week 12	3.6. Gender and Media 3.6.1. Women Representation in Print Media 3.6.2. Women Representation in Electronic Media	Chapter 18 Marchbank, J., & Letherby, G. (2014). Introduction to gender: Social science perspectives. Routledge.
	3.6.3. Gender stereotypes in Media	Chapter 18 Marchbank, J., & Letherby, G. (2014). Introduction to gender:

		Social science perspectives. Routledge.
Week 13	3.7. Gender and Digital Media 3.7.1. The role of the internet in shaping gender identities 3.7.2. Social media platforms and gender performance	Sharma, A., Wairagade, N., Reddy, D. L., Mamoria, P., & Kishore, P. N. (2024). Social media and identity formation: examining the impact on contemporary society. <i>Journal of Research Administration</i> , 6(1).
	3.7.3. The impact of digital influencers on gender perceptions	
Week 14	3.8. Gender and Religion 3.8.1. Gender Roles in Religious Traditions	Sullins, D. P. (2006). Gender and religion: Deconstructing universality, constructing complexity. <i>American Journal of Sociology</i> , 112(3), 838-880.
	3.8.2. Gender and Ritual Practices	
Week 15	3.8.3. Religious Institutions and Gender Equality	
	Students Project Presentation	
Week 16	Students Project Presentation	
	Students Project Presentation	
Textbooks and Reading Material		
1. Textbooks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marchbank, J., & Letherby, G. (2014). <i>Introduction to gender: Social science perspectives</i>. Routledge. • Pilcher, J., & Whelehan, I. (2016). <i>Key concepts in gender studies</i>. Sage. 		

- Richardson, D., & Robinson, V. (Eds.). (2020). *Introducing gender and women's studies*. Bloomsbury Publishing.

Suggested Readings

1.1. Books

- Braithwaite, A., & Orr, C. (2016). *Everyday women's and gender studies: Introductory concepts*. Routledge.

1.2. Journal Articles/ Reports

Teaching Learning Strategies

1. Reading and discussion on selected texts
2. Class discussion on gender and crime through lens of gender and culture
3. Quick presentations and discussion in Week 15 and 16 on given topic

Assignments: Types and Number with Calendar

1. Assignments: Week 1, week 6
2. Quizzes: Week 3, week 12
3. Group presentations and project submission: Week 15 and week 16

Assessment

Sr. No.	Elements	Weightage	Details
1.	Midterm Assessment	35%	Written Assessment at the mid-point of the semester.
2.	Formative Assessment	25%	Continuous assessment includes: Classroom participation, assignments, presentations, viva voce, attitude and behavior, hands-on-activities, short tests, projects, practical, reflections, readings, quizzes etc.
3.	Final Assessment	40%	Written Examination at the end of the semester. It is mostly in the form of a test, but owing to the nature of the course the teacher may assess their students based on term paper, research proposal development, field work and report writing etc.

