

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

SOCIOLOGY 140 – SEX AND GENDER ACROSS CULTURES

3 hours lecture, 3 units

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.

Prerequisite

None

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 the workplace.
- 12) Gendered race and ethnicity.
- 13) Gender, sex, and sexual orientation in the experience of immigration
- 14) Gender and sex in the process of colonialism, post-colonialism, and globalization.
- 15) The intersections of race, class, and gender.
- 16) The cultural production of sex and gender: religion, arts, education, media, and sports.
- 17) Gender and sex in politics, health care, and interpersonal communication.
- 18) Theories and practice of gender and sexual equality: why is it so difficult?

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Review the main sociological concepts and theories that explain sex, gender, and sexual orientation as cultural and social reality.
- 2) Identify the principles of scientific research methodology used by sociologists in their analysis of sex, gender, and sexual orientation.
- 3) Appraise the relevance of interdisciplinary research in the study of sex, gender, and sexual orientation.
- 4) Examine historical and cross-cultural variations in the social organization of sex, gender, and sexual orientation.
- 5) Appraise the relationship between sex, gender, sexual orientation, culture, and social structure.
- 6) Analyze the interrelationships between gender, race-ethnicity, and social class as systems of social stratification.

- 7) 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.
- 8) Identify and examine sociologically relevant problems and issues about sex, gender, and sexual orientation in contemporary U.S. social life.

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in the subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Quizzes and exams that measure students' ability to recognize, describe, explain and provide examples of the various topics, information and issues in sex and gender across cultures.
- 2) Written analysis of controversial issues in which students will utilize various research sources to analyze their implications on society.
- 3) Group or individual projects or research papers that require students to explain gender, sex, and sexual orientation as biological, psychological, anthropological, and sociological concepts.
- 4) Interactive group activities, in which students analyze, discuss and draw conclusions the cultural production of sex and gender.
- 5) Field-based exercises to report experience, research, and methodology of gender studies.

Special Materials Required of Student

None

Minimum Instructional Facilities

Smart Classroom.

Method of Instruction

- 1) Lecture and discussion
- 2) Group activities

Out-of-Class Assignments

- 1) Reading assignments
- 2) Writing assignments
- 3) Field-based exercises

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative examples):
 - a. Andersen, Margaret L., *Thinking About Women: Sociological Perspectives on Sex and Gender*. 10th edition. Pearson, 2015.
 - b. Kimmel, Michael and Michael A. Messner. *Men's Lives*. 9th edition. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon, 2013.
- 2) Supplemental: None

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Describe the main sociological theories of sex, gender and sexual orientation.
- 2) Apply sociological theories to explain systems of privilege and inequality along the lines of sex, gender, and sexual orientation.