



**FLORIDA
ATLANTIC
UNIVERSITY**

COURSE CHANGE REQUEST Undergraduate Programs

Department Sociology
College Arts and Letters

UUPC Approval 12/4/23
 UFS Approval _____
 SCNS Submittal _____
 Confirmed _____
 Banner Posted _____
 Catalog _____

**Current Course
Prefix and Number** SYD 3800

Current Course Title
Gender and Society

Syllabus must be attached for ANY changes to current course details. See Template. Please consult and list departments that may be affected by the changes; attach documentation.

Change title to:

Change prefix

From: _____ **To:** _____

Change course number

From: _____ **To:** _____

Change credits*

From: _____ **To:** _____

Change grading

From: _____ **To:** _____

Change WAC/Gordon Rule status**

Add Remove

Change General Education Requirements***

Add Remove

*See Definition of a Credit Hour.

**WAC/Gordon Rule criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to this form. See WAC Guidelines.

***GE criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to this form. See Intellectual Foundations Guidelines.

Change description to:

This course surveys the subfield of the sociology of gender. It examines competing theoretical explanations of gender from a sociological perspective. Topics include gender difference, socialization, stratification, and gendered social institutions such as families, work, and the media.

Change prerequisites/minimum grades to:

Change corequisites to:

Change registration controls to:

Please list existing and new pre/corequisites, specify AND or OR and include minimum passing grade (default is D-).

**Effective Term/Year
for Changes:** Summer 2024

**Terminate course? Effective Term/Year
for Termination:**

Faculty Contact/Email/Phone Lotus Seeley/seelyj@fau.edu/561-297-3270

Approved by

Department Chair Ann Branaman

College Curriculum Chair [Signature]

College Dean _____

UUPC Chair Korey Sorge

Undergraduate Studies Dean Dan Meeroff

UFS President _____

Provost _____

Date

11/6/23

11/13/23

11/14/23

12/4/23

12/4/23

Email this form and syllabus to mjenning@fau.edu seven business days before the UUPC meeting.

SYD 3800-002: Gender and Society
Department of Sociology
Florida Atlantic University
Fall 2024

Instructor: Dr. J. Lotus Seeley

Email: seeleyj@fau.edu

Days/Times: Tuesday/Thursday 11am-12.20pm Phone: 404.402.8740 (calls only)

Classroom: 103 General Classroom South

Office: 261 Culture and Society Building

Details: CRN 14439, 3 Credits

Office Hours: Mondays, 12-2pm

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12.30-2.30pm,

Email for alternate days/times

Course Description:

This course surveys the subfield of the sociology of gender. It examines competing theoretical explanations of gender from a sociological perspective. Topics include gender difference, socialization, stratification, and gendered social institutions such as families, work, and the media.

From our first sonogram to our last breath, gender structures our lives in myriad ways. Both our assigned sex as female or male and our gender identities as women, men, or beyond the gender binary play a major role in who we are, what we aspire to, and what we achieve. At the micro level, our gender shapes our identities and self-presentations, our perspectives on the world, how we interact with others, and how others treat us. At the macro level, gender contributes to structural inequalities through its influence on institutions such as governments, labor markets, families, and economies. Very few parts of our lives escape the effects of the binary opposition of women/femininity and men/masculinity that characterizes gender in our culture. Clothing, bathrooms, college majors, careers, family roles, and leisure pursuits are only a tiny fraction of the social phenomena that bear the mark of gender difference and inequality.

This course is a survey of the subfield of the sociology of gender. While conventional wisdom views gender difference and inequality as the inevitable outcome of essential and ahistorical biological differences between female and male bodies, sociology demonstrates that gender is a social construction. What it means to be women, men, or live beyond the gender binary along with the inequalities that arise from gender difference are the result of social activity and human behavior. All cultures divide their members into women and men, but their meanings vary greatly. Looking across space and time, we see major differences and even conflict in culturally-specific definitions of femininity and masculinity, refuting any notion of gender difference as natural and unchanging. Within our own culture, gender norms and their effects are shaped by race, class, sexuality, religion, and other social identities. As we'll see, none of us escapes gender, even if it doesn't impact each of us in exactly the same way.

Together we will delve into the social construction of gender and its significance for our lives at both micro and macro levels. We will examine how we are socialized into gendered beings and how our gender identities shape our experiences of privilege and oppression. Attention will be paid to a variety of social institutions including families, work, sexuality, and politics.

Course Objectives:

- Students will understand the key concepts in sociology of gender with an emphasis on the social construction of gender and how binary gender (re)produces inequality.
- Students will be able to distinguish between sociological theories of gender as a culturally- and historically-specific social construction and essentialist theories of gender as biological, ahistorical, and asocial.
- Students will understand how gender operates at the micro level to shape identities, self-presentations, and social interactions, with an emphasis on theories of doing gender.
- Students will understand how gender operates at the macro level to structure social institutions (e.g., governments, families, labor markets) and resultant inequalities.
- Students will be able to apply sociological theories of gender to understand how gender structures their own identities, experiences, and outcomes.
- Students will develop their critical reading skills, ability to produce written texts with clear and logical argumentation, and ability to evaluate sociological texts.

Course Context:

No prerequisites.

This course can be counted towards the sociology major or minor.

Required Texts:

Gender: Ideas, Interactions, Institutions (2023), Third Edition, by Lisa Wade and Myra Marx Ferree, WW Norton & Company, ISBN: 978-0-393-89286-4

Class announcements will be made via Canvas. You are responsible for keeping up with these announcements and will be held accountable any expectations or directions conveyed through them. You are also responsible for checking and answering your FAU email and will be held accountable to any expectations or directions conveyed in them.

Office Hours:

Dr. Seeley will be holding office hours on Mondays from 1-3pm and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12.30-2.30pm. Office hours will be held in person and via Zoom. For Zoom, please email for invite. I'll be available during those times and happy to take drop ins. I am also available to meet outside those times, so please let me know if you need to meet at a different time that is more convenient for you.

Office hours are a great resource if you have questions or concerns about the material. I am always happy to talk students through assignments or ideas, explain concepts or instructions, and

listen to and help formulate ideas and plans. I'm here to help make things clear that are unclear; you just have to ask. No one's grade has ever suffered from visiting during office hours. You will never be bothering me, and I'll enjoy the company, so don't be hesitant to come to office hours.

Assignments and Grading:

Quizzes: 20%

Mondays by 11.59pm (except October 2, November 20, and November 27)

Quizzes are meant to insure that you are completing your reading assignments. Twelve online quizzes will be given over the course of the term, each covering the readings for the relevant week (i.e., the quiz due on Monday, August 28 will cover the readings assigned for Tuesday, August 29 and Thursday, August 31). Quizzes will open on Saturdays at 8am and must be completed by 11.59pm on Monday.

The four quizzes with the lowest grades will be dropped, resulting in eight quizzes counting toward your final grade. Each quiz is worth **2.5%** of your grade. Quizzes will be multiple choice and true/false questions based on the readings assigned for that week. You **CANNOT** make-up a missed quiz.

Quizzes are open book. However, they must be done individually. Unauthorized collaboration is considered academic misconduct and will be treated as such.

Attendance and Participation: 10%

Student participation is essential for the success of the class. Students must commit to reading carefully, paying attention during class, listening attentively to each other, and providing meaningful contributions to class discussions. Each student is expected to be fully engaged and actively participate in class discussions and activities. Failure to be engaged will result in the lowering of your grade; being brave enough to contribute your ideas – even if you're unsure of them – will be rewarded.

Attending class is crucial to your success. Missing class (or being late) means missing activities and discussions that cannot be captured on powerpoint but may appear on an exam. If you are absent, please check our Canvas site for posted materials, talk to a classmate about what you missed, and then come see me for questions and clarifications.

Attendance will be taken for this class on a daily basis. Sleeping, arriving late without permission, leaving early without permission, paying more attention to your phone than class, and using technology for non-class matters may be considered absences.

Students are permitted **2** unexcused absences. Each unexcused absences in excess of 2 absences will result in a reduction of your participation grade by **half a point**. For absences known in advance, documentation should be provided and permission for an excused absent should be

secured prior to absence. Failing to secure accommodations for non-emergency absences prior to the absence may result in the absence being deemed unexcused regardless of circumstances. For emergencies, documentation, including doctor's notes or other empirical evidence (subject to approval by Dr. Seeley) of the reason for missing class, should be provided immediately upon return. Significant delays in providing documentation may result in the absence being deemed unexcused regardless of circumstances. All accommodations will be made at the discretion of Dr. Seeley.

Midterm Exam: 20%

Opens Thursday, October 5 at 8am, Closes Friday, October 6 at 11.59pm

The midterm will cover all material from the first half of class, including assigned readings, class activities, films, and lectures. Exams will be completed online using Canvas. A formal excuse is required to make up a missed exam.

Short Essays: 10% each

Short Essay 1: Friday, September 22 by 11.59pm

Short Essay 2: Friday, October 27 by 11.59pm

Short Essay 3: Friday, December 1 by 11.59pm

Over the course of the term, students will write three short essay (4+ double-spaced pages) responding to prompts provided by Dr. Seeley. These essay will require students to engage critically course concepts and materials by applying them to real world experiences and events.

Final Exam: 20%

Opens Tuesday, December 12 at 8am; Closes Wednesday, December 13 at 11:59pm

The final will cover all material from the second half of class, including assigned readings, class activities, films, and lectures. Exams will be completed online using Canvas. A formal excuse is required to make up a missed exam.

Grading Scale:

A	92.60-100%	B+	86.60-89.59%	C+	76.60-79.59%	D	60-69.59%
A-	89.60-92.59%	B	82.60-86.59%	C	72.60-76.59%	F	0-58.99%
		B-	79.60-82.59%	C-	69.60-72.59%		

***Deviations from this scheme will occur only if no curves were given on any exams.

Class Policies and Etiquette:

Following Instructions: Success in this class requires that students carefully read and then follow assignment instructions as well as policies laid out in the syllabus. Thorough instructions for all assignments will be distributed in hard copy and posted to Canvas. You are expected to

do what is on the instructions – nothing more, nothing less. Submissions that do not meet the expectations laid out in the relevant instruction sheet are unlikely to receive more than a B.

Non-SAS Accommodations: I want you to be successful in this class. Proactivity will always be looked upon positively, so please let Dr. Seeley know as soon as possible if you think you will have any problems related to this class for which we will need to devise solutions. If you are having issues in your life that may impact your ability to be successful in this class, I expect you to come see me in a timely manner. I am willing to provide accommodations that are reasonable as well as fair to your classmates, but this requires timely communication with me. Waiting until the last minute or after the fact will produce less favorable outcomes.

Attendance: [University Policy] Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations, or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances, and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student's final course grade as a direct result of such absence

Grade Contestation: You must wait 48 hours from the time it is handed back to you to contact me with your dispute. I will not take complaints after class except regarding bad math or clarification of my handwriting. To put forth your grade dispute you must send me a formal email detailing what you think was graded unfairly, what your original answer was, what my comments were, and a logical argument about why you think you should have your original grade changed. If you fail to follow these instructions, your dispute will not be considered. Contesting a grade may result in the raising or lowering of your grade.

Late Work: All work should be submitted on time and in the form (hard copy or online) indicated on the relevant instruction sheet. Students submitting a late assignment will be penalized as follows: Assignments submitted the day after the original due date will lose 10 points. Assignments submitted two days after the original due date will lose 20 points. Assignments submitted three days after the due date will lose 30 points. Assignments submitted four or more days after the original due date may be given half credit at the discretion of the instructor.

Incompletes: Grades of Incomplete ("I") are reserved for students who are passing a course but have not completed all the required work because of exceptional circumstances.

Code of Academic Integrity:

Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high-quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. Be advised that all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the appropriate administrators and may result in additional punishment beyond failing the course.

All work (written or otherwise) for this course must be your own. Academic dishonesty of any sort – including (but not limited to) unintentional or intentional plagiarism, cheating, fabricating classmate's attendance, falsifying absence documentation, and/or unapproved collaboration – will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic grade of F for the course as well as being reported to the appropriate administrators. By registering for this class you acknowledge and agree to this policy and accept responsibility for educating yourself regarding FAU's Code of Academic Integrity: https://www.fau.edu/ctl/4.001_Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf. Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards.

Religious Accommodation Policy:

In accordance with regulations of the Florida Board of Governors and Florida law, students have the right to reasonable accommodations from the University in order to observe religious practices and beliefs with regard to admissions, registration, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations, and work assignments. The details of this policy, as it pertains to FAU, may be found in the University Catalog and University Regulation 2.007, Religious Observances.

Student Accessibility Services Accommodation Policy:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who due to a disability require reasonable accommodations to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses – Boca Raton, Davie, and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at www.fau.edu/sas/.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center:

Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally, and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>

Policy on Recording Lecture:

Students enrolled in this course may record video or audio of class lectures for their own personal educational use. A class lecture is defined as a formal or methodical oral presentation as part of a university course intended to present information or teach students about a particular subject. Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to student presentations (whether individually or as part of a group), class discussion (except when incidental to and incorporated within a class lecture), labs, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving student participation, test or examination administrations, field trips, and private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the lecturer, is prohibited. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation or class attendance and may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of the University's Student Code of Conduct and/or the Code of Academic Integrity.

Class Schedule:

Week 1: What is Gender?

8/22 *No Assigned Reading*

8/24 Wade and Ferree, Introduction

Week 2: The Social Construction of Binary Gender

8/29 & 8/31 Wade and Ferree, Chapter 1: Ideas

Week 3: Difference, Inequality, and Intersectionality

9/5 & 9/7 Wade and Ferree, Chapter 2: Bodies

Week 4: Learning and Doing Gender

9/12 & 9/14 Wade and Ferree, Chapter 3: Performances

Week 5: Men, Masculinity, and Masculine Domination

Short Essay 1 Due on Friday, September 22 by 11.59pm

9/19 & 9/21 Wade and Ferree, Chapter 5: Inequality: Men and Masculinities

Week 6: Women, Femininity, and Feminine Subordination

9/26 & 9/28 Wade and Ferree, Chapter 6: Inequality: Women and Femininities

Week 7: Review and Midterm

10/3 *No Assigned Reading*

10/5 *No Class*

Midterm: Opens Thursday, October 5 at 8am, Closes Friday, October 6 at 11.59pm

Week 8: Gender as Structure

10/10 & 10/12 Wade and Ferree, Chapter 7: Institutions

Week 9: Legislating Gender Inequality, Engendering Resistance

10/17 & 10/19 Wade and Ferree, Chapter 12: Politics

Week 10: Sex, Love, and Family in History

Short Essay 2 Due on Friday, October 27 by 11.59pm

10/24 & 10/26 Wade and Ferree, Chapter 8: Change

Week 11: Sex, Sexuality, and (Hetero)gender Inequality Today

10/31 & 11/2 Wade and Ferree, Chapter 9: Sexualities

Week 12: Families and the (Re)production of Gender Today

11/7 & 11/9 Wade and Ferree, Chapter 10: Families

Week 13: Gendered Labor Markets and Structural Inequality

11/14 & 11/16 Wade and Ferree, Chapter 11: Work

Week 14: Thanksgiving Break

11/21 & 11/23 *No Assigned Reading*
No Class

Week 15: Wrap Up and Review

Short Essay 3 Due on Friday, December 1 by 11pm

11/28 & 11/30 Wade and Ferree, Conclusion

Finals Week

Final: Opens Tuesday, December 12 at 8am; Closes Wednesday, December 13 at 11:59pm