



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

## **SIMP26, Social Sciences: Critical Feminist Perspectives in Social Theory, 15 credits**

*Social Sciences: Critical Feminist Perspectives in Social Theory, 15  
högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by Graduate School Board on 2011-12-12 and was last revised on 2017-11-21. The revised syllabus applies from 2018-01-15, spring semester 2018.

### **General Information**

The course is offered as an interdisciplinary single subject course in Social Science at the second-cycle level. The course is a compulsory component of the Master of Science programme in Social Studies of Gender, 120 credits.

*Language of instruction:* English

<i>Main field of studies</i>	<i>Depth of study relative to the degree requirements</i>
Political Science	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Social Work	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Education	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Human Geography	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Sociology	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Development Studies	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Sociology of Law	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Media and Communication Studies	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Gender Studies	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
Social Anthropology	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

## Learning outcomes

Upon the completion of the course, the student shall

### Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate the ability to identify and critically reflect upon how gender, race, class and sexuality are theorised within their own academic disciplines
- demonstrate the ability to locate, understand, and critically review gender theories and research within their respective disciplines and within the interdisciplinary field of gender scholarship

### Competence and skills

- analyse relevant social phenomena in a systematic manner using the key concepts acquired during the course
- formulate complex research questions regarding gender
- use gender as an analytical tool in research proposals
- analyse questions of gender in four general domains: work, the family, politics and culture

### Judgement and approach

- show the ability to assess the challenges and possibilities represented by the application of an intersectional analysis of gender, race, class and sexuality
- demonstrate insight into the usefulness of feminist and gender theoretical perspectives in different contexts.

## Course content

This interdisciplinary course focuses on feminist and gender theoretical interventions in other surrounding fields of study. We learn about the ways in which a focus on gender, along with race, class and sexuality, as the primary objects of study and categories of analysis, can contribute to developing theories and debates in relation to other fields. The student will be introduced to the diversity of the field of feminist theory, and the issues in the current debate, feminist theoretical interventions and analytical tools. The student will learn to see gender from an analytical and a contextual perspective. They will also critically re-read the contributions of feminist research to their specific field of study.

The course will enable the student to acquire skills in the emerging tradition of feminist scholarship and will enable them to apply feminist perspectives to their own fields of study. The critical reading of the field of gender studies (trans-national and postcolonial feminism, gay and lesbian/queer studies and feminist studies of work and welfare) will constitute the core of the course, enabling the student to acquire theoretical and methodological skills and to expand their understanding of four general domains: work, the family, politics and culture.

More specifically, the course will examine the following aspects of the feminist debate:

- Subjectivities & Communities: Feminist theorizing of subjectivity, community, conviviality, agency
- The Postcolonial and Genealogies of Oppression: Racism, intimacies and psychoanalysis.
- Power & Exploitation: Feminist historical materialist contributions
- State, Welfare, Family: Feminist understandings of state, welfare, justice
- Globalization, Gender, Labour: Feminist analyses of globalization, economy, and divisions of labor
- Power & the Self: Sexuality, power, identity

## Course design

The course is based on a combination of lectures and seminars. The lectures will focus on the impact of contemporary feminist theory on other established fields. The seminars are student led and build on group work in which the students focus on different themes and are encouraged to search for information, and to analyse and present literature themselves.

The course also includes a session on feminist writing and supervision seminars on a writing exercise in the form of a book review. The course will conclude with a final seminar in which the student's course paper is discussed.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation in seminars is required. A student who has been unable to participate due to circumstances such as accidents or sudden illness will be offered the opportunity to compensate for or re-take compulsory components. This also applies to students who have been absent because of duties as an elected student representative.

## Assessment

Assessment will be based on

- Group work: weekly reflection papers
- Group work: planning and leading of a seminar, including an oral presentation on course literature
- Individual work: Two written individual assignments, one of which is a course paper based on course literature and literature selected by the student; and one book review.

The course includes opportunities for assessment at a first examination, a re-sit close to the first examination and a second re-sit for courses that have ended during that school year. Two further re-examinations on the same course content are offered within a year of the end of the course. After this, further re-examination opportunities are offered but in accordance with the current course syllabus.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

*Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.*

## Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

The grades awarded are A, B, C, D, E or Fail. The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail.

The student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of E the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of D the student must show satisfactory results. For the grade of C the student must show good results. For the grade of B the student must show very good results. For the grade of A the student must show excellent results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown unacceptable results.

The weekly reflection papers are exempt from the grading scale above. The grades for this component are Pass or Fail. For the grade of Pass, the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of Fail, the student must have shown unacceptable results.

The overall course grade is based on the following balance: leading of seminar in group (1 credit); book review (4 credits) and the course paper (10 credits). The grade for the entire course consists of the average grade of all assessed assignments (A = 5, B = 4, C = 3, D = 2, E = 1) multiplied by the number of credits awarded for each component.

To receive a passing grade on the course, the student must have been awarded at least E on all assessments for which the grading scale A–E+Fail applies, and the grade of Pass on all assessments for which the grading scale Pass – Fail applies. The student must also have participated in all compulsory components.

At the start of the course students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and about the grading scale and how it is applied in the course.

## Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have completed 150 credits including a Bachelor's degree project in Political Science, Sociology, Social Anthropology, Education, Social Work, Sociology of Law, Gender Studies, Human Geography, Development Studies, Media and Communication Studies or the equivalent.

Oral and written proficiency in English equivalent to English 6/B (advanced) from Swedish upper secondary school is a requirement. International qualifications will be assessed in accordance with national guidelines.

## Further information

The course cannot be included in a degree together with SIM202 *Critical Feminist Perspectives in Social Theory* 15 credits, SIMP22 *Critical Feminist Perspectives in Social Theory* 15 credits or SIMP24 *Critical Feminist Perspectives in Social Theory* 15 credits.

## Subcourses in SIMP26, Social Sciences: Critical Feminist Perspectives in Social Theory

Applies from V18

- 1801 Reflection papers, 0,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1802 Group work, 1,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1803 Book review, 4,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A
- 1804 Individual course paper, 10,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A

Applies from V12

- 1101 Critical Feminist Perspectives in Social Theory, 15,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A