

SIMP27, Social Sciences: Gender, Class, Ethnicity and Sexuality, 15 credits

Samhällsvetenskap: Kön, klass, etnicitet och sexualitet, 15 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Graduate School Board on 2021-02-25 and was last revised on 2025-11-24. The revised syllabus comes into effect 2025-11-24 and is valid from the autumn semester 2026.

General information

This course is offered as an interdisciplinary single subject course in Social Sciences and is a compulsory component within the Master of Science Programme in Social Studies of Gender (SASSG), 120 credits.

Language of instruction: English

<i>Main field of study</i>	<i>Specialisation</i>
Social Anthropology	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
Political Science	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
Gender Studies	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
Media and Communication Studies	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
Development Studies	A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall:

Knowledge and understanding

- situate, understand, and critically review gender theories and research within the interdisciplinary field of Social Studies of Gender using an intersectional approach;
- understand the usefulness of feminist and gender theoretical perspectives in different contexts when addressing different scales of studied social phenomena.

Competence and skills

- analyse relevant social phenomena using given key concepts;
- formulate complex research questions on issues relevant to the field of gender studies;
- give informative oral and written presentations on issues relevant to the field of gender studies;
- work in groups to better understand and report on different theoretical frameworks;
- work in an interdisciplinary context.

Judgement and approach

- identify and critically reflect on gender, class, race, and sexuality as major categories of social analysis;
- demonstrate insight in communicating scientific issues and follow the development of knowledge within gender studies.

Course content

The course provides the student with core feminist perspectives and theories in dialogue with established academic disciplines, which have highlighted the centrality of gender for the understanding of broader social processes and different social phenomena. The student is encouraged to develop their understanding and appreciation of issues and perspectives central to the multidisciplinary field of gender studies. A particular focus is placed on the understanding of how gender interrelates with other categories of difference such as class, race, and sexuality. The course will introduce key critical subfields and themes, and introduce them through different perspectives that are central to feminist and gender studies traditions, such as postcolonial, decolonial, queer, poststructuralist or materialist feminist traditions, and more.

The course will also analyse the contributions of feminist research to social theory in the exploration and understanding of the connections between (gendered) difference and social injustice. The question of how gender, class, race, and sexuality intersect in the production of difference will be addressed.

Course design

The course is based on a combination of lectures and seminars. The lectures focus on the theme of the given week and are designed to help the student in their readings. During the seminars the student will make presentations of the course literature and/or specific topics. Seminars also offer an opportunity to discuss issues raised by the course literature. Toward the end of the course the student will be offered group supervision sessions that are designed to help with the writing of the final paper. The course concludes with a final seminar in which the students' final papers are discussed and examined.

Participation in seminars is mandatory. Failure to participate in seminars will be compensated for with written make-up assignments during the course.

Assessment

Assessment is based on:

- seminar assignments, 3 credits
- a written examination in the form of a final paper, 12 credits

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.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: U=Fail, E=Sufficient, D=Satisfactory, C=Good, B=Very Good, A=Excellent

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 show unacceptable results.

Seminar assignments count for 3 credits and the final written examination counts for 12 credits. The overall course grade is calculated according to the following method:
 (1) Each letter grade corresponds to a number: 5 for A, 4 for B, 3 for C, 2 for B, 1 for E, and 0 for Fail.

(2) The numerical grade for each sub-course/module is multiplied by the number of credits for the sub-course/module.

(3) The products are added together and the sum is divided by the total number of credits for the entire course.

(4) The resulting weighted average determines the overall course grade. 4.50–5.00

gives grade A; 3.50–4.49 gives grade B; 2.50–3.49 gives grade C; 1.50–2.49 gives grade D; 1–1.49 gives grade E.

(5) To receive a grade other than Fail, the student must have at least a grade of E in all sub-courses/modules. 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 Development Studies, Gender Studies, Human Geography, Media and Communication Studies, Political Science, Social Anthropology, Social Work, Sociology, and Sociology of Law, 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 SIMP21: Gender, Class, Ethnicity and Sexuality, 15 credits, SIMP23: Gender or Class, Ethnicity and Sexuality, 15-credits, or SIMP25: Gender, Class, Ethnicity and Sexuality, 15-credits.