



Faculty of Social Sciences

SIMP28, Social Sciences: Critical Feminist Perspectives in Social Theory, 15 credits

Samhällsvetenskap: Kritiska feministiska perspektiv inom social teori, 15 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Graduate School Board on 2020-06-05 and was last revised on 2026-05-06. The revised syllabus comes into effect 2026-05-06 and is valid from the spring semester 2027.

General information

The course is offered as an interdisciplinary single subject course in Social Science and is a compulsory component of 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>
Gender Studies	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
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
Sociology of Law	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
Social Work	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
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 different subfields and traditions;
- demonstrate the ability to locate, understand and critically review feminist interventions in and contributions to social theories, concepts and research 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 and intersectional feminism;
- use gender as an analytical tool in research proposals;
- analyse feminist issues and questions of gender in themes central to global and local challenges and processes of change.

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 and contributions to social theories. We learn about the ways in which a focus on gender, along with race, class and sexuality, as the primary categories of analysis, can contribute to developing theories and debates in relation to some of the most pressing issues of our time – in local and global settings. The student is introduced to the diversity of the field of feminist theory, and to feminist theoretical interventions and analytical tools. The student will learn to see gender from an analytical and a contextual perspective.

The course enables the student to acquire skills in the tradition of feminist scholarship and will enable them to apply feminist perspectives to different subfields and issues. The critical reading of the field of gender studies constitutes the core of the course. It enables the student to analyse and expand their understanding of feminist issues and questions of gender that are central to

global and local challenges, as well as processes of change and resistance. This is done through different perspectives that are central to feminist and gender studies traditions, such as postcolonial, decolonial, queer, poststructuralist or materialist feminist traditions.

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. The seminars are mainly student-led and build on group work in which the student focuses 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 course paper. The course concludes with a final seminar in which the student's course paper is discussed.

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:

- A portfolio: a collection of individual and group work that the student gathers during the course. The content can vary but will consist of assignments such as seminar assignments; writing assignments; documentation of readings; different forms of presentation of research and analysis (podcasts, posters, etcetera).
- A course paper based on course literature and literature selected by the student.

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 grades awarded are A, B, C, D, E or Fail. The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The 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 overall course grade is based on the following balance: portfolio (5 credits) and the course paper (10 credits). The portfolio is exempt from the grading scale above. The grade awarded for this component is 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 student's grade on the course will be determined based on the result of the course paper.

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 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, 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*, *SIMP24: Critical Feminist Perspectives in Social Theory, 15 credits*, or *SIMP26: Critical Feminist Perspectives in Social Theory, 15 credits*.