

Soc 138: Sociology of Gender
Summer 2012

Lectures: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 1pm to 2:15pm
Classroom: 6116 William H. Sewell Social Sciences building
Course Website: <https://learnuw.wisc.edu>

Instructor: Pilar Gonalons-Pons
Office: 2452 William H. Sewell Social Sciences Building
Office hours: Wednesday 2:30-4:00pm or by appointment
e-mail: gonalonspons@wisc.edu

This course offers an introduction to sociology of gender that studies the social construction of gender in different locations and aspects of society. We will learn how to observe, examine, analyze and theorize gender in our daily experiences and interactions, cultural beliefs and social institutions. We will take an intersectional and global approach to explore the articulation of gender with other lines of difference and inequality, such as race, ethnicity, or class. Our readings will bridge interdisciplinary domains of gender, women studies and feminist theory. We will discuss topics such as marriage, dating, parenthood, employment, family, love, culture, economy, and much more. The major goal is to recognize the social constructed nature of gender and identify the mechanisms and processes that shape and reproduce gender and how it is experienced at the individual and collective level.

As a summer session class the seminar is intensive and you are expected to keep up with the material of the class. We will read a maximum of 30 pages every day. In class I will first shortly introduce the topic and summarize the main points from the readings. We will then move on to discussion and group activities. You should always be ready to actively participate in class. The best way to learn and understand the readings is by interrogating them and discussing in class. By means of readings, discussion and assignments you will learn a range of topics, how to critically analyze them and elaborate your own evaluation. Overall, this class will provide you with the basic knowledge and skills to incorporate gender as an important category of analysis in your future projects.

Classroom rules: electronic devices (computers, cell phones, etc) are not allowed in class because they obstruct productive discussion. You won't need to take notes; I will post all the materials in class.

Academic misconduct: I will follow the university policies on academic misconduct (including but not limited to: plagiarism, cheating, etc.) Complete information can be found at www.wisc.edu/students/saja/misconduct/academic_misconduct.html

Course requirements:

1. Attendance and participation (40 Points)

I will take attendance every day. You can miss three classes without your grade being affected. If you miss more classes without a satisfactory explanation your grade will drop significantly (i.e. a full letter grade every two-additional absences). In addition to attendance, you are required to actively participate in class.

2. Reading reactions (42 Points)

You need to do the assigned readings before each class. This will guarantee that our discussions are productive and engaging. Additionally, you will need to hand in reading reactions before each class. These should include on-paragraph where you critically engage the readings (i.e. discuss a certain topic or concept about the readings) and two or more questions for discussion. The reading reactions are not summaries, they are meant to get you in the habit of interrogating the readings.

The reading reactions are DUE at 10am before each class, you should POST them on the corresponding discussion board at learn@UW. Late reading reactions will not be accepted. You will need to hand in 14 reading reactions to obtain full points, two each week.

3. One analytic paper (60 Points)

You need to write a 12-15 pages (double spaced) research paper. During the first two weeks of the class you should overview the syllabus and choose one topic that you find interesting. You should communicate the instructor the topic of your choice and discuss with her how to develop your research paper. You will then need to do some independent research on that topic and write a clear and compelling paper. The instructor will provide guidelines on how to write a research paper and will also provide feedback on drafts.

4. Eight in-class quizzes (48 Points)

You will take a short quiz (about 15 minutes) the last day of each week. These tests will consist of multiple-choice and short-answer questions. Tests will cover content from the readings and/or class. These quizzes aim to make sure you understand main concepts, arguments, topics, they do not intent you to memorize. Doing the reading, attending and participating in class should be enough to successfully pass these quizzes.

5. Group activity (10 Points)

The last day of class you will present the results form a group activity that consists of an “Analytical Observation”. TBA

6. Bonus points

Throught the course, you will be able to get bonus points by completing complementary assignments that will be proposed.

Grades:	A	186-200	AB	185-174	B	173-162	BC	161-150
	C	149-135	D	134-120	F	below 120		

Required books

R.W. Connell (2009) Gender. Polity.

C. J. Pascoe (2007) Dude you're a fag. University of California Press.

You can buy the books at Room of One's Own (located downtown, at 307 W Johnson St. - <http://www.roomofonesown.com/>). I strongly recommend buying the books in this establishment, so that we support local stores and the wide variety of community activities and services offered there. You can also get these books on reserve at College Library.

Additional readings are posted online on the course website at learn@UW. There is also a course package available at the Social Sciences Copy Center.

CALENDAR OF READINGS

WEEK 1 - Introduction

- Mon 6/18 Syllabus and course introduction
- Tue 6/19 Key concepts: gender, sex, society, biolog
Connell (2009) Gender (ch 1-2, pp. 1-27)
- Wed 6/20 Sex differences, gendered bodies, doing gender
Connell (2009) Gender (ch 4) (pp. 50-71)
Fausto-Sterling "The Five Sexes" (pp.1-6)
- Thu 6/21 Doing Gender
Messner "Barbie Girls vs. Sea Monsters" (pp. 767-779)
Trautner "Doing Gender and Doing Class" (pp. 776-785)

WEEK 2 - Theory and intersectionality

- Mon 6/25 Feminism and Gender theory
Connell (2009) Gender (ch 3, pp. 31-49)
hooks "Feminism: A Movement to End Sexist Oppression" (pp.17-31)
- Tue 6/26 Gender relations and Intersectionality
Connell (2009) Gender (ch 5, pp. 72-94)
McIntosh "White Privilege" (pp. 1-5)
- Wed 6/27 Intersectionality (continued)
Lopez and Hasso "Frontlines and Borders" (pp. 253-276)
Espiritu "We don't sleep around like white girls do" (pp. 193-206)
- Thu 6/28 Sexuality
Tolman "Doing desire" (pp. 348-358)
Rupp "Loving women in the modern world " (pp. 389-398)
Messner "Becoming 100% Straight" (pp. 400-404)

WEEK 3 - Family and love

- Mon 7/2 Heterosexual Normativity
Rich (1980) Compulsory Heterosexuality (pp. 1-20)
Schilt and Westbrook (2009) Gender Normals, Transgender People and the
Social Maintenance of Heterosexuality (pp. 446-458)
- Tue 7/3 Family
Smith "The Standard North American Family" (pp. 50-65)
Essig and Owens "What if Marriage Is Bad for Us?" (pp. 1-3)
- Wed 7/4 Marriage
Martin & Kazyak "Hetero-Romantic Love" (pp. 321-332)
Thai "Clashing Dreams"
- Thu 7/5 Motherhood
Edin and Kefalas (2008) Promises I can keep. (pp.1-26)
Hondagneu Sotelo and Avila "I'm here but I'm there" (pp.554-567)

WEEK 4 - Masculinities in Schools

- Mon 7/9 Pascoe (2007) Dude You're a Fag. (ch 1)
- Tue 7/10 Continued, Pascoe (ch 2-3)
- Wed 7/11 Continued, Pascoe (ch 4-5)
- Thu 7/12 Continued, Pascoe (ch 6-7)

WEEK 5 - Economy and Work

- Mon 7/16 What economy?
Folbre (2001) The Invisible Heart (pp. 1-25)
- Tue 7/17 Labor market inequality
Crittenden "The Mommy Tax" (pp. 601-610)
Bose and Bridges "Sex Segregation in the U.S. Labor Force" (pp. 233-242)
- Wed 7/18 Housework and carework
Hochschild "the second shift" (pp. 1-11)
Gerson "The Shaping of a new generation" (pp. 1-12)
- Thu 7/19 Paid housework, race and migration
Bridgt Anderson, "Just another job. The commodification of domestic labor"
Collins "Like one of the family" (pp. 3-18)

WEEK 6 - State and citizenship

- Mon 7/23 Gender on the large scale
Connell, ch 7 from "Gender" (pp. 115-134)
- Tue 7/24 Welfare, women and motherhood
Collins "The specter of slavery"
Mink "The lady and the tramp" (pp. 538-543)
- Wed 7/25 Gendered citizenship
Yuval-Davis "Gender and Nation" (pp. 26-39)
Enloe, "Nationalism and Masculinity" (pp. 42-65)
- Thu 7/26 Migration and membership boundaries
Hondagneu-Sotelo, "Maid in LA" (pp. 269-287)
Brennan "Selling Sex for Visas" (pp.16)

WEEK 7 - Bodies, representation and violence

- Mon 7/30 Sexualization and media
hooks (1997[1992]) Selling Hot Pussy. (pp. 113-128)
Wolf, "The beauty Myth" (pp. 1-20)
- Tue 7/31 Gender violence
Martin and Hummer. "Fraternities and Rape on Campus." (pp. 471-481)
Nagel. "Sex and War: Fighting Men, Comfort Women, and the Militar Sexual Complex" (pp. 494-506)
- Wed 8/1 Gender and medicine
Ross, "The Color of Choice: White Supremacy and Reproductive Justice,"
Gimlin. "Cosmetic Surgery: Paying for Your Beauty." (pp. 140-153)
- Thu 8/2 Movie - No readings

WEEK 8 - Globalization and Politics

- Mon 8/6 Gender and Globalization
Parreñas "Patriarchy and Neoliberalism in the Globalization of Care" (pp. 40-61)
Enloe. "The Globe Trotting Sneaker." (pp. 512-516)
Ehrich and Hochschild "Intro to Global Woman"
- Tue 8/7 Politics
Connell Ch. 8 (pp.134-152)
- Wed 8/8 Politics continued
Taylor et al. "The women's movement: persistence through transformation" (pp. 556-572)
Stewart. "Transform the World." (pp.1-2)
- Thu 8/9 Wrap up – group presentation **FINAL PAPER DUE**