

# Gender Studies: Feminist Theories

UMEÅ UNIVERSITY  
Umeå Centre for Gender Studies

## **Welcome to the course**

### **Gender Studies: Feminist Theories**

In this document, you will find some information about Umeå Centre for Gender Studies (UCGS), schedule and course literature.

#### **Teachers:**

Johanna Lauri [johanna.lauri@umu.se](mailto:johanna.lauri@umu.se) (course coordinator)

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#### **Student office:**

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**Webpage:** <http://www.ucgs.umu.se/student/>

# Schedule

*In order to pass the course students must complete one written individual assignment and attend and take active part in all seminars.*

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## Introduction

**Introducing the course (JL):** Monday 28<sup>th</sup> of August

**Canvas**

*Literature:*

Norlander, Kerstin (2013) "Empathetic reading. The art of reading a text in its own terms."  
*Gender Studies Education and Pedagogy* (ed.) Anna Lundberg & Ann Werner, Gothenburg:  
Swedish Secretariat for Gender Research pp. 10-13.

Lykke, Nina (2010) *Feminist Studies* pp.1-45.

**Assignment:** *Film recording. Presentation of yourself, to be uploaded the 1<sup>st</sup> of September.*

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## Module 1: Power and subjectivity

**Lecture:** Post structural feminism (MC)

**Canvas**

**Seminar:** Friday 1<sup>nd</sup> of September: 13.15-15.00 (MC)

**Zoom**

*Literature:*

Foucault, M. (1982). The subject and power. *Critical inquiry*, 8(4), 777-795

MacKinnon, C. A. (1982). Feminism, Marxism, method, and the state: An agenda for theory. *Signs: Journal of women in culture and society*, 7(3), 515-544

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy. (2008). Feminist Perspectives on Power. Retrieved from: <https://stanford.library.sydney.edu.au/archives/fall2008/entries/feminist-power/#radi>

Butler, Judith (1991) "Subjects of sex/gender/desire" in *Gender trouble. Feminism and the subversion of identity*. London/New York: Routledge. pp.1-34 (Available as pdf on-line) (33 pages)

*Additional reading:*

Mansfield, N. (2000). *Subjectivity*. [Elektronisk resurs]: *theories of the self from Freud to Haraway*. St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin. Chapter 4 "Foucault: The subject and power" (51-65).

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## Module 2: Feminism and Sexuality

### Lecture (LB)

Seminar: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of September 13.15 – 15.00 (LB)

Canvas

Zoom

*Literature:*

MacKinnon, Catharine "Sexuality" in: Nicholson, Linda ed. (1997) *The Second Wave. A Reader in Feminist Theory*, Routledge: New York and London. pp. 158-180.

Mottier, Véronique, (2008), "Virgins or whores? Feminist critique of sexuality", in: *Sexuality. A Very Short Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press. pp. 49-74.

Rubin, Gayle (1984) "Thinking sex" in: Abelove, Henry, Michèle Aina Barale, David M. Halperin (ed), *The lesbian and gay studies reader*. London & New York: Routledge, pp. 3 – 44.

Vuolajärvi, Niina (2019), Governing in the Name of Caring – the Nordic Model and its Punitive Consequences for Migrants Who Sell Sex, *Sexuality Research and Social Policy*, 16, 151-165

### Module 3: Postcolonial feminism and Intersectionality

**Lecture:** Postcolonial feminism (LB)

**Canvas**

**Seminar:** Veils - Postcolonial feminism in practice (LB), Friday 15th  
September 13.15 – 15.00

**Zoom**

*Literature:*

Abu-Lughod, Lila (2003) "Do Muslim women really need saving? Anthropological reflections on Cultural relativism and its Others." *American Anthropologist*, Vol. 104, No. 3. pp. 783-790.

Lewis Reina & Sara Mills (2003), "Introduction" (pp 1-24), *Feminist Postcolonial Theory. A Reader*. New York: Routledge.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/10.3366/j.ctvxcr9q0.4.pdf?refreqid=excelsior%3Ad284502b7b9d971d2f81406458cc69b3>

Mohanty, Chandra, "Under Western Eyes. Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses", *Feminist Review*, Volume: 30 issue: 1, page(s): 61-88.

Rajan, Rajasweri Sunder & You-me Park (2008), Postcolonial Feminism/Postcolonialism and Feminism, in: Schwarz, Henry & Sangeeta Ray, *A Companion to Postcolonial Studies*, page(s): 53 – 70

**Lecture:** What is intersectionality? (MC)

**Canvas**

*Literature:*

Carbin, Maria & Edenheim, Sara (2013) "The intersectional turn in feminist theory. A dream of a common language?" *European Journal of Women Studies*. Vol. 20, No. 3. pp. 233-248.

Crenshaw, Kimberlé Williams. (1995) "Mapping the margins: Intersectionality, identity politics, and violence against women of colour" *Stanford Law review*. Vol. 43, pp. 1241-1299.

Stauneas, Dorthe, "Where have all the subjects gone? Bringing Together the Concepts of Intersectionality and Subjectification, Nora – Nordic Journal of Feminism and Gender Research 11 (2): 101 – 110.

**Question time regarding the examination: 18<sup>rd</sup> of September (LB) 13.00 – 13.15 Zoom**

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**EXAMINATION TO BE HANDED IN ON WEDNESDAY THE 29<sup>th</sup> OF  
SEPTEMBER, 23.59 the latest.**