

Course Type	Course Code	Name of Course	L	T	P	Credit
DE	NHSD521	GENDER STUDIES	3	0	0	3

Course Objective

This course provides an introduction to Gender Studies, an interdisciplinary field which questions the meaning of sex and gender in society and analyses the role of gender across disciplines. The primary objective of this course is to familiarize students with key issues, questions and debates in Women's and Gender Studies like androcentrism and biological essentialism.

It aims to provide students with a critical perspective to analyse the role of gendered power structures in various spheres like education, law, workplace and family.

It aims to inculcate an inclusive approach to the empowerment of women as a social issue rather than a women's issue which requires participation by all sections of society.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will develop:

- Recognize and discuss issues related to gender roles & gender performance;
- Demonstrate understanding of critical and theoretical debates surrounding gender;
- Demonstrate awareness of cultural and intercultural concerns relating to gender

Unit No.	Topics to be Covered	Lecture Hours (42)	Learning Outcome
1	Social Constructions of Gender In this module, the social constructionist approach to understanding sex and gender, cultural constructions of gender and the performative nature of gender will be examined.	8	The role of social constructions of gender in abetting oppression of women through demands for dowry, female foeticide and infanticide, victim-blaming survivors of violence against women and ways to counteract them will be discussed.
2	Postcolonial/Transnational Feminisms: This module will introduce students to postcolonial and third world feminisms as a counternarrative to the white middle-class first world Western feminism.	8	A postcolonial approach towards understanding how different kinds of feminisms relevant in different social and cultural contexts developed and impacted the fight against sex, gender and race based violence will be explored.
3	Representation of Femininity/ Masculinity in Literature/ Popular Culture: This module will examine the politics of representation of women in literature and culture.	6	The role of social and cultural constructions of gender in shaping the representation of gender in literature and popular culture and the aesthetics of representation influencing social and cultural constructions of gender as a two-way interaction will be examined.
4	Masculinity Studies: This module will introduce students to the emerging field of masculinity studies which seeks to examine the role of men in perpetuating and/ or countering the oppression of women.	6	The representation of stereotypical masculinity in popular culture and its restrictive nature which traps men within strictly defined roles prescribed for them, ways of countering such social and cultural values and encouraging men to be active participants in the struggle against sex and gender-based oppression of all kinds will be explored.

5	Standpoint theory: This module will provide students with an introduction to the critical insights of standpoint theory and its significance in research.	3	Will be apply to examine a literary text from this theoretical perspective.
6	Gender/ Racism: This module will provide students with an overview of the intersections of race and gender in contemporary feminist theory.	6	This module will help students comprehend key concepts about black feminism and its role in challenging the white, middle class first world feminism and empowering women across different races and ethnicities.
7	Transgender Rights: This module will sensitise students to the discriminatory socio-economic conditions which marginalise transgender persons and eradicate the stigma associated with them. Students will gain a greater understanding of trans gender people as an oppressed and marginalised group and activism to end the violence against them.	3	Promoting greater understanding and awareness about the stigma and discrimination faced by transgender people and various forms of activism to counter them are also an important component of the course.
8	Case Study/ Assignment	2	Elaborate discussions
	Total Lecture Hours	42	

Text Books:

1. Beauvoir, Simone de. *The Second Sex*. 1949.
2. Butler, Judith. *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*. New York: Routledge, 1990.
3. Gilbert, Sandra M., and Susan Gubar. *The Madwoman in the Attic: The Woman Writer and the Nineteenth-Century Literary Imagination*. New Haven; London: Yale UP, 1979.
4. Moi, Toril. *Sexual/Textual Politics: Feminist Literary Theory*. New Accents. Second edition. ed. London: Routledge, 1985.
5. Brittan, Arthur. *Masculinity and Power* Oxford: Blackwell 1989.
6. Brod, Harry and Kaufman, Michael ed. *Theorizing Masculinities* London: Sage Publications 1994.
7. Whitehead, Stephen M and Barrett, Frank J, (eds.), *The Masculinities Reader*, Cambridge: Polity Press, 2001.
8. Harding, Sandra G. *The Feminist Standpoint Theory Reader: Intellectual and Political Controversies*. New York: Routledge, 2004.