

Women's Studies

Course Overview

Women's Studies is a course that is designed to help you understand the concepts of gender and gender roles, and the social discrimination that exists on the basis of gender. You will learn about the history of feminism and feminist theories. You will also learn about the social and political movements that raised awareness about equal rights for women and other marginalized groups. You will explore the role of media in reinforcing gender stereotypes. This course also looks at the difference in the Western and non-Western ideas of gender, feminism, and activism. The course ends with a discussion on the possible challenges in the path toward creating an equal society.

Course Goals

By the end of this course, you will:

- Compare current experiences around gender to what people experienced in the past.
- Produce a report that shows how organizations help victims of gender oppression.
- Analyze how laws and legal decisions have benefited women's rights.
- Summarize opposing views to laws that have secured rights for women and other vulnerable groups.

General Skills

To participate in this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Complete basic operations with word-processing software, such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs.
- Perform online research using various search engines and library databases.
- Communicate through email and discussion boards.

For a complete list of general skills that are required for participation in online courses, refer to the Prerequisites section of the Plato Student Orientation document, found at the beginning of this course.

Credit Value

Women's Studies is a 0.5-credit course.

Course Materials

- notebook
- computer with Internet connection and speakers or headphones
- Microsoft Word or equivalent
- Microsoft PowerPoint or equivalent
- Microsoft Paint or equivalent

Course Pacing Guide

This course description and pacing guide is intended to help you stay on schedule with your work. Note that your course teacher may modify the schedule to meet the specific needs of your class.

Course Components and Grading Rubric

The table gives a breakdown of the weight for each component in the course. Weight represents the percentage of the total score coming from each activity.

Course Components	Count	Weight
Module. <i>Each module in this course contains an interactive tutorial and an associated mastery test. Tutorials may include one or more Lesson Activities that constitute tasks associated with the tutorial. The module score comes from a student's score on the mastery test.</i>	12	30%
Discussion. <i>Online discussions allow for higher-order thinking about terminal objectives. An online threaded discussion mirrors the educational experience of a classroom discussion. Teachers can initiate a discussion by asking a complex, open-ended question. Students can engage in the discussion by responding both to the question and to the thoughts of others. Each unit in a course has one predefined discussion topic; teachers may add more discussion topics.</i>	3	25%
Course Activity. <i>Course Activities are similar to Unit Activities in scope but may be found at any point in the course, either to prepare the student for new learning or to act as a performance-based activity required for a learning objective. Like Unit Activities, Course Activities include simple rubrics, and sample answers are available for teachers. Course Activities are teacher graded.</i>	3	25%
End of Semester Test. <i>The end of semester test (EOS) appears at the end of the course. Students are delivered a few items from every tutorial in the course in order to assess the major course objectives.</i>	1	20%
Total	19	100%

*Teachers may manually adjust these weights if desired, per district grading requirements.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
1 day: 1	Syllabus and Plato Student Orientation <i>Review the Plato Student Orientation and Course Syllabus at the beginning of this course.</i>	Course Orientation
6 days: 2-7	Introduction to Women's Studies <i>Describe the importance of the study of gender and gender roles in raising social consciousness and creating a just and equal society.</i>	Lesson

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
6 days: 8-13	History of Feminism and Feminist Theories <i>Trace the history of feminism and analyze various feminist theories.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 14-19	Ideas About Gender <i>Analyze different ideas about gender roles.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 20-24	Intersectionality <i>Describe how social identities can overlap and explain how certain individuals can face higher levels of discrimination due to this overlap.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 25-28	Course Activity 1 <i>Interview a senior woman in your family or neighborhood, discuss how gender influenced her life and experiences, and relate the experiences to historical information.</i>	Course Activity
1 day: 29	Course Discussion 1	Course Discussion
1 day: 30	Para Jumble	Game
6 days: 31-36	Social and Political Movements <i>Describe the social and political movements that have played a role in creating awareness about securing rights for women and other vulnerable groups.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 37-42	Social Interactions <i>Describe the significance of socialization and identify prejudices, biases, and stereotypes that exist in society.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 43-47	Media Literacy <i>Describe the role of media in creating stereotypes about gender roles and identities.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 48-53	Different Forms of Oppression <i>Describe various forms of oppression and identify methods to help victims of oppression.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 54-57	Course Activity 2 <i>Identify organizations in your area that help victims of violence and abuse and write a brief report on one of them.</i>	Course Activity

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
1 day: 58	Course Discussion 2	Course Discussion
1 day: 59	Space Jumble	Game
5 days: 60-64	Social and Family Structures <i>Analyze changing social and family structures, and identify how these structures affect family life, work, and society.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 65-70	International Activism and Gender <i>Compare Western and non-Western ideas of gender, gender roles, and feminism.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 71-76	Legal Rights <i>Describe US laws related to women's rights and transgender people.</i>	Lesson
6 days: 77-82	An Equal Society <i>Analyze the challenges of achieving equality for all citizens.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 83-86	Course Activity 3 <i>Identify two or three laws or legal decisions that have had the most impact on furthering women's rights. Explain how these laws have helped safeguard women's rights. Describe the opposing views to any of the laws.</i>	Course Activity
1 day: 87	Course Discussion 3	Course Discussion
1 day: 88	Thwack-a-Mole	Game
1 day: 89	Course Review	
1 day: 90	End-of-Semester Test	Assessment

Course Map

You will achieve course level objectives by completing each lesson's instruction, assignments, and assessments. For a detailed look at how the materials meet these objectives, review the [course map](#).