

HL3040: Gender and Diversity Studies

AY2020-21, Semester 1

Module coordinator: Doctor Kate Wright; Email: KEWright@ntu.edu.sg

Gender and Diversity Studies explores the intersectional constructions of gendered identity according to a range of discourses that concern sexuality, queer identity, disability, nationality, globalisation and the media. It will consider the ways in which these discourses underpin contemporary debates about diversity. Equally, the module will underline the ways in which an engagement with diversity and intersectionality has enabled current debates about gendered identities, those debates characterized by a focus on subjectivity, difference, marginalization, discrimination and an interrogation of heteronormativity.

Core textbooks (to be purchased by students)

- Patricia Hill Collins and Sirma Bilge, *Intersectionality*, Polity Press, 2019
- Cora Kaplan and David Glover, *Genders*, Routledge, 2nd Ed. 2009

Core reading (to be provided by the lecturer)

- A selection of articles and book chapters that address issues of gender and diversity.
- A selection of short fiction, to be confirmed at the start of the semester.

Assessment overview

- Close-reading essay, 1,500-2,000 (25%)
- Critical review of a journal article/chapter, 1,500-2,000 words (25%)
- Blog project, 2 posts, 600-800 words each (25%)
- Take-home text essay, 1,500-2,000 words (25%)

Weekly Schedule

Please note that the module coordinator may make minor alterations to the course content, depending upon the availability of the reading material.

Week	Topic	Reading
		<i>Class discussion will focus on passages from the core textbooks and the articles/books listed here. Passages of short fiction will be added to this schedule at the start of semester.</i>
1	Module introduction	
2	The evolution of 'gender'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Genders</i>, Introduction - Delphy, C. 'Re-thinking sex and gender', <i>Women's Studies International Forum</i> 16.1 (1993) - From, Butler, J. <i>Gender Trouble</i> (1990)
3	Feminist foundations and the challenge of diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Intersectionality</i>, Ch. 3 - From, Millett, K. <i>Sexual Politics</i> (1970) - From, hooks, b. <i>Ain't I a Woman? Black Women and Feminism</i> (1981) - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, <i>We Should all be Feminists</i> (2014)

4	Intersectionality: concepts and contexts	<p>- <i>Intersectionality</i>, Ch. 1 and Ch. 2</p> <p>- Crenshaw, K. 'Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory and Antiracist Politics' (1989)</p> <p>- From, Yuval Davis, N. <i>The Politics of Belonging: Intersectional Contestations</i> (2011)</p>
5	Race, citizenship and the nation	<p>- <i>Intersectionality</i>, Ch. 5 and 7</p> <p>- <i>Genders</i>, Ch. 1, subsection: 'Race and femininity in African American writing'</p> <p>- From, Yuval Davis, N. <i>The Politics of Belonging: Intersectional Contestations</i> (2011)</p> <p>- Brah, A. <i>Cartographies of Diaspora</i> (1996)</p>
6	Globalisation and social justice	<p>- <i>Intersectionality</i>, Ch. 4, subsections: 'Intersectionality's global dispersion', 'Intersectionality and human rights', and Ch. 6</p> <p>-From, Hoang, K. <i>Dealing in desire: Asian Ascendancy, Western decline, and the hidden currencies of global sex work</i> (2015)</p> <p>- Anthias, F. 'The material and the symbolic in theorizing social stratification: issues of gender, ethnicity and class', <i>British Journal of Sociology</i> 52:3 (2001)</p> <p>- Lan P-C. Global Cinderellas: 'Sexuality, power and situational practices across borders', in S. Jackson Liu Jieyu and Woo Juhyun (eds) <i>East Asian Sexualities: Gender, Modernity and New Sexual Cultures</i> (2008)</p>
7	Femininities: embodied selfhood and identity	<p>- <i>Genders</i>, Ch.1</p> <p>- McRobbie, A. <i>The Aftermath of Feminism: Gender, Culture and Social Change</i> (2009)</p> <p>- Gill, R. 'Beyond the `Sexualization of Culture' Thesis: An Intersectional Analysis of `Sixpacks', `Midriffs' and `Hot Lesbians' in Advertising', <i>Sexualities</i>, 12:2 (2009)</p> <p>- Ho, H.S. 'Consuming Women in Blackface: Racialized Affect and Transnational Femininity in Japanese Advertising', <i>Japanese Studies</i>, 37:1 (2017)</p>
8	Masculinities: embodied selfhood and identity	<p>- <i>Genders</i>, Ch.2</p> <p>- Connell, R. and J. Messerschmidt, J. Hegemonic masculinity: Rethinking the concept. <i>Gender and Society</i>, 19:6 (2005)</p> <p>- Yeoh, B. and Willis K. 'Constructing masculinities in transnational space: Singapore men on the 'regional beat' in P. Craig et al. <i>Transnational Spaces</i> (2004)</p> <p>- Tan, C.K.K. "Oi, Recruit! Wake Up Your Idea!": Homosexuality and Cultural Citizenship in the Singaporean Military', in <i>Queer Singapore</i> (2012)</p>

9	Disabilities: embodied selfhood and identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - From, <i>Disability Studies</i>, 'Intersections: diverse disability studies', 2011 - Robert McRuer, <i>Crip Theory: Cultural Signs of Queerness and Disability</i>, 2006
10	Queering the subject	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Genders</i>, Ch.3 - From, Sedgwick, E. <i>Tendencies</i> - Obendorf, S. 'Both Contagion and Cure: Queer Politics in the Global City-State', in <i>Queer Singapore</i> (2012) - Semerene, G. 'Mithliyy, mithlak: language and LGBTQ Activism in Lebanon and Palestine', in <i>Queer Asia</i> (2019)
11	Transgenderism and non-binary identities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Halberstam, J. 'Global Female Masculinities', <i>Sexualities</i>, 15:3/4 (2012) - Schilt, K. 'From object to subject, situating transgender lives in sociology', in Messerschmidt et al. <i>Gender Reckonings</i> (2018) - 'Interview with Alana EISSA: Trans Activism in Malaysia and the UK Asylum Process', in <i>Queer Asia</i> (2019)
12	Singapore media culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - From, Berry, C. et al, <i>New Media in Queer Asia</i> (2003) - Zubillaga-Pow, J. 'The Negative Dialectics of Homonationalism, or Singapore English Newspapers and Queer World-Making', in <i>Queer Singapore</i> (2012) - Phillips, R. "'Singaporean by birth, Singaporean by faith": Queer Indians, Internet Technology, and the Reconfiguration of Sexual and National Identity', in <i>Queer Singapore</i> (2012)
13	Module conclusion	