

HQ8010: Introduction to Gender and Diversity
AY2021/22, Semester 1

Module Coordinator: Ms. Grace Lim

Module Overview:

Introduction to Gender and Diversity explores a range of identity discourses, positioned within the field of intersectionality. The module engages with constructions of gendered identity within culture-based categories such as gender roles, non-binary identities, race, nationality, globalization and the media, and the ways in which these categories underpin contemporary debates about diversity. Equally, the module examines how various mediums have enabled current debates about gendered identities. We will consider how these debates are characterized by a focus on subjectivity, performativity, sexuality and an interrogation of heteronormativity.

Core Reading:

The core texts are listed below on the Weekly Schedule. Access to the reading material will be provided by the lecturer at the start of the semester.

Assessment Overview:

Critical engagement portfolio (60%)

- Subsections:

o Close-reading 1; 500 words (20%)

o Close-reading 2; 500 words (20%)

o Op-ed; 500 words (20%)

End-of-term exam (40%)

Module structure:

- 1 3-hour class a week. The class will comprise a lecture and some seminar-style discussion. It is essential that you complete the core reading before a class to participate effectively in discussion.
- The NTUlearn module site will be used as the repository for all module materials, including class slides, readings and all assessment information and guidance.

Weekly Schedule:

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

Wk	Topic	Core Reading	Assessment deadlines
1	Module introduction	N/A	
2	Doing Gender	West, Candace. and Don H. Zimmerman. "Doing gender." <i>Gender and Society</i> , vol. 1, no. 2, June 1987, pp. 125-51. Friedan, Betty. <i>The Feminine Mystique</i> . Norton P, 1963.	

		[Excerpt]	
3	Critical Engagement Portfolio Discussion	Marzano-Lesnevich, Alex. "How Do I Define My Gender if No One is Watching Me?" <i>New York Times</i> , April 2, 2021, https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/02/opinion/transgender-nonbinary-pandemic-transition-.html	
4	Intersectionality: Theory and Practice	Crenshaw, K., "Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory and Antiracist Politics." <i>University of Chicago Legal Forum</i> , Vol. 1989, no. 1, pp. 139-167. [Excerpt] Toni Morrison. <i>The Bluest Eye</i> . Vintage, 1994. [Excerpt]	
5	Femininities and Feminism	<i>Mad Max: Fury Road</i> . Directed by George Miller, 2015.	
6	Hegemonic Masculinities	<i>Mad Max: Fury Road</i> . Directed by George Miller, 2015. Sculos, Bryant. "Who's Afraid of 'Toxic Masculinity'?" <i>Labor and Social Justice</i> , vol. 5 no. 3, 2017, Article 6.	
7	Recess Week	N/A	Friday, 01 Oct 2021, Close Reading 1 due.
8	Queering the Subject	Sedgwick, Eve Kosofsky. "Queer and Now." <i>Tendencies</i> , Duke UP, 1993, pp. 1-20. Obendorf, Simon. "Both Contagion and Cure: Queer Politics in the Global City-State." <i>Queer Singapore: Illiberal Citizenship and Mediated Cultures</i> , Hong Kong UP, 2012. Pp. 97-116. [Excerpt] Tan, Chris K.K. "'Oi, Recruit! Wake Up Your Idea!': Homosexuality and Cultural Citizenship in the Singaporean Military." <i>Queer Singapore: Illiberal Citizenship and Mediated Cultures</i> , Hong Kong UP, 2012, pp. 71-82. [Excerpt]	
9	Transgenderism and	Halberstam, Jack. <i>In a Queer Time and Place</i> :	

	non-binary identities	<p><i>Transgender Bodies, Subcultural Lives</i>. NYU P, 2005. [Excerpt]</p> <p>---. <i>Trans*: A Quick and Quirky Account of Gender Variability</i>. U of California P, 2017. [Excerpt]</p>	
10	Language, citizenship and the nation	<p>Poems:</p> <p>Yap, Arthur. “2 mothers in a h d b”. <i>Writing Singapore: A Historical Anthology of Singapore Literature</i>, pp. 232-33.</p> <p>Leong, Liew Geok. “Forever Singlish.” <i>Writing Singapore: A Historical Anthology of Singapore Literature</i>, pp. 288-289.</p>	
11	Gendered mobility and class	<p>Hoang, Kimberly Kay. “Competing technologies of embodiment: Pan-Asian modernity and third world dependency in Vietnam’s contemporary sex industry.” <i>Gender and Society</i>, vol. 28 no. 4, August 2014, pp. 513-536.</p>	<p>Thursday, 28 Oct 2021, Close-reading 2; and Op-ed due.</p>
12	Social Justice and Online Media	<p>Boyle, Karen. “Silence Breaking.” <i>#MeToo, Weinstein and Feminism</i>, Palgrave, 2019.</p> <p>Hills, Megan C. “Miss Universe contestants unveil protest messages in politically charged pageant.” <i>CNN</i>, 27 May 2021, https://edition.cnn.com/style/article/miss-universe-myanmar-singapore-protest-uruguay/index.html.</p>	
13	Final exam discussion		<p>Please see the NTU database for the HQ8010 exam date, time and location.</p>