

HQ5010: Introduction to Gender and Diversity

Module Convener: Ms. Grace Lim
AY2021/22, Semester 2 Fridays, 1:30 – 4:20 PM
Venue: LT28

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; 700 words (30%)

o Op-ed; 700 words (30%)

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
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	Queering the Subject	Sedgwick, Eve Kosofsky. "Queer and Now." <i>Tendencies</i> , Duke UP, 1993, pp. 1-20. [Excerpt] 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.
6	Transgenderism and non-binary identities	Halberstam, Jack. <i>In a Queer Time and Place: Transgender Bodies, Subcultural Lives</i> . NYU P, 2005. [Excerpt] ---. <i>Trans*: A Quick and Quirky Account of Gender Variability</i> . U of California P, 2017. [Excerpt]
7	Gendered mobility and class	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.
8	Recess Week	N/A
9	Screening	<i>Mad Max: Fury Road</i> . Directed by George Miller, 2015.

10	Dystopias: Challenging or Enforcing Gender and Hierarchy?	<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.
11	Disability and Communities	<i>Mad Max: Fury Road</i> . Directed by George Miller, 2015.
12	Language, citizenship and the nation	Poems: Yap, Arthur. "2 mothers in a h d b". <i>Writing Singapore: A Historical Anthology of Singapore Literature</i> , pp. 232-33. Leong, Liew Geok. "Forever Singlish." <i>Writing Singapore: A Historical Anthology of Singapore Literature</i> , pp. 288-289.
13	Social Justice and Online Media	Boyle, Karen. "Silence Breaking." <i>#MeToo, Weinstein and Feminism</i> , Palgrave, 2019. 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 .
14	Final exam discussion	Please see the NTU database for the HQ5010 exam date, time and location.