

SOCI 4250.900 / SOCI 4250.950: Gender and Society
University of North Texas
Summer 5W2 2018
July 9 through August 10
Online course

Instructor: Jennifer Knudsen
Email: Blackboard messaging service
Office: Sycamore Hall 288U
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to analyze gender in the context of the major social institutions, especially the family, work, religion, politics, and education. We will survey changes in gender roles in the 20th and 21st centuries. We will examine the unequal treatment of women and men in the major social institutions and examine policies that create and perpetuate these differences. We will also describe policy changes that could create more gender equity in society.

Requirements

Prerequisites

In order to take this course, you must have completed SOCI 1510 or an equivalent credit. Check with your academic advisor if you feel unsure about this requirement.

Course Materials

Textbook: Kimmel, Michael. (2012). *The Gendered Society, 5th Edition*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press. ISBN 978-0-19-992746-3.

The textbook can be found at UNT Barnes and Noble Bookstore, at Voertman's in Denton, or on Amazon.com.

Virtual Class "Attendance"

Because this class is conducted online, there is no official attendance requirement. However, weekly online discussion posts are required. Students who do not check Blackboard often ***do not*** do well in this course.

Email for Course Questions, Issues, or Problems

Email related to course questions, issues, or problems must be submitted through ***Blackboard messaging system***. In order to use Blackboard messaging system to email the instructor, log into the course, click on “Messages” in the menu on the left side of the screen, click on “Create Message”, click on “To”, and click on the instructor’s name, and use the right arrow button to move the name over into the “Recipients” box.

Assignments: Quizzes, Discussion Boards, and Essays

Quizzes

You will complete 15 weekly quizzes (3 per week) on Blackboard throughout the semester, worth 20 points each. The quizzes cover the reading material and lectures in the course and consist of objective, multiple-choice questions which test your knowledge of the basic concepts in the course. The questions are open-book and open-note. However, the quizzes are timed (15 minutes) so you will need to have already read and taken notes over the week’s material before you start the quiz. *Quizzes may be completed late for up to half credit until August 10 at 5:00 p.m.*

Discussion Board

You will complete 15 weekly discussion board assignments (3 per week) on Blackboard throughout the semester, worth 20 points each. During this course, you are likely to make discoveries about the gendered structure of society as well as about your gendered self and your place in society. You will share your insights weekly with your classmates on our course discussion board. In addition to course readings, you may also include information from news media or observations that come your way in your daily life. These discussion board assignments consist of two main parts: your Original Discussion Post, and your Discussion Response.

****Each week the discussion prompt will be the same. Every week you will apply the chapter(s) you have to read the questions below in your discussion post. ****

Original Discussion Post: First, discuss gender in American society. 1) What one major insight did you gain about gender in American society from the chapters for this week? 2) How did these insights change the way you think about gender in American society? 3) What else do you want to know about these topics; e.g., what are some examples of things that you are curious about that you think need further research? ****You must write at least 100 words about social insights, *not including in-text citations and references*****

Second, discuss gender in your own life. 1) What one major insight did you gain about gender in your own life from the chapters for this week? 2) How did

these insights change how you think about gender in your life? 3) What else do you want to know about these topics; e.g., what are some examples of things that you are curious about that you think need further research? ****You must write at least 100 words about your personal insights****

Original Discussion Post Rubric (10 points total):

- 4 points – discussion of social insight
- 4 points – discussion of personal insight
- 2 points – grammar, spelling, organization, and use of references

Cite the source of your new knowledge including **in-text citations** and a full reference using APA format. Include material from the lecture and the textbook. You should support what you say by citing in both the social and personal insight sections of your post. *Each week **original discussion posts** are due on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. and **discussion responses** are due Fridays at 5 p.m.*

Discussion Response: After you have posted your Original Discussion Post comments, you will be able to see the posts of other students in the class. You should comment constructively on posts by two of your classmates. Try to choose students to comment on who do not already have a comment from another student. You may confirm their insight with your own insights, disagree with their insights, or you may modify their insights. ****These discussion responses should be at least 50 words each****

Discussion Response Rubric (10 points total):

- 4 points – first response
- 4 points – second response
- 2 points – grammar, spelling, organization, and use of references

Social Policy Analyses

You will complete two (2) Social Policy Analysis papers worth a total of 100 points each, due throughout the semester. (See the schedule at the end of the syllabus for more details.) There are two parts to your Social Policy Analysis paper grade: your original paper (80 points each) and your critique of a classmate's paper (20 points each).

The social policy analysis papers give you an opportunity to explore in more depth one aspect of gender that is discussed in the lecture and textbook. The policy papers will be used to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate the material on gender issues in American society. In addition to the course resources (lecture and textbook), you must cite one additional academic resource that discusses the issue you address. The academic sources may be an academic journal article or an academic book chapter. You may find additional academic literature in the UNT libraries online. ****Topic ideas and a guide to finding academic articles can be found under 'Course Content' on Blackboard****

Once you have submitted your policy paper, you must critique the completed policy paper of another student on the discussion board. Notice that this means you

are required to submit your policy paper in two different formats: using Turnitin under 'Written Assignments' on Blackboard, and on the paper discussion forum.

Social Policy Analysis Paper Outline: Choose one gender issue that you think is of critical importance to American society. First, introduce your issue. Second, discuss three reasons why you think the topic is important (analysis and synthesis) drawing on information in the lectures, including any films, textbook, reader, and one additional academic resource. Third, discuss two changes that you think need to be made in the way American society is responding to this issue (evaluation). Be sure to provide in-text citations for any sources you use, including the textbook and your academic source (journal article or book chapter). You must write at least 750 words.

Social Policy Analysis Paper Rubric (80 points total):

- 5 points – statement of the topic
- 15 points – three reasons why the topic is important
- 20 points – two proposed social changes
- 20 points – use of at least one academic journal article or book chapter
- 20 points – grammar, spelling, and organization

Critique Outline: After you have turned your paper in via Turnitin on Blackboard, copy and paste your own policy paper into the policy paper discussion forum, so that others may critique it. Next choose a student to comment on who does not already have a comment from another student, if possible. Your critique must include your summary and evaluation of two positive contributions of the paper and one suggestion for improvement of the completed paper.

First, state the topic of your classmate's paper. Second, summarize and evaluate two positive contributions you believe your classmate makes to understanding their topic (analysis and synthesis). Third, document one area where you think your classmate's argument can be improved and make a suggestion for improving their analysis in this area (evaluation). Provide **in-text citations** from the lecture and textbook in your critique. You must write at least 200 words.

Critique Rubric (20 points total):

- 5 points – statement of topic
- 10 points – notice two positive contributions
- 5 points – make one suggestion for improvement

Late Work Policy

All solo work, **Quizzes** and **Social Policy Analysis Papers**, in this class, may be turned in late for *half credit*. Half credit means the work will be graded as usual, and then the grade will be cut in half. For example, if a student made a 14 on a quiz, if the quiz is late the student will make a 7 instead. You do not need special permission or to submit an excuse for late work; just do it late and it will be given

half credit. You may complete any *solo work* late up until the last day of the semester, which is **August 10 at 5:00 p.m.**

All work which requires interaction with the rest of the class must be completed by its deadline, and **no** opportunity will be given for extra credit or make-up work once the deadline is passed. This includes **Original Discussion Posts, Discussion Responses, and Analysis Paper Critiques**. This is simply because logically, it is impossible for a student to do work which requires interacting with the rest of the class once the rest of the class has already moved on to the next week's assignment. Unfortunately, this type of work cannot be completed after the deadline for even legitimate reasons, including family emergencies, illnesses, etc. If you miss one of these interactive assignments for a university-approved reason, once you get university approval send me a Blackboard message and we will work out some alternative assignment so that your grade does not suffer.

Blackboard sometimes experiences technical difficulties, so I highly recommend that you turn in your work before each deadline so that you have time to fix any problems that come up. In the past, students have believed they turned in a written assignment online, but the assignment never showed up as turned in. Double-check your work to make sure everything you intend to turn in is actually turned in!

A Note on the Class Schedule

The complete class schedule is listed at the end of the syllabus. You will notice that almost all assignments are due by 5:00 p.m. on their due dates, which are all weekdays. If you work a weekday job with regular daytime hours, and you try to wait until the last minute to complete assignments, you will find that it is difficult to complete them on time. However, it is important to note that most assignments due in the class can be completed well ahead of the due date. All readings are available to complete as soon as you receive your book. All PowerPoints and notes are available from the beginning of the semester on. All solo work is available to complete at any time from the beginning of the semester until its deadline. All quizzes are available to be completed for full credit at any time throughout the semester until their deadlines. All policy analysis papers may be turned in at any time for full credit until their deadlines. Only interactive work (such as Original Discussion Posts, Discussion Responses, and Paper Critiques) must be completed within a specific window of time, and those windows always span multiple days and nights. A 9 to 5 weekday job should not be a barrier to completing this coursework.

Grading Synopsis

Assignment	Points	Percentage	Due Date
Quizzes	15 at 20 points each	37.5%	Every Friday
Original Discussion Post	15 at 10 points each	18.75%	Every Wednesday
Discussion Response	15 at 10 points each	18.75%	Every Friday
Policy Analysis Papers	2 at 80 points each	20%	See schedule
Paper Critique	2 at 20 points each	5%	See schedule
Total	800 points	100%	

Course Final Grade Scale

720-800	A
640-719	B
560-639	C
480-559	D
0-479	F

Schedule of Activities and Assignments

The instructor reserves the right to adjust the class schedule as needed. This schedule is tentative only and may change as the class proceeds at its own pace.

Week 1 – Introduction to Social Trends of the 20th Century July 9 through 13

Readings – Chapter 1 (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 1 due by July 13 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 1 Original Discussion Post due by July 11 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 1 Discussion Responses due by July 13 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 1 – Nature vs. Nurture in the Gendered World July 9 through 13

Readings – Chapter 2 (textbook)

Chapter 3 (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 2 due by July 13 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 2 Original Discussion Post due by July 11 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 2 Discussion Responses due by July 13 at 5:00 pm.

Week 1 – Role Theories in the Gendered World of the 20th Century July 9 through 13

Readings – Chapter 4 (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 3 due by July 13 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 3 Original Discussion Post due by July 11 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 3 Discussion Responses due by July 13 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 2 – Social Construction of Gender in the 21st Century July 16 through 20

Readings – Chapter 5 (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 4 due by July 20 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 4 Original Discussion Post due by July 18 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 4 Discussion Responses due by July 20 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 2 – The Gendered Family: Demographic Trends
July 16 through 20

Readings – Chapter 6 (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 5 due by July 20 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 5 Original Discussion Post due by July 18 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 5 Discussion Responses due by July 20 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 2 – The Gendered Family: Family Structure and Roles
July 16 through 20

Readings – Chapter 6, continued (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 6 due by July 20 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 6 Original Discussion Post due by July 18 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 6 Discussion Responses due by July 20 at 5:00 p.m.

Social Policy Analysis Paper 1 due by, Thursday, July 19 at 5:00 p.m.

Paper Critique due by, Saturday, July 21 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 3 – The Gendered Classroom
July 23 through 27

Readings – Chapter 7 (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 7 due by July 27 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 7 Original Discussion Post due by July 25 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 7 Discussion Responses due by July 27 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 3 – Gendered Religion
July 23 through 27

Readings – Chapter 8 (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 8 due by July 27 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 8 Original Discussion Post due by July 25 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 8 Discussion Responses due by July 27 at 5:00 p.m.

**Week 3 – The Gendered World of Work: Changes of the Course of the 20th
July 23 through 27**

Readings – Chapter 9 (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 9 due by July 27 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 9 Original Discussion Post due by July 25 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 9 Discussion Responses due by July 27 at 5:00 p.m.

**Week 4 – The Gendered World of Politics
July 30 through August 3**

Readings – Chapter 10 (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 10 due by August 3 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 10 Original Discussion Post due by August 1 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 10 Discussion Responses August 3 at 5:00 p.m.

**Week 4 – The Gendered Media
July 30 through August 3**

Readings – Chapter 11 (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 11 due by August 3 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 11 Original Discussion Post due by August 1 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 11 Discussion Responses due by August 3 at 5:00 p.m.

**Week 4 – Gendered Intimacies
July 30 through August 3**

Readings – Chapter 12 (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 12 due by August 3 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 12 Original Discussion Post due by August 1 at 5:00 p.m.

Week 12 Discussion Responses due by August 3 at 5:00 p.m.

**Week 5 – The Gendered Body
August 6 through 10**

Readings – Chapter 13 (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 13 due by August 10 at 5:00 p.m.
Week 13 Original Discussion Post due by August 8 at 5:00 p.m.
Week 13 Discussion Responses due by August 10 at 5:00 p.m.

**Week 5 – Gendered Violence
August 6 through 10**

Readings – Chapter 14 (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 14 due by August 10 at 5:00 p.m.
Week 14 Original Discussion Post due by August 8 at 5:00 p.m.
Week 14 Discussion Responses due by August 10 at 5:00 p.m.

**Week 5 – The Degendered Society?
August 6 through 10**

Readings – Epilogue (textbook)

Assignments – Quiz 15 due by August 10 at 5:00 p.m.
Week 15 Original Discussion Post due by August 8 at 5:00 p.m.
Week 15 Discussion Responses due by August 10 at 5:00 p.m.

Social Policy Analysis Paper 2 due by, Tuesday, August 7 at 5:00 p.m.
Paper Critique due by August 10 at 5:00 p.m.

**Final Exam
August 9 through 10**

Assignments – August 10 – all late work due by 5:00 p.m.