



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Gender Studies

# Syllabus

## Gender Studies I

<b>Course Code:</b>	GVGA30
<b>Course Title:</b>	Gender Studies I <i>Genusvetenskap I</i>
<b>Credits:</b>	30
<b>Degree Level:</b>	Undergraduate level
<b>Progressive Specialisation:</b>	First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

**Major Field of Study:**  
GEU (Gender Studies)

### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2017-02-09, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2017 at Karlstad University.

### Prerequisites

General admission requirements

### Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- give an account of the basic issues, perspectives and theories of gender study,
- give examples of how women's and men's circumstances are portrayed in historical and global perspectives, and
- give an account of the importance of adopting an intersectional perspective in gender study contexts.

Competence and skills

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- apply the basic theories and concepts of gender study, and
- independently carry out a minor academic study.

Judgement and approach

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- critically review and discuss theories and concepts in gender studies, and
- critically discuss aspects of gender research and the role of gender studies in society.

### Content

The course comprises four modules:

Module I Gender study theory (7.5 ECTS cr)

Basic concepts and theories in the feminist and gender studies field are presented with an emphasis on

power relations between the sexes. The interplay sex/gender and other power dimensions such as class, ethnicity, sexuality, age and religion are introduced and discussed. Theory of science is discussed primarily from a feminist perspective.

#### **Module II (In)Equality, welfare and globalisation (7.5 ECTS cr)**

The module deals with different ways of organising welfare in various countries and the consequences for women's and men's circumstances and lives over time. Gender issues related to violence and war, for instance, are discussed from a global and postcolonial perspective and based on current cases.

#### **Module III Organisation, resistance and change (7.5 ECTS cr)**

The importance of gender in relation to the structure, culture, leadership and processes of change in the organisation is problematised. The organisation of work is particularly emphasised. Critical perspectives on equality and resistance are introduced and discussed. The module exemplifies how basic gender theory can be used for the purpose of change.

#### **Module IV Body, culture and ideology (7.5 ECTS cr)**

The course deals with cultural constructions and doing gender, body and sexuality in contemporary and historical perspectives. Feminist perspectives on materiality, biology and biological research are discussed. The module problematises the way gender is expressed in and influences language and other forms of expression in everyday practices as well as ideological currents.

#### **Reading List**

See separate document.

#### **Examination**

Assessment of all modules is based on individual take-home exams, presented and discussed in mandatory seminars, and on individual and group hand-in assignments, presented and discussed in mandatory seminars.

#### **Grades**

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course. The grade of Distinction is awarded to students who have earned this grade for at least 22.5 of the 30 ECTS course credits.

#### **Quality Assurance**

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

#### **Course Certificate**

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

#### **Additional information**

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.