



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Gender Studies

Syllabus

Gender studies theory and method

Course Code:	GVGJ13
Course Title:	Gender studies theory and method <i>Genusvetenskaplig teori och metod</i>
Credits:	15
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	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 2026-01-07, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2026 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

General admission requirements.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. describe the interdisciplinary foundations of gender studies and account for the history of the field,
2. give an account of relevant theories and methods in gender studies,
3. compare and reflect upon different gender studies approaches, and
4. examine and explain range of phenomena, issues, and situations using a norm-critical perspective.

Content

The course covers the basics of gender studies theory and methodology. Among other

things, it introduces intersectional, postcolonial, norm-critical, and queer feminist perspectives. Students gain insight into the history of gender studies as well as feminist theory and knowledge production. The course provides a foundation for methodological awareness, which is further developed in later methodology courses. It offers a basic introduction to the philosophy of science, the different stages of the research process, and methodological challenges associated with gender studies research. The course also highlights the differences between qualitative and quantitative methods, as well as questions related to research ethics.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Learning outcomes 1, 2, and 3 are assessed based on written exams.

Learning outcomes 3 and 4 are assessed based on an written hand-in assignment completed in groups and presented and discussed in a seminar. Submissions for assessment must clearly indicate individual contributions.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

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.