

RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

PSYC 203 Psychology of Women and Gender

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: PSYC 203 Psychology of Women and Gender

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Spring Year: 2020

D. Effective Term: Fall 2020

E. Sponsoring Department: Humanities, Social Sciences, Social Work, and Education

F. Semester Credit Hours: 3

G. Weekly Contact Hours: 3 Lecture: 3
 Laboratory: 0
 Out of class student work per week: 6

H. Prerequisites: PSYC103. Introduction to Psychology

I. Laboratory Fees: None

J. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Divisional Dean at time of approval:

Department Chair: Brandyn Heppard, Brandyn.Heppard@raritanval.edu

Divisional Dean: Patrice Marks, Patrice.Marks@raritanval.edu

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisite: PSYC103 Introduction to Psychology. This course examines major theories and empirical findings in psychological research on gender. Specifically, the nature, psychological consequences, and perpetuation of stereotypes and gender differences will be considered from a feminist perspective. This course will contribute to raising students' awareness on how gender differences manifest themselves in the entirety of women's existences, including childhood, relationships, work, as well as physical and mental well-being. Students will learn to think critically about gender issues as they are considered and depicted in academic and popular media.

III. Statement of Course Need

- A. This course is a standard psychology (social science) elective that students can take to help fulfill liberal arts degree requirements.
- B. No lab component.
- C. This course generally transfers as a Psychology/Liberal Arts program elective.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

- A. Free Elective
- B. This course meets a program option for Liberal Arts, A.A.
- C. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

1. A Feminist Psychology of Women
 - a. Feminism
 - b. Research methods and gender bias
2. Power and privilege
 - a. Stereotypes
 - b. Gender-based prejudice
 - c. Power situations and gendered meaning-making
3. Gender essentialism
 - a. Gendering brains and hormones
 - b. Cognition
 - c. Emotion
 - d. Behavior
4. Beyond the sex/gender binary
 - a. Gender contestation
 - b. Transgender identities
5. Sexuality and Sexualization
6. Relationships
7. Reproduction and mothering
8. Gender-based violence
9. Mental health
10. Social change

VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes

A. General Education Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Explain how gender is constructed, and how gender operates at intrapersonal, interpersonal and structural levels (GE-NJ 1, 5, IL)*
2. Identify social and individual factors affecting women's development and the choices women make (GE-NJ 5)*
3. Describe feminist criticism of traditional research (GE-NJ 5, IL)*
4. Explain why social science methodology is important (GE-NJ 1, 5, IL)*

[* = Embedded critical thinking]

B. Course Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Describe how gender impacts behavior
2. Analyze women's and men's choice in terms of social influences
3. Discuss issues effectively, conveying both understanding and openness toward divergent perspectives
4. Evaluate scholarly research methods and outcomes

C. Assessment Instruments

1. Essay exams
2. Multiple-choice exams
3. Research papers
4. Oral presentations

VII. Grade Determinants

- A. Essay exams
- B. Multiple-choice exams
- C. Research projects
- D. Oral presentations

Given the goals and outcomes described above, the primary formats, modes, and methods for teaching and learning that may be used in the course:

- A. lecture/discussion
- B. small-group work
- C. guest speakers
- D. student oral presentations
- E. student collaboration

VIII. Texts and Materials

- A. suggested textbook
 - Crawford, M. (2017). Transformations: Women, Gender and Psychology, 3th Ed. New York: McGraw-Hill
 - Liss, M., Richmond K., & M. J. Erchull, M. J. (2019). Psychology of Women and Gender. New York: Norton.
 - Open Educational Resources
- B. journals
- C. reviews
- D. film and video

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

IX. Resources

No additional resources required

X. Honors Option: N/A