

Course Outline: Gender Studies

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH | FALL/WINTER 2026-2027

Note for students: This short course outline is provided for planning purposes only. Course information is tentative and subject to change; the final course syllabus will be available by the first day of classes.

Course Code

AP/EN 2010 6.0A (Y)

Course Description

What is gender? Is it something biologically determined or socially constructed? Could it be both? Why is it something we take for granted? And how does sexuality fit in? Does sexuality complicate or support gender? These are some of the questions we will explore by examining the ways the gendered body is mediated by literary texts. Issues of race, ethnicity and belonging will be placed alongside discussions of sexual orientation, motherhood and masculinity. We will consider the possibility of gender resistance through language and identity while bearing in mind the lived, material experience of being gendered. In the second term, we will extend this through considering possible variants, a variety of sexualities in a variety of genders in a variety of nations. Using cultural and literary theory we will consider how gender is written and written upon in a variety of novels, films, poems, and plays.

Course Delivery

Delivery Mode: ONLN. Asynchronous

No synchronous requirements.

Course Materials

Reading List:

Leila Aboulela *The Translator* Grove/Atlantic

Dionne Brand *Land to Light On* McClelland & Stewart

Frank Capra *It's a Wonderful Life* (film. Not available from bookstore)

Angela Carter *The Bloody Chamber* Penguin

J. M. Coetzee *Disgrace* Vintage

Tomson Highway *The Rez Sisters* Fitzhenry & Whiteside

Neil Jordan *The Crying Game* (film. Not available from bookstore)

Ann-Marie Macdonald *Fall On Your Knees* Vintage

Toni Morrison *Beloved* Vintage

Sharon Pollock *Blood Relations* NeWest Press

Shyam Selvadurai *Funny Boy* McClelland & Stewart

Jeanette Winterson *Written On the Body* Vintage

Tentative Grade Breakdown and Deadlines

Assessment	Weight	Mode	Tentative Deadline
Forums	20%	Asynchronous	weekly
First Essay	20%	Submitted online	November 10
Test	15%	Online Take-home	December 5
Second Essay	20%	Submitted Online	March 16
Final Exam	25%	Online Take-home	April 10
	100%		

Additional Information

Category:	A
Historical Requirements:	N/A
Open To:	Year 2, 3 (EN/ENPR/CWR students only)