



EMMANUEL COLLEGE

VAZHICHAL, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A Latin Catholic Institution | Affiliated to the University of Kerala

SEMESTER VI

FIRST DEGREE PROGRAMME IN

BA ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (CBCS System)

Core Course 11: EN 1641 Gender Studies

No: of Credits: 4
90hours]

No of Instructional Hours: 5 [Total:

Aim:

Introduce and problematize gender constructs.

Objectives

1. Explore the historical variables that have contributed towards the social norms of gender and sexuality
2. Understand the significance of making gender an integral concept of social analysis
3. Develop a conceptual understanding of the field of gender studies

Course Outcome

CO 1:

Recognize the patriarchal bias in the formation of history and knowledge.

CO 2:

Analyse the ways in which gender, race, ethnicity class, caste and sexuality construct the social, cultural and biological experience of both men and women in all societies.

CO 3:

Recognize and use the major theoretical frames of analysis in gender studies

CO 4:

Interrogate the social constructions of gender and the limiting of the same in to the male-female binary in its intersections with culture, power, sexualities and nationalities

CO 5:

Examine gender issues in relation to the sustainable goals of development

COURSE OUTLINE

Module I

Introduction to Gender Studies

Gender, Patriarchy- Family- Identities- Essentialism- Difference- Ideology- Intersectionality- Feminisms-Womanism-Dalit Feminism-Islamic Feminism

Suggested Readings

1. bell hooks. —Feminist Politics:Where we Stand|| Feminism is for Everybody: Passionate Politics. London: Pluto, 2000: pp.1-6.

https://excoradfeminisms.files.wordpress.com/2010/03/bell_hooks_feminism_is_for_everybody.pdf

2. Judith Lorber. —The Social Construction of Gender.||

https://ieas.unideb.hu/admin/file_9695.pdf

3. Vijila Chirappad: —Wasteland|| (poem)

<https://feminisminindia.com/2018/01/11/5-dalit-women-poets/>

Module II

Gender and Sexuality

Body-Sexualities-Performativity-Heterosexuality-SexualOrientation-Non-normative Sexualities-Desire-Heteronormativity-Homosexuality-LGBTQI-Queer-Transgender-Pride Parade-Posthuman Orientation.

Suggested Readings

1. A. Revathi. The Truth about Me:A Hijra Life Story(Life Narrative)

2. Margaret Atwood: —Helen of Troy Does Countertaps|| Dancing (poem)

<https://apoemaday.tumblr.com/post/181494581744/helen-of-troy-does-countertop-dancing>

3. Kalki Subramaniam: —Breaking Binaries, Establishing Identity|| TEDxDumas

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_j1NzEGMNdo

Module III

Gender and Culture

Culture, Modernity, Consumption, Sexual Economies, Commodity Culture

Suggested Readings

1. Nivedita Menon: —India: Section 377: How Natural is Normal?||

<http://www.sacw.net/SexualityMinorities/nivedita01Jan2004.html>

2. Maya Angelou: —Phenomenal Woman|| (poem)

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/48985/phenomenal-woman>

3. Meena Kandasamy: —Mascar|| (poem)

<https://www.poemhunter.com/poem/mascara-4/>

Module IV

Gender, Power and Human Rights

Power, Sexual Politics, Discourse, Sexual Citizenship, Discrimination, Human Rights, Gender Justice

1. Alice Walker: Meridian (Novel)

2. Mahaswetha Devi: Draupadi (Short Fiction)

3. Mayilamma: Chapter 13. —Protest: The First Year|| (Pages 55 – 59) Jyothibai

Pariyadathu Mayilamma: The Life of a Tribal Eco-warrior. Orient Blackswan, 2018.

Suggested Readings

Butler, Judith. Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity. New York: Routledge, 1990.

Cranny-Francis, Anne. Wendy Waring, Pam Stavropoulos, Joan Kirkby. Gender Studies Terms and Debates. Macmillan, 2017.

Delap, Lucy. Feminisms: A Global History. Penguin, 2020.

Foucault, Michel. History of Sexuality. Penguin Books: 1977

Kate, Millet. Sexual Politics. New York: Doubleday. 1969.

Kumar, A. The History of Doing, New Delhi: Kali for Women, 1998.

Marao, Lori, J. Fifty-One Key Feminist Thinkers. Taylor and Francis, 2016.

Naples, Nancy A. Companion to Women's and Gender Studies. Wiley, 2020.

Roth, Benita. Separate Roads to Feminism. CUP, 2004.

Sullivan, Nikki. A Critical Introduction to Queer Theory. NYU, 2003.

e- resources

<https://kalkisubramaniam.com/>

<https://www.e-ir.info/2017/02/06/online-resources-feminism/>

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(19\)30239-9/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(19)30239-9/fulltext)

<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/feminist-philosophy/>

http://www.gender.cawater-info.net/knowledge_base/rubricator/feminism_e.htm

<https://guides.lib.purdue.edu/c.php?g=352219&p=2375079>

Emmanuel College, Vazhichal
Model Exam. Semester VI
Gender Studies

Time: 3 hours

Max marks: 80

I. Answer the following in a word or sentence

(10X1=10)

1. What is gender?
2. Who coined the term 'womanism'?
3. Explain 'Sexism'?
4. What is LGBTQ?
5. What does the term "Hijra" mean?
6. What is modernity?
7. In which year was Sec 377 introduced?
8. Explain the term 'Mascara'?
9. Name the artist in 'Meridian'
10. What is special about 22 April 2022?

II. Answer any eight in not more than 50 words

(8×2=16)

11. Write a note on Patriarchy.
12. Why were the early feminists angry?
13. Discuss the irony in 'Wasteland'
14. Why did Revathi flee home?
15. How is Helen pictured by Atwood?
16. How does Kalki describe her teenage years?
17. Describe Modernity.
18. What is the theme of Phenomenal Woman?
19. What is Sexual Citizenship?
20. Explain the significance of 'The Wild Child' in 'Meridian'
21. How did Mayilamma become a leader?
22. What is Stonewall Uprising?

III. Answer any six out of the following in 100 words

(6×4=24)

23. How does Kandasamy portray the dilemma of devedasi
24. How does Atwood's poem explore dignity of labour?
25. Write a note on 'Culture'
26. What does Maya Angelou mean by her 'inner mystery'?
27. Write a note on Human Rights
28. How does Dopdi use her body as a vehicle of protest?
29. Write a note on gender justice
30. Enumerate 'Islamic feminism'
31. Autobiographical elements in 'Meridian'

IV. Answer any two of the following in 300 words

(2x15=30)

32. Explain the ideas put forward by Bell Hooks about Feminist Politics
33. Discuss the arguments used by Nivedita Menon to criticise section 377 of Indian Constitution
34. Explain the theme of Motherhood and Martyrdom in the novel "Meridian"
35. Mayilamma is a true tribal Eco-Warrior- Discuss.

(Pages : 3)

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Reg. No. :

Name :

Sixth Semester B.A. Degree Examination, April 2023

First Degree Programme under CBCSS

English Language And Literature

Core Course - XI

EN 1641 : GENDER STUDIES

(2020 Admission)

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 80

- I. Answer **all** questions each in a word or sentences.
1. Who was called the Plachimada Warrior?
2. Name two American feminist writers.
3. Who coined the term "Womanism"?
4. Define queer.
5. Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak translated whose work titled "Breast Stories" into English?
6. Name any two Dalit Women novelists.
7. Define intersectionality in simple terms.
8. Name a famous work by Alice Walker.
9. Who wrote the essay "Can the Subaltern speak"?
10. Who is the mythical archetypal persona based on whom Margaret Atwood wrote, "Helen of Troy Does Countertaps" Dancing.

(10 × 1 = 10 Marks)

P.T.O.

II. Answer any **eight**, each in a short paragraph not exceeding **50** words.

11. Homosexuality.
12. Performativity.
13. What is sexual orientation?
14. Pride parade
15. Consumption
16. Power in the context of Gender Justice
17. Why is everyone drawn to the speaker in "phenomenal woman"?
18. Sex Vs Gender
19. Islamic Feminism
20. The major concerns of Dalit Feminism
21. What is bell hooks idea of Feminism?
22. Sexual politics

(8 × 2 = 16 Marks)

III. Answer any **six**, each in a paragraph not exceeding **100** words.

23. How is 'Phenomenal Woman' breaking the stereotypes of a successful woman?
24. How does "Mascara" characterize the Devadasi?
25. Womanism
26. Essentialism

27. The character of Draupadi
28. How does Nivedita Menon capture the idea of sexuality in her essay?
29. Post human orientation.
30. "Waste land" as a critique of the double standards in a patriarchal society.
31. Ideology.

(6 × 4 = 24 Marks)

IV. Answer any **two** in about **300** words.

32. Why does bell hooks argue that "feminism is for everybody"?
33. How does Margaret Atwood use mythology to examine the concepts of objectifying the female body?
34. Examine the role of Mayilamma in the Plachimada struggle.
35. Examine *Meridian* as a novel that questions the patriarchal norms during the civil rights movement in America.

(2 × 15 = 30 Marks)
