|  |
| --- |
| **General Information** |
| **Course name** | **Anthropology of Gender and Sexuality** | **ECTS Credits** | **4** |
| **Semester** | **winter** |
|  |
| **Aims** |
| Students will be introduced into the anthropological approach to the study of gender and sexuality, as it has been really important for the development of the feminist critical paradigm in cultural studies. They will acquire an overview of the main anthropological tenets regarding this subject, interweaving the study of ground-base data from different social and cultural contexts we find in contemporary ethnographies with the study of classical anthropological texts. The course aims to further the students’ social and cultural analysis skills which are key for the development of their research into cultural studies.  |
| **Contents** |
| 1. Introduction to ‘sex’, ‘gender’, and ‘sexuality’ as categories 2. Brief overview of the development of a feminist anthropology: 1st wave: Including women’s voices in ethnography (Elsie Clews Parsons, Alice Fletcher) 2nd wave: Emergence of sex and gender -Considering women as active agents (Margaret Mead and Phyllis Kaberry) -Questioning androcentric and eurocentric assumptions in anthropology (Michelle Rosaldo and Louis Lamphere) -The sex/gender system and the emergence of a feminist anthropology (Gayle Rubin) -Sherry Ortner and her influence in the further development of anthropology 3rd wave: Breaking dichotomies -Judith Butler, gender performativity and the study of ritual and representation -1990s Gender studies -Queer theory: challenging the normativity of heterosexuality. Emergence of new subjects 3. Introduction to nature, culture and the science: Sherry Ortner, Anne Fausto-Sterling. 4. Contested feminities/Contested masculinities 5. Achieving and subverting a sexual identity: Trans sex/gendering 6. Applying ethnography techniques to the study of gender and sexuality 7. Cross-cultural approaches to gender and sexuality 8. Sex, gender and violence9. De-constructing essential motherhood 10. Visual anthropology and the body |
| **Evaluation** |
| Mark % A93–100 B86–92 C78–85 D72–77 E65–71 FX64–0 Lecture outlines will be provided on the internet site, although they will just present some basic facts discussed during lectures. They must not be perceived as a sole study source. Fragments of ethnographic films will only be available and discussed during the lectures. Therefore, attendance is compulsory. Students are required to develop a short ethnography practice on a subject related to the course content (40% of the final mark; instructions to be provided in class). They also have to submit a written commentary on one of the two suggested novels (40% of the final mark; guidelines to be provided in class). Students are required not only to attend the lessons but to actively participate in them. Attendance and active participation during lectures and especially during seminars will make up 20% of the final mark. Students failing at the end of this assessment process will be expected to repeat the practice and rewrite the commentary (2 retakes). No retakes of the attendance/participation 20%. |
| **Bibliography** |
| Abu-Lughod, Lila. Writing Women’s Worlds. Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1993. Fausto-Sterling, Anne. Sexing the Body: Gender Politics and the Construction of Sexuality. New York. Basic Books, 2000. Lewin, Ellen (ed.). Feminist Anthropology. A Reader. Oxford. Wiley Blackwell, 2005. Lyons, Andrew P, Lyons Harriet D. (eds.). Sexualities in Anthropology: A Reader. Oxford. Wiley-Blackwell, 2011. Mead, Margaret. Coming of Age in Samoa. New York. W. Morrow & Co., 1928. Mohanty, Chandra Talpade. Feminism Without Borders: Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity. Durham: Duke University Press, 2003. Moore, Henrietta L. A Passion for Difference. Essays in Anthropology of Gender. Bloomington and Indianapolis. Indiana University Press, 1994. Pascoe, C. J. Dude, You’re a Fag. Masculinity and Sexuality in High School, (With a New Preface). Berkeley. University of California Press, 2012. Robertson, Jennifer (ed.). Same-sex Cultures and Sexualities: An Anthropological Reader. Blackwell, 2005. Tsing, Anna Lowenhaupt. In the Realm of the Diamond Queen: Marginality in an Out-of-the Way Place. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1993. Compulsory reading materialsOne novel of your choice, between these two: • Eugenide, Geoffrey. Middlesex. A Novel. New York: Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 2002. • Drakulic, Slavenka. As if I’m not There. London: Abacus, 1999. A selection of chapters from the following textbook (specific instructions to be given in class): Lancaster, Roger and di Leonardo Micaela (eds.) The Gender/Sexuality Reader: Culture, History, Political Economy. New York. Routledge: 1997. |