

**TED University**  
**Department of English Language and Literature**  
**ELL 311: Gender Studies**  
**Fall 2021**

**Instructor:** Şule Akdoğan

**Class Time & Place:** Wed 09.00 – 10.00 (DB14)  
Thu 09.00 – 11.00 (DB14)

**Email:** [sule.akdogan@tedu.edu.tr](mailto:sule.akdogan@tedu.edu.tr)

**Office Hours:** Wed: 10.00-11.00; Thu:13.30-15.30 (Please email me for a Zoom Link)

**Course Description:** This course offers an introduction to the key debates and issues in Gender Studies and aims to familiarize the students with the interdisciplinary context of the field. Some of the topics include social construction of gender, stereotypes, performativity, feminist literary criticism, masculinities, queer theory, intersectionality and transnationalism. The course explores these key issues within the context of different outlets such as literary texts, filmic productions and advertisements.

**Learning Outcomes:** Students who complete this course will be able to:

- understand the key issues and participate in the discussion of central debates in the field of Gender Studies
- demonstrate an awareness of contemporary debates related to women’s and gender studies
- perform critical thinking and analysis incorporating terms and perspectives from feminist and gender studies
- demonstrate an openness to learning about differences

**Course Materials:** Reading materials will be available on the course’s **Moodle** page. Students are responsible for checking the Moodle page for updates and announcements before each class.

**Grading:** Your final grade will be determined by the following criteria:

- Written Assignments (30%): The topics of the written assignments will be uploaded to the Moodle.
- Gender Project (project, report and presentation) (30%): Student will choose one of the suggested topics and develop a project, individually or as a group. Tentative list of the projects includes “Gender Studies Virtual Gallery,” “HerStory,” “Translating Gender,” “Blogging Gender,” “Writing (on) Gender” and “Gender Memoir.” The presentation should be kept to 10 minutes (maximum); the format is flexible (PPT, a Word handout, or just an oral delivery).Details of the projects and presentation will be distributed as a separate sheet. (Due: Project Submission- Jan 04; Presentations- Jan 05 & 06)
- Final Essay (30%): Students are required to write an essay of 1500-2000 words on gender and representation of gender referring to the materials analyzed in class. Details of the essay will be distributed as a separate sheet. (Due: Jan 13)
- Participation (10 %): Students are expected to actively participate in every class. Reading the assigned texts and completing the expected tasks are vital for students’ active participation in class discussions. In class activities include group tasks, critical analysis and individual responses to the course content.

**Attendance Policy:** Students are required to attend classes regularly. Failure to attend 30% of classes (12 hours) will result in an FX.

**Make-up and Late Submissions:** There will be no make-ups for any of the assessments (except in cases of unanticipated illness or emergency in which case official documentation will be required). In the case of late submissions (without valid documentation), you will lose ten points (per day) from the overall grade.

**Statement on Academic Integrity:** TED University is committed to the maintenance of the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct. This level of ethical behavior and integrity will be maintained in this course. Participating in a behavior that violates academic integrity, e.g. unauthorized collaboration on homework assignments, plagiarism, multiple submissions of the same assignment and paper, cheating on examinations, fabricating information, helping another person to cheat, having unauthorized advance access to examinations, altering or destroying the work of others, or any other action deemed as giving an unfair academic advantage, will result in disciplinary action. In this course, discrimination and harassment that are based on race, color, religion, creed, ethnicity, ancestry, national origin, sexual orientation, age and disability among other personal characteristics are prohibited.

Plagiarism is a serious matter. It will be penalized according to the university regulations. MLA Style is used for citation. The Turnitin similarity index of your papers must be lower than 25% to qualify for evaluation. See: <https://student.tedu.edu.tr/en/student/principles-of-academic-integrity>

**Student Services Info:** See the last page of syllabus for the links for student services.

### **Tentative Weekly Schedule**

#### Week 1: Introduction

- Course Content & Format
- Key Concepts and Issues in Gender Studies
- “Gender” from *Key Concepts in Gender Studies* by J. Pilcher & I. Whelehan
- Selected poems by Marge Piercy & Rudyard Kipling
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#### Week 2: Gendered Subjects

- “Performative Acts and Gender Constitution: An Essay in Phenomenology and Feminist Theory” by Judith Butler
- “Boys and Girls” by Alice Munro

#### Week 3 Gendered Cultures: Women and Womanhood

- *Thelma and Louise*
- “Representation of Gender Today” by D. Gauntlett
- “*Thelma and Louise: Easy Riders in a Male Genre*” by Carmen Indurain Eraso

#### Week 4: Manhood and Masculinities

- “Masculinities” from *Key Concepts in Gender Studies* by J. Pilcher & I. Whelehan
- In class viewing: clips from *The Mask You Live In*
- In class viewing: *Ma Vie en Rose (My Life in Pink)*

#### Week 5: Manhood and Masculinities

- “A ‘Girlboy’s’ Own Story: Non-Masculine Narrativity in ‘Ma Vie en Rose’” by L. Dawson
- “Paul’s Case: A Study in Temperament” by Willa Cather

Week 6: Everyday Feminism: #Ölmekİstemiyorum

- #WeWillStopFemicide & The Monument Counter
- #MeToo
- “Feminism” from *Key Concepts in Gender Studies* by J. Pilcher & I. Whelehan
- Guest Lecture by Ass. Prof. Duygu Onay-Coker

Week 7: Gender and Space: A Room of Her Own

- from *A Room of One’s Own* by Virginia Woolf
- “To Room Nineteen” by Doris Lessing

Week 8: Gender and Health: Madwoman in the Attic

- **Wednesday: Tutorials for Term Projects (Zoom)**
- “The Yellow Wallpaper”
- “Beyond The Yellow Wallpaper” by Ann Oakley

Week 9: Intersectionality and Gender Studies

- “Intersectionality & “Race/Ethnicity” from *Key Concepts in Gender Studies* by J. Pilcher & I. Whelehan
- Maya Angelou, from *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

Week 10: Queering Gender: Coming Out of the Closet

- *Giovanni’s Room* by James Baldwin
- “Queer Theory” from *Key Concepts in Gender Studies* by J. Pilcher & I. Whelehan
- “Epistemology of the Closet” by Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick

Week 11: Transnationalism and Gender Studies: Nation, Migration and Women

- **Wednesday: Tutorials for Term Projects (Zoom)**
- *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi
- “Introduction Theorizing Transnational Feminist Praxis” by Richa Nagar and Amanda Lock Swarr (from *Critical Transnational Feminist Praxis*)

Week 12: Transnationalism and Gender Studies: Borders and Female Solidarity

- from *Women Who Blow on Knots* by Ece Temelkuran
- “Under Western Eyes” Revisited: Feminist Solidarity through Anticapitalist Struggles” by Chandra Mohanty

Week 13: Transnationalism and Gender Studies: Borders and Female Solidarity

- from *Women Who Blow on Knots* by Ece Temelkuran

Week 14: Presentations

**\*\*\*STUDENT SERVICES INFO:**

### **o Specialized Support and Students with Disabilities**

Students who may require specialized support due to a disability affecting mobility, vision, hearing, learning, mental or physical health should consult with Specialized Support and Disability Coordinator, Asst. Prof. Emrah Keser E-mail: [emrah.keser@tedu.edu.tr](mailto:emrah.keser@tedu.edu.tr), or visit the website at <https://www.tedu.edu.tr/tr/main/engelsiz-tedu>

### **o Student Counseling Centre**

The Student Counseling Centre is a service mandated with providing crisis intervention and supportive listening services to the campus community. A major part of fulfilling that mandate is raising awareness of our service so that students know they are never alone in dealing with problems. For further information and/or questions, you can contact Sıla Deniz Beyarslan, [sdeniz.beyarslan@tedu.edu.tr](mailto:sdeniz.beyarslan@tedu.edu.tr), Office 165, or visit SCC website at <http://csc.tedu.edu.tr/>

### **o TEDU COPeS**

TED University Coronavirus Psychosocial Support Team was established in order to facilitate coping with the psychological, social, familial, academic, and professional difficulties that may arise due to adverse conditions associated with COVID-19 pandemic for TEDU students and employees. TEDU COPeS aims to provide psychosocial support for TED University students and employees during the coronavirus outbreak. To this end, the team aims to provide support at the early stages of a possible crisis, activate and strengthen your coping strategies, and provide information on support resources. For further information and/or questions, visit their website at <https://copes.tedu.edu.tr/>