

Gender Studies Programme

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Description of Courses of PhD in Gender Studies

GDRS5010 Gender Studies: Theory

This course addresses the relation of feminism to women's/gender studies and focuses on contemporary developments in feminist theory. How feminist theorists have understood the significance of sexual difference will be considered and how feminism is articulated with theories of representation, subjectivity, and history will be discussed. In the process, how difference and differences work, conceptually and politically, paying particular attention to the complex relations of gender, racial, and class difference will be attended to. This course therefore provides a comprehensive introduction to the contemporary key approaches, theories and debates of feminist theory and the relationship of theory and practice.

GDRS5020 Gender Studies: Methodology

"Gender" is not only a social category but also a perspective of seeing the world. As a discipline, gender studies draws on a variety of knowledge in humanities and social science and shapes its methodology and methods to challenge existing hegemonic knowledge that is considered being produced scientifically. The purpose of this course is to acquaint students with the intellectual debate between feminist epistemology and scientific knowledge production as well as to equip them with the abilities of critical thinking about their methodologies and conducting research with proper methods. Topics include: 1) critical questioning of the validity of knowledge production, the power relations between the researcher and his or her research subjects, and the representation of the research and the researcher; 2) cautiously examining the influence of globalization on feminist research and the intersectionality among race, class and gender; and 3) innovatively connecting theory with praxis through participatory action and writing. We will begin with a brief introduction to the history and development of feminist research, followed by discussions on feminist methodologies by exemplary researchers. In the final weeks, we will shift our focus to the application of theory and groundbreaking feminist writing through collaboration. To make sure students are capable of conducting their own research using a feminist framework, this course also requests students to conduct a mini study and engage in narrative analyses. After taking this course, students are expected to be familiar with feminist approaches of conducting research and able to reflect on the knowledge production of their own research in the future.

GDRS 5030 - Advanced Topics in Gender Studies I

This seminar aims at engaging students in the most current researches in gender studies, providing them with intellectual stimulation and support for the preparation of the M.Phil./ Ph.D. thesis. The content of the course will cover a wide range of topics including theory of gender analysis, gender and culture, gender and language, etc.

GDRS 5040 - Advanced Topics in Gender Studies II

This seminar aims at engaging students in the most current researches in gender studies, providing them with intellectual stimulation and support for the preparation of the M.Phil./ Ph.D. thesis. The content of the course will cover a wide range of topics including theory of gender analysis, gender and culture, gender and language, etc.

GDRS 5061 - Directed Studies

Students are given supervision in the study of a topic on gender studies or women's studies. Students taking this course should first obtain the teacher's consent and where applicable the Programme Director's approval.

GDRS 8500 - Thesis Research

This course provides necessary guidance to students who are writing their theses. Students are required to meet with their supervisors regularly and let their progress be monitored.