

InterGender, Consortium and Research School in Interdisciplinary Gender Studies
www.Intergender.net

For this course PhD students, but also Master's students are eligible to apply.

Title of the Course:

Trans Studies and Intersectional Activism - Analyzing and Deconstructing the Gender Binary

7,5 + 7,5 credits

Time:

May 25 – 27th, 2016

Location:

Södertörn University, Stockholm, Sweden

Deadline for applications:

March 20, 2016

Applications should be sent to:

InterGender Consortium Coordinator Edyta Just (edyta.just@liu.se)

and cc'ed to the Local InterGender Course Coordinator Ulla Manns (ulla.manns@sh.se).

Maximum number of participants:

20 participants

Organized by:

InterGender, Consortium and Research School in Interdisciplinary Gender Studies

Local InterGender Course Organizer Ulla Manns (ulla.manns@sh.se).

Course coordinators:

Local InterGender Course Coordinator Ulla Manns (ulla.manns@sh.se)

InterGender Consortium Coordinator Edyta Just (edyta.just@liu.se)

InterGender Consortium Director Nina Lykke (nina.lykke@liu.se)

Teachers:

Dean Spade, Associate Professor of Law, Seattle University, US

Lann Hornscheidt, Professor in Gender Studies, Humboldt-University Berlin, Germany

Wibke Straube, Senior Lecturer in Gender Studies, Karlstad University, Sweden.

Course description:

This Intergender course will focus on recent debates in Transgender Studies and intersectional activism on binary gender norms. With regard to transgender studies, it will

focus in particular on questions on how binary gender norms are critically questioned within Transgender Studies as well as how certain binary norms sometimes remain unchallenged or are even reinforced, e.g. thinking of the “wrong-body” narrative and its connection to the Cartesian body-mind split. With regard to antidiscriminatory activism, the focus on gender and binary gender norms is challenged and intersectional perspectives on anti-discriminatory politics are discussed and applied onto transgender studies. The course aims at discussing different transfeminist approaches towards the analysis and deconstruction of the gender binary, its continuous discursive enactment as well as its relation towards intersectional power structures. We will discuss the diverse power-relations between academic knowledge production and intersectional anti-discriminatory, grassroot activism. In relation to research and activism, we will ask the following questions: In how far is your PhD a form of political activism? Do you intervene into academic knowledge production, or for instance into societal norms or elsewhere? In which way are binary (and maybe implicitly white ableist) gender norms present in your research trajectories, how can you as PhD researchers work on challenging the gender norms in your own research projects. In general, how is trans studies connected to anti-sexist, feminist, anti-racist, critical disability-, anti-classist intersectional activism? What forms of research and methods can challenge binary gender norms and white ableist gender norms as well as racist/ableist/classist/ageist hegemonies? We will elaborate these questions and more in relation to your own research projects and support you in thinking through your early-stage projects in order to help with complex research questions, methodology, and writing formats. Additionally, the course will include a section addressing time-planning strategies and work-life balance as well as small-group sessions lead by one of the teachers in which your individual projects will be discussed and commented on.

Course readings:

The course reading will be announced latest February 15st, 2016

Preparation:

- **Course readings:** Upcoming soon, latest February 15th, 2016
- **Paper** (2–5 pages describing research problem related to the participant's PhD thesis project) to be sent to the Local InterGender Course Coordinator Ulla Manns (ulla.manns[at]sh.se) and the InterGender Consortium Coordinator Edyta Just (edyta.just[at]liu.se) **AT THE LATEST TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE COURSE STARTS.** Remember to mark it with your name and the course name.
- All participants are expected to read the paper of their fellow group members before the course and be prepared to offer constructive comments in the group sessions and workshops. The papers will be made available online.

Essay:

- 10-15 pages to be handed in no later than 3 months after the course. One copy should be sent to the teacher, who chaired the group in which the student presented their paper at the course and who is going to evaluate it, and one to the InterGender Consortium Coordinator Edyta Just (edyta.just[at]liu.se). The teacher has 3 months to evaluate the essay.

- The essay should strike a balance between addressing a theme that has been part of course (lectures, discussions, reading material), and be relevant for participant's own research.
- The essay should, moreover, be considered as an exercise in doing a written presentation aimed at an academic readership not familiar with the author's PhD research. The essay should constitute a whole and explain relevant contexts.

Accreditation and examination:

1. 7,5 ECTS credits are given for active participation and a short paper, 2-5 pages (graded pass/fail) for 3 days course
2. 15 ECTS credits are given for active participation plus an essay (graded pass/fail) for 3 days course.
3. The essay should be 10-15 pages. The selected topic shall be related to the course content and readings, and relate to the student's own research area. The essay is to be sent to the teacher as well as to the InterGender Consortium Coordinator no later than 3 months after the final day of the course. The teacher has 3 months to evaluate the essay.

Course Certificate:

In order to request the certificate, please send an e-mail to Edyta Just(edyta.just[at]liu.se).

The Consortium Coordinator issues, upon request, a certificate indicating to how many ECTS credits course participation is considered equal. It is the students' own responsibility to ask their institution about its accreditation rules and get the credit points registered at their respective higher education establishment. InterGender cannot issue a regular InterGender Certificate to MA students but a Certificate of Attendance. The MA students will not be given ECTSs credits for their participation and essays. For MA students, the coordinator can state what the course was about content and format wise, what the requirements were for all in terms of readings and participation and the number of the credits it was equivalent to.

Applications should be written in English and include:

- * name, affiliation, full address, e-mail, phone, fax
- * name and affiliation of PhD supervisor
- * brief CV
- * description of PhD project (1-2 pages)
- * motivation: why do you want to participate in the course (1-2 pages), what is your own personal_political interest in Transgender Studies and how do you situate yourself towards it.
- * please, indicate if you are in the first/middle/last phase of your PhD research or if you are a MA student (the course is targeted at PhDs but if spaces are available exceptions can be made).

Information on Admission:

1. Participants have to be registered as PhD students.
2. PhD students from all disciplines and countries are eligible.
3. Participants will be selected on the basis of an evaluation of their **CV, project description and a letter of motivation.**
4. If there are more applicants who qualify for participation, than there are places, the places will be distributed along the following criteria:

- a) Students registered as PhD students at Partner Units will be prioritized for a maximum 80% of places. When the places are distributed among the Partner Units, a good spread between these units will also be ensured.
- b) Students registered as PhD students in other units at the Partner Higher Education Establishments will be prioritized for 20 % of the places. When the places are distributed among the Partner Higher Education Establishments, a good spread between these establishments will also be ensured. If places remain of the 80 % prioritized for PhD students registered at the Partner Units, these places will instead be prioritized for PhD students registered at the Partner Higher Education Establishments.
- c) If the students according to a) and b) do not fill all the places, remaining places will be open for competition between all eligible and qualifying applicants from any higher education establishment.

5. If there are more eligible and qualified applicants for the a selection process will take place, which, in addition to academic quality and motivation/relevance, will use non-discriminatory selection criteria, which will ensure a spread of nationalities, regions, institutions and disciplines.

6. An additional lot drawing procedure will be used, if several eligible and in all respects equally qualified applicants are competing for the limited number of places in the different categories

7. In case of too many eligible and qualifying applicants, a waiting list will also be organized, and places will be offered to applicants on this list, should some of the selected participants have to cancel.

8. The consortium coordinator selects participants under the auspice of the board, and is required to report to the board how selection is distributed between the consortium partners. If the board finds that the distribution is uneven, the consortium coordinator shall compensate for this in future selections.

InterGender Partners:

1. Higher Education Establishment: **Linköping University**, Partner Units: **Unit of Gender Studies, Department of Thematic Studies**, and **Division of Gender & Medicine**, Coordinating Partner
2. Higher Education Establishment: **Blekinge Institute of Technology**, Partner Unit: **Division of Technoscience Studies**, Full Partner,
3. Higher Education Establishment: **Göteborg University**, Partner Unit: **Gender Studies**, Full Partner,
4. Higher Education Establishment: **University of Helsinki**. Partner Unit: **Gender Studies, Faculty of Arts. Doctoral Programme in Gender, Culture and Society (SKY) and the national Gender Studies Doctoral Programme (GSDP)**, Full Partner
5. Higher Education Establishment: **Humboldt University**, Partner Unit: **Centre of Transdisciplinary Gender Studies**, Full Partner,
6. Higher Education Establishment: **Karlstad University**, Partner Unit: **Centre for Gender Studies**, Full Partner,
7. Higher Education Establishment: **Luleå University of Technology**, Partner Unit: **Gender & Technology**, Full Partner,
8. Higher Education Establishment: **Lund University**, Partner Unit: **Centre for Gender Studies**, Full Partner,

9. **The Norwegian National Research School in Gender Studies**, Full Partner,
10. Higher Education Establishment: **Södertörn University**, Partner Unit: **Gender Studies**, Full Partner,
11. Higher Education Establishment: **Umeå University**, Partner Unit: **Umeå Centre for Gender Studies**, Full Partner,
12. Higher Education Establishment: **Uppsala University**, Partner Unit: **Centre for Gender Research**, Full Partner,
13. Higher Education Establishment: **Utrecht University**, Partner Unit: **Gender Studies / Netherlands' research school of Gender Studies**, Full Partner,
14. Higher Education Establishment: **Örebro University**, Partner Unit: **Centre of Feminist Social Studies**, Full Partner
15. Higher Education Establishment: **Stockholm University**, Partner Unit: **Gender Studies**, Full Partner