

# HUMN 2040 POLITICS OF SEX AND GENDER

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 100882

**Coordinator** Penelope Rossiter ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Penelope Rossiter/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Penelope%20Rossiter/))

**Description** This unit provides an introduction to the study of the contemporary politics of sex and gender. Students study key concepts and learn to apply these concepts in the analysis of current issues. Concepts covered include the meanings of sex, gender and sexuality; biology and social constructionism; gendered bodies; doing gender; equality and difference. The concept of intersectionality - how gender intersects in complex relationships of power with other differences such as ethnicity, sexuality, dis/ability and class - is central to this area of study. The unit explores the meaning and potential for social change for a more equitable society and the obstacles to that. Strategies examined range from the use of targets and quotas, to social and cultural activism. Students have the opportunity to explore areas of personal and scholarly interest.

**School** Humanities & Comm Arts

**Discipline** Gender Specific Studies

**Student Contribution Band** HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your HECS Band contribution amount via the Fees ([https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/fees/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/)) page.

**Level** Undergraduate Level 2 subject

**Equivalent Subjects** LGYB 0160 - Sex Gender and Social Relations

**Restrictions** Successful completion of 40 credit points of study in currently enrolled program.

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Explain and apply key concepts used to analyse the politics of sex and gender
2. Undertake independent research on the politics of sex and gender
3. Assess the quality and relevance of academic research on a specific topic in this area of study
4. Effectively communicate the results of research in written formats

## Subject Content

The meanings of sex, gender and sexualities  
 Biology and social constructionism  
 Gender and representation  
 Doing gender  
 Equality and difference  
 Intersectionality: living and researching multiple differences  
 Gender and politics: equality and representation  
 Equity and diversity: quotas, targets and other institutional strategies  
 Social and cultural activism and the politics of sex and gender

## Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are

regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Item	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/Group Task
Concepts Portfolio	1,000 words	30	N	Individual
Op Ed Piece - Opinion Piece	800 words	30	N	Individual
Essay	2,000 words	40	N	Individual

Teaching Periods