**Sabancı University, Fall 2024  
CULT 341 Myths of Gender  
Ayşecan Terzioğlu, aysecan@sabanciuniv.edu**

**Class: Wednesday, 10.40-13.30, 1089. Discussion session: Friday, 16.40-17.30**

**Office hours: By appointment via e-mail**

There are common myths of gender in the world and in different local cultural contexts, which shape cultural codes and norms in general, regulating political and social institutions and systems as well as the everyday life interactions. What is gender and how are gender, body, health and sexuality related with one another? How have the waves of feminist and LGBTQ+ movements changed the ways in which we conceptualize gender throughout the history? Discussing possible answers for these questions, this course aims to develop a critical awareness of how gender, sex and sexuality have shaped and have been shaped by political, economic, scientific, and cultural practices and discourses in different parts of the world.

**Requirements and Grading:** There will be a brief lecture, followed by class discussions. You are strongly encouraged to ask questions during the lecture and to actively participate in the discussion. It is important that all of us contribute to the creation of a class atmosphere that is supportive and inspiring for all participants.  
**Attendance and Participation (10%)** Attendance is required and active participation in class discussions will play a major role in the success of the course, as well as in your grades. If you do not attend at least 8 weeks of classes, you will automatically fail.  
**Discussion Sessions** will be held through zoom, and they are optional. However, they are recommended, since the students who actively participate in **5 of those sessions** will be given the full points in **Discussion Session Performance.**  More information on discussion sessions will be given the first week of the class.

**Lecture Attendance (10%). Discussion Sessions Performance (20%). Midterm Exam (30%) Final Exam (40%)** Final exam will cover all the semester’s readings and lectures.

**Week 1 (September 25) Introduction**

**Week 2 (October 2): Redefining the Terminology, Debunking the Myths**

“A History of ‘Gender”, Joanne Meyerowitz, *The American Historical Review*, vol. 113: 5, 2008, pg: 1346–1356

*50 Key Concepts in Gender Studies* (Second Edition), Jane Pilcher&Imelda Whelehan, 2007, 57-66 (Gender, Gender Order, Gender Segregation, Gendered), Sage

**Week 3-4 (October 9-16): Myths and Families**

*Families*, Vanessa May, 2024, Chapters 6&7, 99-144, Polity

“Stay-At-Home Fathers And Breadwinning Mothers: Gender, Couple Dynamics, and Social Change”, Noelle Chelsey, *Gender and Society*, 25: 5, 2011, pg: 642–664

*A Table for One: A Critical Reading of Singlehood, Gender and Time*, Kinneret Lahad, 2017, Introduction, pg: 1-25, Manchester University Press

**Week 5 (October 23): Myths and Education**

Gender and Education since 1770: A Social and Cultural History, Jane Martin, Chapter 10: Gender Struggles, 245-273, Palgrave Macmillan

“Women Academics’ Motivation for Higher Education and Empowerment: A Qualitative Case Study in Pakistan”, Ahsan Ur Rehman, Muhammad Ilyas Khan, Uzma Dayan & Syed Munir Ahmad, *Gender and Education*, **2024**, 36 (6), 599-614

**Week 6 (October 30): Myths and Technology**

“Gender and Technology”, Francesca Bray, *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 2007, Vol. 36 2007, pg: 37-53

“Do you Identify as a Gamer? Gender, Race, Sexuality, and Gamer Identity”, Shaw Adrienne, *New Media and Society*, Vol: 14:1, 2012, pg: 28-44

**Week 7 (November 6): Myths at Workplace**

# “Women as Leaders in Male-Dominated Sectors: A Bifocal Analysis of Gendered Organizational Practices”, Wendy O’Brien, Clare Hanlon, Vasso Apostopoulos, *Gender, Work and Organization*, 30 (6), 2023, pg: 1867-1884

# “Amplifying inequalities: Gendered perceptions of work flexibility and the division of household labor during the COVID-19 pandemic”, Rachel Rinaldo, Ian Michael Whalen, *Gender, Work and Organization*, 30 (6), 2023, pg: 1922-1940

**Week 8 (November 13): Myths and Social Movements**

# “Hope with Qualms: A Feminist Analysis of the 2013 Gezi Protests”, Öykü Potuoğlu-Cook, *Feminist Review*, 2015, 109 (1), pg: 196-123

**“**Decolonizing Transnational Feminism: Lessons from the Afghan and Iranian Feminist Uprisings of the Twenty-First Century”, Wazhmah Osman, Narges Bajoghli, *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*, 20 (1), 2024, pg: 1-22

**Week 9 (November 20): Midterm**

**Week 10 (November 27): Myths and Masculinities**

“Decolonizing Care: Hegemonic Masculinity, Caring Masculinities, and the Material Configurations of Care”, Anoop Nayak, *Men and Masculinities*, 26 (2), 2023, pg: 167-187

“The Costs of Grooming: Bodily Scrutiny and White-collar Masculinities in Japan”, Christopher Tso, *Men and Masculinities*, 27 (2), 2024, pg: 107-126

**Week 11 (December 4): Myths and Queers**

# “Queer Encounters: Navigating ‘Gay-Friendly’ Neighbourhoods with (and against) Cultural Maps of Homophobia, Emma Spruce, *Sexualities*, 27(3), 2024, pg: 385-403

# “Queer Asians: Genders and Sexualities Across Borders and Boundaries”, Michelle H.S. Ho.&Evelyn Blackhood, *Sexualities*, 27(1-2), 2024, pg: 68-76

# Week 12 (December 11): Myths and Intimacies

“Exercising in Comfort: Islamicate Culture of Mahremiyet in Everyday Istanbul”, Sertac Sehlikoglu, *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*, 12 (2), 2016, pg: 143-165

*Gendered Fortunes: Divination, Precarity and Affect in Postsecular Turkey*, Zeynep K. Korkman, Chapter 5, “The Joys and Perils of Intimacy”, pg: 139-157, Duke University Press, 2023

**Week 13 (December 18): Myths and Wars**

“Does More Equality for Women Mean Less War? Rethinking Sex and Gender Inequality and Political Violence”**,** Dara Kay Cohen&Sabrina M. Karim, *International Organization*, 76 (2), 2022, pg: 414-44

“A Palestinian Woman’s Writings: Reflections on Hegemony and Resistance”, Noura Kamal, Journal *of Middle East Women's Studies*, 20 (2), 2024, pg: 173-198

**Week 14 (December 25): Myths, Body, Health and Illness**

“The Egg and the Sperm: How Science Constructed a Romance Based on Stereotypical Male-Female Roles” Emily Martin, *Signs*, 1991, 16: 3, pg: 485-501

“What Happens When Gender Accountability is Reduced?: The Experiences of Nonbinary and Genderfluid People During the COVID-19 Pandemic”, Amy L. Stone& Alexandra Gallin-Parisi, Gender *and Society*, 38: 3, 2024, pg: 379-477

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