

**PSYC 40 Course Outline as of Summer 2025****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: PSYC 40 Title: INTRO TO PSYCH OF GENDER

Full Title: Introduction to Psychology of Gender

Last Reviewed: 10/9/2023

Units	Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks		Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly: PSYCH 40

**Catalog Description:**

Students will explore psychological research and theories on gender. This course includes an intersectional critique of biological, psychological, and sociocultural ideas of gender and an exploration of gender continuums from cisgender to transgender. Topics will be explored from multiple perspectives including stereotypes, relationships, violence, sexuality, work, academics, and experiences of and responses to gender oppression.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:****Recommended Preparation:**

Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

**Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: Students will explore psychological research and theories on gender. This course includes an intersectional critique of biological, psychological, and sociocultural ideas of gender and an exploration of gender continuums from cisgender to transgender. Topics will be explored from multiple perspectives including stereotypes, relationships, violence, sexuality, work,

academics, and experiences of and responses to gender oppression. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
	E	Fall 1981	
		Lifelong Learning and Self Development	

<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
	4	Fall 1981	
	4I	Social and Behavioral Science Psychology	

<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
----------------------	--------------	------------	-----------	-----------

<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
---------------------	--------------	------------	-----------	-----------

### **CID:**

CID Descriptor:	SOCI 140	Introduction to Gender
SRJC Equivalent Course(s):		PSYC40 OR SOC15

### **Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Critically evaluate the research on and theories of gender and sex differences in related socio-cultural contexts.
2. Articulate how sociocultural intersections associated with gender impact self-perception, interpersonal relationship, and mental health.
3. Describe gender-oppressive systems and their resulting psychological impacts, and methods of response.

### **Objectives:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Define sex, gender, and sexual orientation.
2. Critically evaluate the history of psychological research and theories on gender.
3. Understand the current research on physiological and psychological sex differences and its limitations.
4. Contrast heteronormative assumptions and stereotypes with broader expressions of gender.
5. Describe the process of gender development and influential factors in gender socialization.
6. Compare the intersection of gender identities with race, social class, and age.
7. Analyze gender differences in social roles and interpersonal relationships.
8. Critically situate mental health diagnosis and treatment of gender in its social-cultural-political context.

9. Identify forms of gender oppression, its physical and psychological consequences, as well as strategies for coping, resistance, resilience, and allyship.

## **Topics and Scope:**

### **I. Researching Sex and Gender**

- A. Defining sex, gender, sexual orientation and limitations of definitions
- B. Problems in focusing on differences vs. focusing on similarities
- C. Discrimination in research

### **II. History of the Study of Sex Differences in Psychology**

- A. Methods of analysis
- B. Origin of the theory of sex differences
- C. Physiological
- D. Psychological
- E. Underlying assumptions and biases
  - 1. Patriarchal social influences
  - 2. White supremacy

### **III. Investigation of Sex Differences**

- A. Physiological
  - 1. Genes
  - 2. Hormones
  - 3. Brain structure
  - 4. Primary sexual characteristics
  - 5. Secondary sexual characteristics
  - 6. Intersex
- B. Psychological
  - 1. Intellectual/cognitive
  - 2. Emotional differences
  - 3. Behavioral
- C. Limitation of sex difference research

### **IV. Beyond the Gender/Sex Binary**

- A. Challenging heteronormative assumptions
- B. Transgender
- C. Sexual diversity

### **V. Gender Development and Socialization**

- A. Theories of gender development
- B. Sources of gender socialization

### **VI. Intersectional Identities**

- A. Race and gender
- B. Social class and gender
- C. Age and gender

### **VII. Social Roles and Interpersonal Relationships**

- A. Interpretation of femininity, masculinity, and androgyny
- B. Self-concept and mental health
- C. Friendships
- D. Romantic relationships
- E. Parenting
- F. Power and leadership
- G. Changes with age
- H. Work
- I. Criminal justice systems

### **VIII. Gender and Mental Health**

- A. Gender and mental health diagnoses
- B. Feminist therapy
- C. Gender identity therapy

**IX. Oppression and its Psychological Impacts**

- A. Forms of gender oppression
- B. Gender-based violence
- C. Physical health impacts
- D. Psychological impacts
- E. Psychological responses to oppression
- F. Coping, resistance, and resilience
- G. Oppression within activist groups
- H. White feminism, white fragility
- I. Allyship

**Assignment:**

1. Weekly reading (approximately 35 pages)
2. Writing assignment(s) (for a total minimum of 1,250 words) such as:
  - A. Self-reflection
  - B. Literature reviews
  - C. Experiential response
  - D. Project
3. Quizzes and exams (2 minimum)
4. Other assignments, such as:
  - A. Presentation
  - B. Group project

**Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Writing assignments

Writing  
30 - 60%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving  
0 - 0%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Quizzes and exams

Exams  
40 - 60%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Other assignments; attendance and participation

Other Category  
0 - 20%

**Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

Delusions of Gender: How Our Minds, Society, and Neurosexism Create Difference. 1st ed. Fine, Cordelia. W. W. Norton & Company. 2011 (classic).  
Psychology of Gender. 6th ed. Helgeson, Vicki. Routledge. 2020.  
Psychology of Women & Gender. 1st ed. Liss, Miriam, Rickmond, Kate, and Erchull, Mindy. W. W. Norton & Company. 2019.  
The Psychology of Sex and Gender. 2nd ed. Bosson, Jennifer, Buckner, Camille, and Vandello, Joseph. Sage Press. 2021.  
Additional websites and books/articles as needed and available in Library Reserve.