Course Description
In this course we will use a sociological lens to examine how gender shapes us and the world around us. Sometimes, when we hear the word “gender” we associate it with women and femininity—this is NOT a course about women. As we will learn, gender is a spectrum and not specific to any type of body. Indeed, gender identities don’t always fit nicely into boxes especially for people who are intersex, transgender, nonbinary, etc.

In order to examine “Gender in Contemporary Society” we will focus on theoretical and conceptual frameworks and explore how they are used in research. As a member of this course, you will learn to think critically about how gender is intertwined with sexuality, the body, race/ethnicity, families, work, and politics. Together, we will explore the world around us by critically analyzing these subjects and how they intersect. Using course materials, this class is a space for the application of concepts, terminology, and theory to current and historical events, political debate, pop culture, and online content.

Achievement-Centered Education (ACE) Student Learning Outcomes
As an ACE class, Gender in Contemporary Society (SOCI/WMNS 200) will facilitate Learning Outcome #9: Exhibit global awareness or knowledge of human diversity through analysis of an issue.

Course Objectives:
After this course, you should be able to…
- Demonstrate understanding of fundamental course theories and concepts as they relate to sex, gender, and sexuality;
- Explain the individual’s relationship with society and processes of gender inequalities;
- Practice analyzing intersections of gender with other social identities such as race, religion, social class, ethnicity, nationality, age, physical ability, and sexual orientation.
- Explore how sex, gender, and sexuality has changed over time and efforts to create social change.
- Challenge or expand your worldview through self-reflection.

Course Requirements
Required Text
The text listed below may be purchased as an e-book or in print per student preference.
The textbook can be purchased online or at the University Bookstore. Students should attempt to purchase the most recent edition of the textbook. By purchasing an older edition of the textbook, students acknowledge there may be differences in course material that comes from the text (i.e., course assignments and exams) and will be held accountable for the most up-to-date information.

Supplemental required readings will be uploaded to Canvas.

**Course Conduct**
- Keep up with the readings each week. You should also consider defining vocabulary words and answer the discussion questions provided in each module—this will help you prepare for the exams. Keeping up with the work at the beginning of the class will help you in avoiding being overwhelmed later on.
- Be honest in your work. Do not cheat. Do not plagiarize. Plagiarism will be taken seriously and your grade will be seriously affected.
- Respect your classmates’ contributions. This is especially important in this class where information is about people’s personal experiences. You can disagree with a perspective that another student or I may present, but you should treat the material, idea, and person with respect.
- Take responsibility for your own learning. If you have a question about an assignment or any course material, ask! Students that alert me to any questions or issues tend to improve their work in the class. Do not be afraid to contact me!

**Communication**
The best way to contact me is via email or Canvas message. I check my email regularly, but not obsessively. I will do my best to respond to emails within 24 hours. You may also use the Canvas messaging service, but proper e-mail etiquette still applies (see below).

To reach you, I will most often use Canvas to send messages and post announcements. Please take a few minutes to review your contact information in both Canvas and MyRed. It is your responsibility to make sure your contact information is current. To ensure your contact information is up to date on Canvas, go to Account > Settings > Edit Settings.

Additionally, turn on your Canvas notifications to ensure you receive information. You have the option to receive updates via text and/or via email. To set these settings on Canvas, go to Account > Notifications.

**E-Mail Etiquette**
When contacting me via e-mail, proper e-mail use proper e-mail etiquette. Your e-mail should include a subject line; name and time of the course; proper greeting (e.g., “dear,” “hello,” “hi,”
Learning professional email practices will benefit and help you reach broader and course specific goals particularly as they pertain to the workplace and developing communication skills in other settings.

**Technology**

We will be using Canvas for the course; the use of Canvas is a central part of this class. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the functions of Canvas, especially for viewing assignment directions and uploading assignments.

You also have the option of downloading the Canvas app. The app can be download the free. Look for the Canvas App in the iTunes or the Google Play store. Search for “Canvas by Instructure” in your app store. Do not try to do your assignments using this app, however. *Coursework should be conducted using a computer and not mobile devices.*

In class we will be using another interactive platform: Padlet (padlet.com/trenton_haltom/200). Please bookmark this link.

### Computer Lab Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adele Hall Learning Commons (Library)</th>
<th>Sociology Computer Lab</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Huskertech open Mon. – Fri., 8:00 – 7:00</td>
<td>Monday - Friday from 8:15 to 4:45</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAC and PC laptops available for check out.</td>
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</table>

**Academic Integrity**

Academic honesty is essential to the existence and integrity of an academic institution. The responsibility for maintaining that integrity is shared by all members of the academic community. The University’s Student Code of Conduct addresses academic dishonesty. Students who commit acts of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary action and are granted due process and the right to appeal any decision.

**Nondiscrimination Policy**

The University of Nebraska does not discriminate based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and/or political affiliation in its programs, activities, or employment.

**Students with Disabilities**

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can discuss options privately. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). If you are eligible for services and register with their office, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so they can be implemented in a timely manner. SSD contact information: 232 Canfield Admin. Bldg.; 402-472-3787.
Audio/Video Recording
To create a classroom environment in which everyone may feel comfortable participating in discussions, no audio or video recordings of class will be made without the prior knowledge and consent of the instructor. Instructors retain intellectual property rights to lectures, and your peers have privacy protections under FERPA – both can be violated when you use these devices without consent or permission. In addition, some of the topics that will be discussed can be considered sensitive or controversial. Therefore, all class meetings are closed to the Press/Media. Students with disabilities for which reasonable accommodation would include making such recordings should work with the Services for Students with Disabilities office and the instructor to make arrangements.

Gender-Neutral Bathrooms
This course affirms people of all gender expressions and gender identities. If you prefer to be called a different name than what is indicated on the class roster, please let me know. Feel free to correct me on your gender pronouns. For the closest all-gender bathrooms on campus please visit http://involved.unl.edu/unl-gender-neutral-bathrooms.

Family-Friendly Practices and Lactation Rooms
If you are a parent or child’s primary guardian, please talk to me about extenuating circumstances that may require that you on occasion bring a (healthy) child to class with you. Information on lactation spaces on campus is available at http://www.unl.edu/chancellor/policymemoranda/20090901-Lactation-Policy

Writing Center
The Writing Center, located in 102 Andrews Hall and satellite locations from 5:00-7:00 pm in Adele Hall, is a free service for all UNL students, faculty, and staff. You can work with an individual writing consultant on any type of writing at any stage in your writing process. For an appointment, call 472-8803 or schedule online.

LGBTQA Resource Center
http://involved.unl.edu/lgbtqa/resources/center.php

Women’s Center
https://womens-center.unl.edu/welcome

Counseling and Psychological Services
UNL offers a variety of options to students to aid them in dealing with stress and adversity. Counseling and Psychological & Services (CAPS) is a multidisciplinary team of psychologists and counselors that works collaboratively with Nebraska students to help them explore their feelings and thoughts and learn helpful ways to improve their mental, psychological and emotional well-being when issues arise. CAPS can be reached by calling 402-472-7450. Big Red Resilience & Well-Being (BRRWB) provides one-on-one well-being coaching to any student who wants to enhance their well-being. BRRWB can be reached by calling 402-472-8770.
Grading Policy
Grades will be returned promptly and within a reasonable time following the due date unless otherwise communicated. Please keep in mind that grading takes time. Also, you may only receive feedback on your assignments if there are specific points or issues that need addressing.

- The final grade is based on points, not percentages, so rounding issues will not be a concern.
- Do not ask me to “bump” your grade. Every point is laid out for you; it is your responsibility to earn the grade that you want/need.
- Please bring any mistakes to my attention in a timely manner (i.e., grade entered wrong, bad math, etc.). If it is a content-related issue (i.e., question wording or you disagree with my grading, etc.), you may contest it in writing.
  - You must submit a well-written argument for your case that draws on specific course material along with the graded assignment/exam. Written grade appeals will only be accepted for one week after the graded assignment or exam has been returned to the class. Students must submit such appeals individually via e-mail.

Missed and Late Work
- All assignments are to be uploaded to Canvas no later than 11:59pm on the day they are due. Assignments uploaded at 12:00am are considered late.
- For every day late, you will receive a 10% penalty up to a week after the due date. After a week, you will receive a 0 for the assignment.
- Emailed assignments will NOT be accepted. You must upload assignments to Canvas.
- I will not accept assignments/exams that are late or missed without a penalty unless you provide a compelling reason with official documentation (such as a doctor’s note or a documented university athletic/academic event).
- It is up to you to make sure the appropriate document is uploaded to Canvas. Uploading a wrong or blank document will result in the loss of points per the late policy.
- If you need an extension on an assignment—ask before the due date! Asking for more time on the day an assignment is due without a reasonable excuse is not appropriate.
- “I didn’t have internet” is not a valid excuse for missing or late work—it’s 2020, the internet is everywhere. Find a source.

Grade Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100% – 97%</td>
<td>500 – 482.5</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>79% – 77%</td>
<td>392.5 – 382.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>96% – 93%</td>
<td>477.5 – 462.5</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>76% – 73%</td>
<td>377.5 – 362.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>92% – 90%</td>
<td>457.5 – 447.5</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>72% – 70%</td>
<td>357.5 – 347.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89% – 87%</td>
<td>442.5 – 432.5</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>69% – 60%</td>
<td>342.5 – 297.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>86% – 83%</td>
<td>427.5 – 412.5</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>59% or less</td>
<td>292.5 or less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>82% – 80%</td>
<td>407.5 – 397.5</td>
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Note: For majors, passing this course requires a C (73%) or higher.

Grade Check Requests
Grade checks/reports for student athletes, scholarships, Greek society membership, etc. are handled in person in office hours or by appointment.
Course Requirements & Activities
Below are point breakdowns of course requirements, activities, and their descriptions. More information (i.e., due dates) and the assignments themselves are posted on Canvas in the Course Calendar and within the modules. The Course Calendar with specific dates and the layout for the semester is located under the Syllabus on Canvas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Activities (10 @ 10 pts. each)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (3 @ 100 pts. each)</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposal (20 pts.)</td>
<td>—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation (30 pts.)</td>
<td>—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Write Up (50 pts.)</td>
<td>—</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Course Activities (10 @ 10 pts. each)
Throughout the semester, we will have in-class or take-home assignments. These may include quizzes, write-ups, observations, or other small projects. On occasion, these may also be random assignments for attendance or participation. Coming to class prepared to participate and discuss the readings will be a part of determining how well you do in this class. Information about the Course Activities will be announced in class and further instructions provided on Canvas.

I have planned twelve (12) Course Activities throughout the semester. Students are required to complete ten (10) of these. Any Course Activities completed beyond the required number will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Exams (3 @ 100 pts. each)
At three time throughout the semester students will sit for non-cumulative exams. Exams will cover all course material including required readings and in-class discussions or assignments. Exams may consist of multiple choice, matching, or short answer questions. Students will have four days to take the exam. Late exam times will not be approved.

Exams will be administered in the Digital Learning Center. Students may not use class time to take exams. Students will need to make reservations to take their test ahead of time. An NU ID is required to take exams. Students may reschedule their exam time only once if they miss their original reservation.

Final Project (100 pts. total)
For the final project, there are two options: a creative project or a research paper. Regardless of format, students are required to submit a proposal for their Final Project and present their project in the concluding weeks of the semester. See the course calendar for due dates.

Creative Project (50 pts.)
The Final Project may be in the format of your choosing: video, music, poetry, art, performance, etc. Alongside the project, students should write a 5-page justification or inspiration for the chosen medium and how the project is associated with course content. Review assignment paper submission guidelines on Canvas for formatting information and writing tips.

OR
Research Paper (50 pts.)
Another option for a final project is a 10-page research paper on a subject of the student’s choosing. The research paper should contain 5-7 resources from the student’s independent research (outside of materials on the syllabus). Review paper submission guidelines on Canvas for formatting information and writing tips.

Proposal (20 pts.)
The proposal for your Final Project includes an overview of your project, how it applies to the course, and any group members.

Presentation (30 pts.)
All students, no matter the format of their final project, will put together a ten minute presentation of their Final Project during the concluding weeks of the semester.