

C316-Gender and Communication SLN: 45738**Summer 2018-** Summer Abroad*Please print a copy of this syllabus for handy reference.***Instructor:** Jennifer Linde**Email:** jlinde@asu.edu

Please address me as Jennifer. If you are uncomfortable with that, you should refer to me as Professor Linde.

This course will utilize Blackboard for course assignments, announcements regarding the course schedule, grades and exam two. Please make sure that you are able to access the course website. For Blackboard/MyASU technical support or other questions, contact staff at myasu-q@asu.edu or (480) 965-6500.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is about the relationship between gender and communication. Our method of study will be a combination of reading, small group discussion (in person and online), lecture, research, writing and analysis, with a goal of coming to a broad definition of gender, as well as an examination of how this knowledge connects with our personal identity and experiences, and our position in society. As the textbook suggests, we will examine gender as a process. More specifically, we will learn about gender and communication through **Six approaches to studying the process of gender**.

1. *The Process of Defining Gender:* An introduction to **terms, definitions, and concepts** relating to gender and sex, and the placement of these definitions in the field of communication.
2. *The Process of Becoming Gendered:* A discussion of how gender reflects and is influenced by our lifelong construction of our **identities**. In this section we will study the topics of femininity, masculinity, and transgender.
3. *The Process of Communicating Gender:* A focus on gender as an influential **discursive tool**. We will examine gender and language, gender and nonverbal communication, gendered communication within relationships.
4. *The Process of Examining Gendered Violence:* An assessment of the relationship between communication and **gendered violence**.
5. *The Process of Understanding Gendered Social Systems:* A broader discussion of how gender and communication exists within a **societal framework**. In this section we will study gender and communication within the topics of the media, education, and organizational institutions.
6. *The Process of Critiquing Gender:* A **critical assessment of gender and communication** through a discussion of gendered social movements.

Important: The content of this course may contain adult language, sexual situations, violence, or some material that may be considered offensive by some individuals. You should review the course syllabus and textbook articles to determine if you are

comfortable with this material. Your continued enrollment in the course indicates to me that you have done so.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Our goals are:

1. to understand the definitions and theoretical explanations of gender and communication.
 2. to examine how gender intersects with our personal identity.
 3. to raise self-awareness concerning our communication behaviors within a gendered context.
 4. to foster an open mind so that we may fully comprehend the complex social constructs that influence gender and communication.
 5. to critically evaluate the impact gender has as a tool of power
 6. to utilize group interactions in the synthesis of course material
 7. to create a safe online space for discussion and learning
 8. to explore the idea that gender is a process
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REQUIRED READING:

Text: Linde, J. & Edson, B. (2014). The Process of Gender. 3rd Ed. Dubuque, Iowa: Kendall-Hunt.

This book can be picked up in person at the ASU bookstore on the Tempe campus, or ordered online at: <http://www.kendallhunt.com/edson-linde/>

Important: You will need to have a copy of the textbook in your possession immediately in order to do well in this course. Do not delay! The textbook is an edited book of original articles and book chapters.

You can access the **textbook website** by following the instructions on the inside flap of the front page of the book that you have purchased. You should plan to use this site for practice quizzes, extra credit discussions, participation exercises, and summaries of textbook articles

Additional course readings will be posted in the **Course Documents** link on Blackboard.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Exams (100 points each): There will be **two** exams. The format for the exams will be definitions, multiple choice, T/F, fill in the blank, short answer and essay. These exams will cover material from our discussions and the assigned readings. Both exams will be taken online through Blackboard. The exam will be open for several days and you will have one hour to complete it. You will locate exam two in the **Exams** link on Blackboard. If at any time you have a system error during exam 2 please send an email the moment this happens, and copy/paste the error message into the body of the email.

Exam One: open on BB from 6/7 @ 6:00am until 6/11 @ 11:00pm

Exam Two: open on BB from 6/25 @ 6:00am until 6/29 @ 11:00pm

Group Discussion (50 points): You will participate in a process of learning through small group discussion with your classmates. This group will serve the purpose of assisting you in your understanding of course material by providing discussion questions and offering opinions and response to group discussion. Read the details of this assignment under the title of **group discussion** in the [Course Documents](#) link on Blackboard.

Two Papers (50 points each)

You must complete **two** short papers. You are required to complete the Observation Exercise and the Taking a Position Paper. Read the details of this assignment under the title of **Paper Guidelines** in the [Course Documents](#) link on Blackboard.

The Observation Exercise Paper:

due: 6/6

The Taking a Position Paper:

due: 6/25

All papers must be posted to the [Submitting Assignments](#) on Blackboard no later than **10AM** on the day indicated in the course schedule. If you submit a late paper, your final grade will be reduced by 10 points for each day (24 hours) the paper is late (including weekend days). I will not accept papers that are more than three days late.

Effort Grade (25 points)

At the end of the course I will assign you an effort grade based on several criteria. They are: your ability to follow the syllabus and assignment instructions, the effort you put into the discussion component of the course, your attitude when addressing me or fellow students in the class, meeting deadlines and your overall engagement of the material.

POLICIES:

Academic Integrity: Academic honesty is expected of all students in all examinations, papers, laboratory work, academic transactions and records. The possible sanctions include, but are not limited to, appropriate grade penalties, course failure (indicated on the transcript as a grade of E), course failure due to academic dishonesty (indicated on the transcript as a grade of XE), loss of registration privileges, disqualification and dismissal. For more information, see <http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity.www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc>

Disability Accommodations: Qualified students with disabilities who will require disability accommodations in this class are encouraged to make their requests to me at the beginning of the semester either during office hours or by appointment. Note: Prior to receiving disability accommodations, verification of eligibility from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) is required. Disability information is confidential. Establishing

Eligibility for Disability Accommodations: Students who feel they will need disability accommodations in this class but have not registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) should contact DRC immediately. Their office is located on the first floor of the Matthews Center Building. DRC staff can also be reached at: 480-965-1234 (V), 480-965-9000 (TTY).

Title IX: Title IX is a federal law that provides that no person be excluded on the basis of sex from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. Both Title IX and university policy make clear that sexual violence and harassment based on sex is prohibited. An individual who believes they have been subjected to sexual violence or harassed on the basis of sex can seek support, including counseling and academic support, from the university. If you or someone you know has been harassed on the basis of sex or sexually assaulted, you can find information and resources at <http://sexualviolenceprevention.asu.edu/faqs/students>.

As a mandated reporter, I am obligated to report any information I become aware of regarding alleged acts of sexual discrimination, including sexual violence and dating violence. ASU Counseling Services, <https://eoss.asu.edu/counseling>, is available if you wish discuss any concerns confidentially and privately.

Participation and Accountability: Your attendance and participation is expected! The content of this course is complicated and sensitive and your presence in class is your best avenue to understanding this material. Not all lecture topics are covered in the course readings, so make sure that you are prepared to take notes during class.

Group and Class Discussion Expectations: Be respectful of fellow students, your teacher and yourself. Do not silence yourself when you want to add to the discussion; be mindful as you write or speak; and be open to the ideas of others. Be conscientious about privacy and the inherent risks of personal self-disclosure when you are expressing your opinions, feelings, and experiences, either in the classroom or online.

Use of Language: Since how we use language does affect our perceptions, I ask that you use gender neutral language in all of your work. In other words, unless you are directly writing about a man, use people or humankind and not the generic “he.” I encourage you to use first person (I) in your papers.

Use of Electronic Devices: I don’t allow cell phones, tablets, or laptops in class. Plan accordingly.

Grades: If you have a question/concern about a grade you should send a **detailed** description of your grade concern to me within **four** days of the posted grade. I will carefully review the posted grade and your question/concern and respond to you within one week. I reserve the right to lower your score after taking the time to re-assess a grade. Please read the following for an understanding of what I consider to be a fair grade.

A+ = Outstanding commitment to success in the class, proactive involvement in group discussion, a near perfect exam score, thorough and thought provoking written work, unquestionable reliability in meeting deadlines and course expectations.

A & A- = Similar to A+ work, but missing some of the criteria listed above.

B+ = Good group discussion, an ability to think critically and display this in papers and exams and an above average commitment to the course.

B & B- = Similar to B+ work, but missing some of the criteria listed above.

C+ = Completion of all assignments, adequate understanding of course work, indicative of solid effort.

C = Completion of all assignment, average scores on papers and exams.

D = Below average work, usually indicative of missed assignments, not following assignment instructions, or poor exam scores.

E = Failure to meet the course requirement

Points:

Exam One	100 points
Exam Two	100 points
Group Discussion	50 points
Papers (2 @ 50pts each)	100 points
Effort	25 points

Total: 375 points

A+=367-375 A= 346-366 A-=341-345 B+=330-340 B=308-329 B-=298-307

C+=292-297 C=262-291 D=225-261 E=below 225

COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES:

Contacting me:

I will check email messages and the BB site daily. If you don't hear from me within 24 hours—send me a gentle reminder! Be sure to put the topic of your communication in the subject line of your email and always sign your email with your name.

Turning in papers:

Go to the Blackboard and click on **Submitting Assignments**. Search for the title of the

paper, and follow the instructions for submitting to “safe assignments.”

Posting to the group discussion:

Go to the course website and click on **Group Discussion**.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Important: The beauty of the summer abroad program is that you are taking this course within a learning environment that offers a rich context for the material. This also means that we need to be flexible in regards to the scheduling of our course meetings. Please make note of each date and time below so that you do not miss any classes! Some revisions of this schedule are *likely* to occur.

Date:	Topic, Readings, Assignments Due
May	
21	Course Introduction Definitions and theories pertaining to gender and sex Required Reading: Preface (p. v), Part One Introduction (p. 1), Defrancisco & Palczewski (p. 3)
23	Definitions and theories pertaining to gender and sex cont.. Required Reading: Lorber (p. 27)
28	Bank Holiday!
30	Gender identities—femininity, masculinity, transgender Required Reading: Haas (p. 41)
June	
4	Gender identities—femininity, masculinity, transgender Required Reading: Finley (p. 67), Norwood (p. 87)
6	Verbal and nonverbal gendered communication Required Reading: Wood (p. 121) Gilbert (p. 137) Observation Exercise Paper is due
Exam One will be open on BB from 6/7 @ 6:00am until 6/11 @ 11:00pm	
11	Gender and Relationships Required Reading: Reeder (BB)
13	Gendered violence Required Reading: Phillips (p. 173), Wood (p.189)
18	Gendered social systems (schools, work places, media) Required Reading: Squires & Brouwer (p. 225)
20	Gendered social systems (schools, work places, media) cont..

Required Reading: Tracy & Rivera (p.245)

25 Gendered social movements

Required Reading: Part Six Introduction (p. 271), Gallagher & Wood (p. 273)

27 **Group discussion with Jennifer**

Exam Two will be open on BB from 6/25 @ 6:00am until 6/29 @ 11:00pm