

He, She, They, Them, Us: Teaching Gender Studies in a STEM Environment

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3:00-3:50 p.m.



Quiz Time!

Without using technology, do your best to complete this true/false quiz on your own in the next 5 minutes. It contains many of the fields of study and issues involving gender that we cover in our course.

How did you do? 😊

Course Overview

- Senior-only English Department elective
- Semester-long course
- On average, 2/3 female, 1/3 male
- Typically attracts students with gender and/or social justice interests

Units of Study

- Gender Foundations
- Power, Privilege and Inequality
- LGBTQIA+ Issues and Rights
- Gender in the Workplace
- Gender & Politics
- Reproductive Rights & Sexual Violence

Course Materials

- Documentary films (*The Mask You Live In* and *Miss Representation*)
- Novels (*The Power*, *Fun Home*, *The Handmaid's Tale*)
- Podcasts (*This American Life*, *NYT The Daily*, *NPR's Hidden Brain*)
- Journal articles, scientific studies, Sociology text chapters, newspaper and news magazine articles (see packet for a more extensive list)

Assessments

- 3 essays
- 2-3 presentations
- Final Project: 10 minute podcast
- Participation
- Written responses and reading quizzes

Podcast

Students each create a 10 minute podcast based on a 30-50 minute interview. They then craft the interview into a narrative around a gender-related theme or issue.

Sample podcast clip from an IMSA student

Gender Studies Teaching Challenges

- Sensitive topics (sexual assault, gender identity, LGBTQ issues)
- Continually evolving curriculum based on current events
- Politically charged topics and discussions
- Possibility for parental concerns with subject matter

Questions for discussion

- How many of your schools have a Gender Studies course and/or gender-related programming?
- What kinds of gender-related issues or concerns have come up in your schools?
- Have you noticed an imbalance in genders in your upper level math and science classes? How does that imbalance change the dynamic of the class?
- Questions?