Study programme: Gender Studies

Name of the course: Feminist Methodology and Epistemology

Teacher: Katarina Lončarević Course status: obligatory

ECTS: 6
Eligibility:

Aim of the course:

The course poses the theoretical framework for introduction with main methodological and epistemological basis in feminist theories and gender studies and presents main strategies and approaches of qualitative and quantitative research methods. The course analyzes main categories and concepts in learning process within feminist epistemologies, concept and importance of experience in contemporary gender theories, problems of marginalization and epistemic privilege as well as contemporary research policy and ethical problems deriving thereof in historical, global and local context. The course is aimed at introducing students with main methodological and epistemological concepts and problems of research in feminist theories and gender studies, main categories of knowledge in feminist epistemologies and main techniques/instruments of qualitative and quantitative research in gender studies, together with their implementation in practice.

Outcome of the course:

Students gain elementary theoretical knowledge of feminist approaches in methodology and epistemology, learn how to implement main methods and instruments of qualitative and quantitative research within gender studies and develop capacity for usage and critical analysis of literature, collect, systematize, adequately interpret and present data and results of their own resarch.

Content of the course

Theoretical classes: Is there feminist science and feminist methodology?; Bases, strategies and methods of qualitative and quantitative research in Gender Studies; Importance of experience in Gender Studies; Narration and oral history; Case studies and action research in Gender Studies; Feminist critical text analysis; Feminist ethnography, Research policies and ethical problems in Gender Studies; Introduction to feminist epistemology: main concepts and directions in feminist epistemologies; Feminist standpoint theories; Problems of margin and epistemic privileges; Situated knowledge and feminist objectivity and science; Postcolonial feminism: critical approaches to feminist production of knowledge; Postmodern feminism: issues of limits of feminist epistemologies.

Seminars: Text analysis, independent research work, research presentations

Literature

Mandatory: Milojević, Ivana, "Feministička epistemologija i metodologija" (In Uvod u rodne teorije, ur. Ivana Milojević i Slobodanka Markov, Novi Sad: Mediterran Publishing, 2011, pp. 39–51); Acker, Joan, Kate Barry, and Joana Esseveld, "Objectivity and Truth - Problems in Doing Feminist Research" (Women's Studies International Forum 1983, 6(4): 423-435); Reinharz, Shulamit, Feminist Methods in Social Research (New York, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992, pp. 46-109, 126-145, 164-197); Harding, Sandra, "Introduction: Is there a Feminist Method?" (In Feminism and Methodology: Social Science Issues, edited by Sandra Harding, Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1988, pp. 1-14); Ramazanoglu, Caroline, and Janet Holland, Feminist Methodology: Challenges and Choices (London: Sage Publications, 2002, pp. 1-59); Skeggs, Beverly, "Feminist Ethnography" (In Handbook of Ethnography, eds. Paul Anthony Atkinson et al., London: SAGE Publications, 2007, pp. 426-442); Lloyd, Genevieve, "The 'Maleness' of Reason" (In Epistemology: The Big Questions, edited by Linda Martin Alcoff, Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 1998, pp. 387–391); Lončarević, Katarina, "Feministička epistemologija: nastanak, razvoj i ključni problemi" (Godišnjak FPN 2012, 6/7: 41-59); Hartsock, Nancy C., "The Feminist Standpoint: Developing the Ground for a Specifically Feminist Historical Materialism" (In Discovering Reality, edited by Sandra Harding and Merrill Hintikka, New York, Boston, Dordrecht, London, Moscow: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1983, pp. 283-310); Collins, Patricia Hill, "Black Feminist Epistemology" (In Black Feminist Thought (second edition), New York and London: Routledge, 2000, pp. 251–271); hooks, bell, "Choosing the Margine as a Space of Radical Openness" (In Gender, Space, Architecture, edited by Jane Rendell, Barbara Penner, Ianin Borden, 203-209. London and New York: Routledge, 2000, pp. 203-209); Lord, Odri, "Gospodarev

alat nikad neće srušiti gospodarevu kuću" (In *Sestra autsajderka*, Beograd, Feministička 94, 2002, pp. 138–143); Haraway, Donna, "Situated Knowledges: The Science Question in Feminism and the Privilege of the Partial Perspective" (*Feminist Studies* 1988, 14(3): 575–599); Bar On, Bat-Ami, "Marginality and Epistemic Privilege" (In *Feminist Epistemologies*, edited by Linda Alcoff and Elizabeth Potter, New York and London: Routledge, 1993, pp. 83–100); Narayan, Uma, "The Project of Feminist Epistemology: Perspectives from a Nonwestern Feminis" (In *Gender/Body/Knowledge: Feminist Reconstructions of Being and Knowing*, edited by Alison M. Jaggar and Susan R. Bordo, New Brunswick and London: Rutgers University Press, 1989, pp. 256–269; Lugones, Maria, and Elizabeth Spelman, "Have We Got a Theory for You! Feminist Theory, Cultural Imperialism, and the Demand for 'The Woman's Voice'?" (*Women's Studies International Forum* 1983, 6: 573–581); Fleks, Džejn, "Kraj nevinosti" (In *Feministkinje teoretizuju političko*, ur. Džudit Batler i Džoan Skot, Beograd: Centar za ženske studije, 2006, pp. 467–485).

Additional: Harding, Sandra, The Science Question in Feminism (New York: Cornell University Press, 1986); Harding, Sandra, Whose Science? Whose Knowledge? Thinking from Women's Lives, New York: Cornell University Press, 1991; Lykke, Nina, Feminist Studies: A Guide to Intersectional Theory, Methodology and Writing (New York: Routledge, 2010); Alcoff, Linda, and Elizabeth Potter, eds., Feminist Epistemologies (London and New York: Routledge, 1993); Medina, José, The Epistemology of Resistance: Gender and Racial Oppression, Epistemic Injustice, and Resistant Imaginations (New York: Oxford University Press, 2013); Nicholson, Linda, ed., Feminism/Postmodernism (New York and London: Routledge, 1990); Tanesini, Alessandra, An Introduction to Feminist Epistemologies (Oxford: Blackwell, 1999).

Number teaching	of	classes	of	active	Theoretical classes: 30	Seminars: 15+15			
Teaching methods:									

Lectures, seminars, independent research work, presentations, text analysis Grading of knowledge (maximum number of points 100)

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Preexamination commitments	Points	Final exam	points				
Activity at lectures	20	Written exam	40				
Practice	20	Oral exam					
Colloquim/a							
Seminar/s	20						