**PSYCHOLOGY OF GENDER**

**Capsule Statement:**

This course brings an introduction to psychological theory of feminism and is dedicated to understanding and critiquing biological, psychological, social and cultural meanings and implications of gender and its intersection with class, race, physical ability, sexual orientation etc. This course explores the biological, sociological, and cultural influences on women and gender identity. It examines gender differences, similarities in cognitive abilities, self-concept, sexuality, and sexual orientation, and gendered psychological disorders and also assesses the role the myths and stereotypes of men and women play in creating gender differences.

#### Objectives:

After the completion of this course, students will be able to

* Develop critical thinking about psychological theories and research concerning gender
* Recognize gender similarities as well as gender differences, and to appreciate multiple potential causes for those differences

#### Contents:

1. **Psychology of Gender: Introduction**
2. **Prenatal and early childhood development: physical, psychological, and social aspects of growth.**
3. **Adolescence: physical development and psychological and social reactions.**
4. **Comparing females and males: Body**
5. **Comparing females and males: Intellect**
6. **Comparing females and males: Personality and Emotion**
7. **Gender Stereotypes: What I think I am and what I think you are**
8. **Gender Attitudes: What I think you should be and what I think I should be**
9. **Biological determinants of gender differences**
   1. Chromosomes & genes
   2. Sex linked genes
   3. Chromosomal abnormalities
   4. Endocrine glands & hormones
   5. Hormones & the brain
   6. Endocrine & exocrine system
   7. Endocrine glands
   8. Adrenal glands
   9. Thyroid gland
   10. Pituitary gland
   11. The parathyroid glands
   12. Related Hormones

#### Theories of personality development

* 1. Cooley and the looking-glass self
  2. Mead and the “Generalized other”
  3. Freud and the eight stages of life
  4. Piaget and developmental learning

#### Theories of Gender-Related Differences

* 1. Evolutionary theory
  2. Social interaction theory
  3. Social constructionism

#### Gender – Role stereotyping

* 1. Different researches about stereotyping
  2. Stereotypes involve diverse behaviors& characteristics
  3. Stereotypes across the socioeconomic spectrum
  4. Difference of developed and developing countries regarding stereotypes
  5. Gender similarities &differences
  6. Physical and biological differences

#### Cognitive differences

1. **Social differences**
   1. Gender differences: personality and social behavior
   2. Common stereotypes of men & women
   3. Personality traits under study
   4. Myths &realities about personality traits

#### Constructing male sexuality

1. **Motherhood and psychosocial reactions**
   1. The biology of pregnancy
   2. The impact of the mother on the fetus
   3. Mother responses to pregnancy
   4. Postnatal reactions
   5. Postnatal adjustment

#### Some issues related to reproductive health

* 1. Planned parenthood
  2. Infertility
  3. Alternative means of reproduction

#### Cognitive sex differences

* 1. Research in cognitive sex difference
  2. Differences in overall intelligence, abilities, verbal ability, memory, numerical ability, creativity, problem solving, manual dexterity, mechanical and spatial aptitude, scholastic achievement

#### Gender differences in personality and social behavior

* 1. Personality traits: communication styles, leadership, power related traits, helping and caring qualities/traits.

#### Perception of self

* 1. The development of self-concept
  2. Factors leading to positive and negative self-concept
  3. Self-esteem and its practical implication
  4. Promoting positive self- concept and realistic self-esteem

#### Achievement Motivation

* 1. Factors in achievement motivation
  2. Changing gender roles
  3. Evaluating ones success or failure
  4. Realistic ambitions
  5. Decision-making and conflict resolution.

#### Later adulthood and old age

* 1. Physical and Psychological changes
  2. Emotional reactions, stress, and adaptive techniques
  3. Problems specific to older men and women, healthy, aging.

#### Suggested Readings:

Chrisler, Joan C., Carla Golden, and Patricia D. Rozee. (2004). *Lectures on the psychology of women*. Boston: McGraw-Hill.

Crawford, M. (2006). *Transformations: Women, gender, and psychology*. NY: McGraw-Hill.

Eagly, A. H., Beall, A. E., & Sternberg, R. J. (2004). *The psychology of gender*. (2nd ed.). New York: Guilford Press.

Hassan, I. N. (1989). *Psychology of Women*. Islamabad: Allama Iqbal Open University.

Lippa, R ichard A . (2005). *Gender, nat ure, and nurture*. Mahwah, N . J.: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

Lips, H. (2005). *Sex and Gender: An Introduction*. Mountain View, CA: McGraw-Hill.

Sixth Edition. Matlin, M. 2008. *Psychology of women*. [S.l.]: Wadsworth. Unger, Rhoda Kesler, and M ary C rawford. (1992). *Women a nd ge nder*: a feminist psychology. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.

Rudman, Laurie A., and Peter Glick. (2008). T*he social psychology of gender: how power and intimacy shape gender relations*. New York: Guilford Press.

Zick Rubin and Elton B. Micxheil. (1992). *The psychology of Being Human*. Harper & Row.