

Genocide/Gender Studies

A NEW OUTLOOK ON THE WORLD



“Society does not consist of individuals but expresses the sum of interrelations, the relations within which these individuals stand.”

– KARL MARX

Course Overview

Genocide/Gender Studies is an enriched environment where you learn about societal functions/ideologies and its impact on individuals. Both topics merge together as they both emphasize the impact of objectification and stereotypes.



What is Genocide?

Genocide is defined as, "the deliberate killing of a large group of people, especially those of a particular ethnic group or nation."

Genocide is an atrocity that seeks to destroy whole populations, leaving empty countries, empty spaces and empty memories, but also a large health burden among survivors is enormous.

Genocide can instill psychological, economic, and political consequences due to mass murder.

Why is
learning about
Genocide
important?



Ignorance leads to Destruction

We all have heard the phrase that "ignorance is bliss" yet, is this idea truly beneficial to our society?

Here are 6 factors to why learning about genocide is important:

1. You learn the fragility of all societies and of the institutions
2. You learn aspects of human behaviour that affect all societies
3. You learn the dangers of prejudice, discrimination and dehumanization
4. Deepens reflection about contemporary issues that affect societies around the world
5. Teaches about human possibilities in extreme and desperate situations, by considering the actions of perpetrators and victims as well as other people who, due to various motivations, may tolerate, ignore or act against hatred and violence.
6. Draws attention to the international institutions and norms developed in reaction to various acts of mass murder

What are some examples of Genocide?

1. The Holocaust against Jewish citizens in Nazi Germany during World War II
2. Rwandan Genocide also known as the genocide against the Tutsi and moderate Hutu in Rwanda
3. Bosnian Genocide in which Serbia set out to “ethnically cleanse” Bosnian territory by systematically removing all Bosnian Muslims
4. Armenian Genocide was the systematic mass murder and expulsion of 1.5 million ethnic Armenians carried out in Turkey and adjoining regions by the Ottoman government between 1914 and 1923
5. The Cambodian Genocide was carried out by Khmer Rouge under the leadership of Pol Pot, who radically pushed Cambodia towards communism. It resulted in the deaths of 1.5 to 2 million people from 1975 to 1979, nearly a quarter of Cambodia's 1975 population.

What is the big picture?

By learning and discussing about issues not only in our own country but around the world you begin to recognize that the world is not as cohesive as it is portrayed. Being enlightened results in greater recognition of injustice and the impact of manipulation. By learning about the causes and effects of genocide, it allows us to understand not only one perspective but multiple perspectives. It ultimately ties history and social sciences together, creating a new outlook on learning about the world: not in a textbook but in real life situations.

Gender Studies

Gender Studies is a class in which one analyzes gender identity and gendered representation. It includes women's studies, men's studies and queer studies. Sometimes, gender studies is offered together with study of sexuality.



Difference between Gender and Sexuality

GENDER

either of the two sexes (male and female), especially when considered with reference to social and cultural differences rather than biological ones. The term is also used more broadly to denote a range of identities that do not correspond to established ideas of male and female.

SEXUALITY

Human sexuality is the way people experience and *express themselves sexually*. This involves biological, erotic, physical, emotional, social, or spiritual feelings and behaviors. Because it is a broad term, which has varied with historical contexts over time, it lacks a precise definition

GENDER STEROTYPES

Boys: Wear blue, dominant, breadwinner, aggressive, bold strong, rough, or competitive

Girls: housewives, submissive, wear pink, gossip, or catty

Where these stereotypes originate and how they affect us?

Stereotypes often come from our environment. Every society, ethnic group, and culture has gender role expectations, but they can be very different from group to group. They can also change in the same society over time. This can be your family, television, school, work, etc. Gender stereotypes not only create limitations to our success but affect those who do not conform to them. Those who don't conform are often seen as peculiar or strange amongst their peers. Stereotypes about gender can cause unequal and unfair treatment because of a person's gender. This is called sexism, this is a concept you will learn later in the course.

There are four basic kinds of gender stereotypes:

1. Personality traits
2. Domestic behaviors
3. Occupations
4. Physical appearance

How to do well in this elective?

Although this is an elective, you are expected to do all assignments as this is indeed a learning experience. Homework's will be given at least once a week and mini projects in class and outside of class can help boost your grade and overall increase your knowledge on genocide and gender studies which are often overlooked in a regular class.

Participation is also a key factor to doing well, participating does always mean sharing your ideas, rather it implies that you should be doing your work when asked. In addition, there are no serious exams in this course instead, you take quizzes based on a lesson.

Lastly, you should be checking your PupilPath and Google Classroom regularly as this is ESSENTIAL for knowing upcoming and current assignments.



“Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.”

– Martin Luther King Jr.

“The river of knowledge has no depth.”

– Chinonye J. Chidolue

Note from a former student :)

This class not only taught me about the results of being oblivious and ignorant to stereotypes, prejudice, but it taught me to stand up for someone who is being targeted for these reasons. This class is easy to pass as long as you do your work and cooperate with Ms. Duskie. In this class we watch tons of movies and videos although they can sometimes be disturbing, you gain maturity and insight to the world that is often hidden from us. In retrospective, this course opened my eyes to the world around me better than a history class ever would. You are very lucky to have Ms. Duskie as a teacher, as you get to know her you will realize how understanding and enthusiastic she not only about teaching but rather getting to know YOU as an individual.

Best Regards, Prisca Pierre (Rising Junior) ;)