

**Introduction to gender studies – dr Dominika Polkowska**

Course duration: one semester

Number of ECTS credits: 4.0

**Course description:** This course is intended to provide students with an overview of a number of major themes underscoring Gender Studies as academic disciplines. We will examine and discuss a multiplicity of recurring themes affecting the lives of different women and men in a variety of ways. Topics will include, but are not limited to, the social construction of gender, work; education; media; the public /private sphere. The course explores the experience of women regarding changes in women's responsibilities in the family, participation in the labor force, and the development of new family forms. Illuminates contemporary issues regarding work, marriage, and family from a historical perspective. We put special attention on women in science. On the other hand we will discuss about changes in the roles of men, with special focus on the crisis of masculinity and its consequences to the family, work and the society.

**Aims:** During the course we hope to discover how adopting a 'gender perspective' challenges traditional notions of femininity and masculinity. By understanding and examining gender, femininity and masculinity, students will learn how to think, read, and write in a critical and creative framework.