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KULT2207 Fall 2019 — *Gender and Norwegian Culture* (7.5 credits) — course brochure  
Lectures: Monday 12:15–15:00, [Room D13, Dragvoll Campus](#)

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**Lecturers:** [Sofia Moratti](#) (course leader and main contact) ([email](#))[SM], [Mari Haugaa Engh](#) ([email](#))[MHE], [France R. Hartline](#) ([email](#))[FRH].

**Language:** lectures are in English; coursework and exam questions are in English but you can reply in any Nordic language.

**Compulsory assignments:** forum participation (two posts of 200–250 words each) + short home essay (500 words).

**Final exam:** [digital school exam](#) on [Inspira](#) on **Tuesday 26 November 15:00–19:00**.

**Exam admission:** To be eligible to sit the final exam, you need to have completed all the compulsory assignments.

**Course readings:** follow the links in the course schedule below. Not working? [Install the Cisco VPN](#). For help, contact [orakel@ntnu.no](mailto:orakel@ntnu.no).

**Course slides:** will be uploaded on BlackBoard *after* each lecture.

**Course objectives:**

In this course we introduce you to social and cultural analyses of selected issues concerning gender and equality in Norwegian society. Some questions we will address in the lectures are:

- How is gender understood in various contexts in Norway?
- What are regarded as culturally significant similarities and differences between genders, and between Norwegians and others?
- What are the challenges to equality in contemporary Norway, and how gender-equal is Norwegian society?
- Why can we say that there are “paradoxes of equality” in Norway?

Specific goals are:

- To introduce you to the concept of equality in its historical context in Norway
- To expose you to meanings of gender that underpin gender equality policies in the Norwegian welfare state
- To give you an insight into main trends in feminist and gender studies theory
- To explore contemporary Norwegian working, domestic, sexual-reproductive and political life from a gender perspective
- To help you to recognize the importance of critical reflection from a gender-theoretical perspective.

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**Course schedule**

Lecture	Topic	Read before lecture (ranked in order of importance)
#1 Week 34 19 August	Understanding gender [SM]	Richardson, D. (2015). <a href="#">Conceptualizing gender</a> . In D. Richardson & V. Robinson (Eds.), <i>Introducing gender and women's studies</i> , 2nd ed (pp. 3–22). New York, NY: Palgrave-Macmillan.
#2 Week 35 26 August	Gender in motion in Norway: Historical timeline [SM]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>[Read pages 209 to 213]</b> Borchorst, A., &amp; Siim, B. (2008). <a href="#">Woman-friendly policies and state feminism: Theorizing Scandinavian gender equality</a>. <i>Feminist Theory</i>, 9(2), 207–224.</li><li>2. Kristensen, G. K. (2016). <a href="#">Paid migrant domestic labour in gender-equal Norway: A win-win arrangement?</a> In B. Gullikstad, G. K. Kristensen &amp; P. Ringrose (Eds.), <i>Paid migrant domestic labour in a changing Europe</i> (pp. 245–257). London: Palgrave.</li><li>3. Melby, K. (1989). <a href="#">The housewife Ideology in Norway between the two World Wars</a>. <i>Scandinavian Journal of History</i>, 14, 181–193.</li></ol>

Compulsory assignment: reply to Discussion Forum 1 on BlackBoard (200–250 words).

We open the thread on Tuesday 27 August at noon, you post a reply before Friday 30 August at noon.

Your reply is not graded.

#3 Week 36 2 September	Gender Equality and Diversity in Working Life [SM]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Foss-Heggem, G., &amp; Kvande, E. (2017). <a href="#">Nordic work-family regulations exported to a liberal context</a>. In B. Brandth, S. Halrynjo &amp; E. Kvande (Eds.), <i>Work-family dynamics: Competing logics of regulation, economy and morals</i> (pp. 156–171). New York, NY: Routledge.</li> <li>2. Seierstad, C. (2015). <a href="#">Having it all? Women in high commitment careers and work-life balance in Norway</a>. <i>Gender Work and Organization</i>, 22(4), 390–404.</li> <li>3. Brandth, B., &amp; Kvande, E. (2017). <a href="#">Fathers integrating work and childcare: reconciling the logics?</a> In B. Brandth, S. Halrynjo &amp; E. Kvande (Eds.), <i>Work-family dynamics: Competing logics of regulation, economy and morals</i> (pp. 70–85). New York, NY: Routledge.</li> </ol>
#4 Week 37 9 September	Norwegian sexual politics [FRH]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>[Read pages 361 to 365]</b> Hartline, F. R. (2019). <a href="#">(Trans)gender outlaws?</a> <i>Tijdschrift voor Genderstudies</i>, 21(4), 361–380.</li> <li>2. <b>[Skip the paragraphs on Belgium]</b> Van Der Ros, J., &amp; Motmans, J. (2015). <a href="#">Trans activism and LGB movements: Odd bedfellows?</a> In D. Paternotte &amp; M. Tremblay (Eds.), <i>The Ashgate research companion to lesbian and gay activism</i> (pp. 163–177). Farnham: Ashgate.</li> <li>3. Røthing, Å., &amp; Bang Svendsen, S. H. (2010). <a href="#">Homotolerance and heterosexuality as Norwegian values</a>. <i>Journal of LGBT Youth</i>, 7(2), 147–166.</li> </ol>

Compulsory assignment: reply to Discussion Forum 2 on BlackBoard (200–250 words).  
 We open the thread on Tuesday 10 September at noon, you post a reply before Friday 13 September at noon.  
 Your reply is not graded.

#5 Week 38 16 September	Reproduction and Fertility [SM]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ellingsæter, A. L., &amp; Pedersen, E. (2016). <a href="#">Institutional trust: Family policy and fertility in Norway</a>. <i>Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State &amp; Society</i>, 23(1), 119–141.</li> <li>2. Melhuus, M. (2017). <a href="#">Bringing it all back home: Cross- border procreative practices. Examples from Norway</a>. In M. Lie &amp; N. Lykke (Eds.), <i>Assisted reproduction across borders. Feminist perspectives on normalisations, disruptions and transmissions</i> (pp. 68–73). London: Routledge.</li> <li>3. Van Hoof, W., Pennings, G., &amp; De Sutter, P. (2016). <a href="#">Cross-border reproductive care for law evasion: Should physicians be allowed to help infertility patients evade the law of their own country?</a> <i>European Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Reproductive Biology</i>, 202, 101–105.</li> </ol>
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Compulsory assignment: short home essay (500–550 words not counting bibliography).  
 We announce the topic on BlackBoard on Tuesday 17 September at noon.  
 You deliver the essay on BlackBoard before Tuesday 1 October at midnight.  
 Grading: pass or fail. The results will come directly to you in your personal BlackBoard account on 20 October.

#6 Week 39 23 September <i>Jubilee Week</i> 	Norway's Gendered Borders [MHE]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Muhleisen, W., Røthing, A., &amp; Svendsen, S. H. B. (2012). <a href="#">Norwegian sexualities: Assimilation and exclusion in Norwegian immigration policy</a>. <i>Sexualities</i>, 15(2), 139–155.</li> <li>2. Muller Myrdahl, E. (2010). <a href="#">Legislating love: Norwegian family reunification law as a racial project</a>. <i>Social &amp; Cultural Geography</i>, 11(2), 103–116.</li> <li>3. Engh, M. H., Agergaard, S. &amp; Settler, F. G. (2017). <a href="#">"The ball and the rhythm in her blood": racialised imaginaries and football migration from Nigeria to Scandinavia</a>. <i>Ethnicities</i>, 17(1), 66–84.</li> </ol>
#7 Week 40 30 September	Multicultural configurations of equality [MHE]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Svendsen, S. H. (2014). <a href="#">Learning racism in the absence of 'race'</a>. <i>EJWS</i>, 21(1), 9–24.</li> <li>2. Anderson, M. (2012). <a href="#">The debate about multicultural Norway before and after 22 July 2011</a>. <i>Identities</i>, 19(4), 418–427.</li> <li>3. Kuokkanen, R. (2015). <a href="#">Gendered violence and politics in indigenous communities</a>.</li> </ol>

 **No lecture on Monday 7 October. Week 41 = Fall Break** 

#8 Week 42 14 October	Gender, sport and diversity [MHE]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Skogvang, B. O. &amp; Fasting, K. (2013). <a href="#">Football and sexualities in Norway</a>. <i>Soccer &amp; Society</i>, 14(6), 872–886.</li><li>2. Massao, P. B. &amp; Fasting, K. (2010). <a href="#">Race and Racism: Experiences of black Norwegian athletes</a>. <i>International Review for the Sociology of Sport</i>, 45(2), 147–162.</li><li>3. Fahlén, J. &amp; Skille, E. (2017). <a href="#">State sport policy for indigenous sport: inclusive ambitions and exclusive coalitions</a>. <i>International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics</i>, 9(1), 173–187.</li></ol>
#9 21 October Week 43	Wrap-up class [SM]	<b>Wrap-up class, students' questions and information about the exam</b>

[Digital school exam](#) on Inspira on Tuesday 26 November 15:00–19:00

The exam venue will be published on StudentWeb the day before the exam.

Grading: [A to F scale](#). The results will come directly to you in your personal StudentWeb account within three weeks.



All compulsory assignments must be submitted by the deadline.

Extensions on the essay deadline or exam rescheduling are only allowed if you present a **medical certificate, signed** by your doctor.

**We encourage classroom debate and active participation, and we want every student to feel welcome!**



*Students and lecturers in KULT2207 all have responsibility for maintaining a respectful and civil learning environment. Because the core themes of this course relate to differences such as ethnicity, gender and gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, disability, and age, your behaviour and choice of words play an important role in keeping interactions respectful.*

*The students in this course come from a very diverse range of national, cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Let us look at this diversity as an opportunity and work together, with an attitude of kindness and civility towards one another at all times, refraining from marginalisation, misrepresentation and the perpetuation of stereotypes.*

*Exposure to alternative points of view enhances our intellectual development. Debate and dialogue should however challenge the ideas, and not the individuals who hold different views.*



Are you experiencing issues with the [Blackboard](#) and [StudentWeb](#) platforms, the [Cisco VPN](#), or technical difficulties in downloading articles or accessing the compendium? **Please, do not write the lecturers!** Contact [Orakel Support](#) by email at [orakel@ntnu.no](mailto:orakel@ntnu.no) or phone at 73591500 (weekdays 8AM-4PM).

Do you have questions on credits and certifications? **Please, do not write the lecturers!**

Go to the Student Services Division (*Avdeling for Studenttjenester*) at the Library located at [Building 8, Floor 5](#), Dragvoll (weekdays 8:30AM-16:30PM). You can call them at 73595200 or email [studentservice@adm.ntnu.no](mailto:studentservice@adm.ntnu.no).