



Wageningen School
of Social Sciences

Critical Gender Studies in the Life Sciences domains

Coordination: Chizu Sato (CHL)

chizu.sato@wur.nl

in collaboration with

Margreet van der Burg (KTI)

Jessica Duncan (RSO)

Gemma van der Haar (SDC)

Trista Lin (GEO)

David Ludwig (KTI)

Esha Shah (WRM)

Dvora Yanow (COM)

September 10 – Oct 17, 2019

**Course organised by the Wageningen School of Social Sciences (WASS)
Wageningen University**

Introduction & objectives of the course

Today, research in the life sciences done to support sustainable development is increasingly interdisciplinary and demands better understanding of roles of gender and other differences, such as race and colonial history. This course directly enables participants to develop, operationalize and integrate a critical gender framework into their own research. The manner in which participants work gender into their own research may then be independently replicated in integrating other relevant concerns.

The course (6 ECTS: European Credit Transfer System) is divided in five (5) modules:

Module 1: Introduction to Critical Gender/Feminist Studies in the Life Sciences (2 ECTS)

- a. Historical perspective on and development of Critical Gender/Feminist Studies
- b. Overview of key concepts: e.g., gender, intersectionality, queering/thinking beyond binary, decolonization

Module 2: Feminist epistemologies in Science and Technology Studies (1 ECTS)

Module 3: Feminist political ecology and economy (1 ECTS)

Module 4: Feminism and social justice (1 ECTS)

Module 5: Decolonizing development (1 ECTS)

- Module 1 is mandatory except for those who come with gender studies background in the life sciences domains. Participants who want to be exempt from taking Module 1 are required to submit a short description of their gender studies background prior to registration.
- Participants need not take all modules. In addition to the first mandatory module, participants may take anywhere between 2 and 5 thematic modules.
- Each ECTS involves 2 half day classes (except Module 1) and two to three times that preparatory and out-of-class work.
- Each Module combines reading, lecture, discussion, participants' presentation and writing a short paper.
- Modules 2-5 cover both theory and methodology.

This course will use relevant examples to examine issues in the life sciences domains historically, as well as both in the global South and the global North. Each module will use critical gender studies as an entry point and then attend to other intersecting diverse dimensions of inequality, such as race, ethnicity, social class, and nationality.

This course will be a seminar. It will be highly interactive and learner-centered combining short lectures with group-based learning activity, discussion and presentation. A series of instructors with gender and diversity expertise from WUR will discuss the relevance of the topics in the life sciences domains discussed in our class to their own domains.

Participants are expected to write a short statement (max. 1 page A4) one week prior to the 1st session (September 3, 2019) to: 1) introduce who they are in terms of disciplinary background and education; 2) outline gender and diversity issues which are relevant in their own domain of study; 3) questions or issues on gender and diversity with which they would like to engage and why; and 4) expectations of the course.

Target group and learning outcomes

This course is intended for PhD candidates, postdoc, and staff members, across the social and environmental sciences, who want to expand their engagement with sustainable development through increased consideration of gender and diversity. Participants following this course will learn gender and social differences as an intersecting analytical category in the study of sustainable development by applying various perspectives to concrete cases.

After successful completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- understand current approaches in critical gender/feminist studies, in particular with regards to the life sciences domains (such as, but not limited to food, agriculture, water);
- develop a coherent critical gender studies framework;

- integrate and operationalize this critical gender studies into their own research project/interests;
- directly use feminist/critical gender approaches in doing research in the life sciences domains and draw on the theories and concepts learned to develop and integrate other perspectives; and;
- engage in active learning, critical thinking and academic debate.

Assumed prior knowledge

Master's degree in social, environmental or gamma sciences

Course fees

Course fees vary depending on the number of ECTS participants want to take.

For the **entire course** (6 ECTS):

- for all Wageningen Graduate Schools PhDs with TSP there is a fee of 650 euros.
- For WUR MSc students there is a fee of 325 euro
- For WUR staff members (fellows/post docs), there is a fee of 1450 euros (including tea/coffee).
- For all others there is a fee of 2175 euro

For **Module 1** (2 ECTS):

- for all Wageningen Graduate Schools PhDs with TSP there is a fee of 225 euros.
- For WUR MSc students there is a fee of 112,50 euro
- For WUR staff members (fellows/post docs), there is a fee of 450 euros
- For all others there is a fee of 675 euro

For each **other Module** (1 ECTS),

- for all Wageningen Graduate Schools PhDs with TSP there is a fee of 125 euros.
- For WUR MSc students there is a fee of 62,50 euro
- For WUR staff members (fellows/post docs), there is a fee of 250 euros (including tea/coffee).
- For all others there is a fee of 375 euro

Session Times & Outline of the Course in Hours

	Date & Time	Topics	Instructors
M1-1	Sept 10, 9:30-12:30	Introduction & historical perspectives & development of Critical Gender/Feminist Studies	Margreet van der Burg (KTI) Chizu Sato (CHL)
M1-2	Sept 12, 9:30-12:30	Key concepts I	Esha Shah (WRM)
M1-3	Sept 16, 9:30-12:30	Key concepts II	
M1-4	Sept 19, 9:30-12:30	Presentations	
M2-1	Sept 23, 9:30-12:30	Feminist epistemologies in STS I	Esha Shah (WRM)
M2-2	Sept 25, 9:30-12:30	Feminist epistemologies in STS II	Dvora Yanow (COM)
M2-3	Sept 26, 9:30-12:30	Discussions or presentations	
M3-1	Sept 30, 9:30-12:30	Feminist political economy and ecology I	Chizu Sato (CHL)
M3-2	Oct 2, 9:30-12:30	Feminist political economy and ecology II	
M3-3	Oct 3, 9:30-12:30	Discussions or presentations	
M4-1	Oct 7, 9:30-12:30	Feminism and Social justice I	Gemma van der Haar (SDC)
M4-2	Oct 9, 9:30-12:30	Feminism and Social justice II	David Ludwig (KTI)
M4-3	Oct 10, 9:30-12:30	Discussions or presentations	
M5-1	Oct 14, 9:30-12:30	Decolonizing development I	Jessica Duncan (RSO)
M5-2	Oct 16, 9:30-12:30	Decolonizing development II	Trista Lin (GEO)
M5-3	Oct 17, 9:30-12:30	Discussions or presentations	

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Sept 2	Sept 3	Sept 4	Sept 5	Sept 6
9:30-12:30					
PM					
Module 1	Sept 9	Sept 10	Sept 11	Sept 12	Sept 13

9:30-12:30	Preparation for M1-1	M1-1 Introduction	Preparation for M1-2	M1-2	Preparation for M1-3
PM		Reflection		Reflection	
Module 1	Sept 16	Sept 17	Sept 18	Sept 19	Sept 20
9:30-12:30	M1-3		Preparation for M1-4	M1-4 Presentations	Preparation for M2-1
PM	Reflection			Meta-reflection	
Module 2	Sept 23	Sept 24	Sept 25	Sept 26	Sept 27
9:30-12:30	M2-1	Preparation for M2-2	M2-2	M2-3* Discussions or Presentations	Preparation for M3-1
PM				Reflection	
Module 3	Sept 30	Oct 1	Oct 2	Oct 3	Oct 4
9:30-12:30	M3-1	Preparation for M3-2	M3-2	M3-3* Discussions or Presentations	Preparation for M4-1
PM			Preparation for M3-3	Reflection	
Module 4	Oct 7	Oct 8	Oct 9	Oct 10	Oct 11
9:30-12:30	M4-1	Preparation for M4-2	M4-2	M4-3* Discussions or Presentations	Preparation for M5-1
PM			Preparation for M4-3	Reflection	
Module 5	Oct 14	Oct 15	Oct 16	Oct 17	Oct 18
9:30-12:30	M5-1	Preparation for M5-2	M5-2	M5-3* Discussions or Presentations	
PM			Preparation for M5-3	Reflection	

(A detailed programme including readings will be communicated later)

Course materials

Required readings will be made available before the course starts by the course coordinator.

Teaching methods

This course is organized mainly as a seminar in combination with the following learning activities:

- i) *Lectures* to introduce and explain theoretical approaches and concepts within Critical Gender/Feminist Studies as well as contextualize these in the life sciences domains;
- ii) *Self-study* to prepare participants for in-class discussions and to develop the understanding of the theoretical approaches and concepts discussed;
- iii) *Assignments* (Module 1: one page reflection after each session and a meta reflection at the end of the module; Module 2-5: a short paper at the end of each module; to be specified further) to critically reflect on the course materials including class discussions and apply these to the participant's own research;
- iv) *Discussions* led by participants; and
- v) *Presentations* by participants.

Participants are expected to read and prepare their thoughts on readings in advance of the seminar date (approximately 6-8 hours for each session), and to participate fully in discussions in class. The discussions will be chaired and guided by the instructor(s) of the session together with the course coordinator.

For **Module 1**, after each session, participants will write one page paper to critically reflect on the readings, lectures, and discussions and to discuss their relevance to their own research. These reflection papers will be

compiled as a portfolio to be used as a basis for their presentations. After the presentations, participants will complete the portfolio with a short meta reflection paper, engaging the collection of the reflection papers they wrote and the comments they received during the presentations.

For **Module 2-5**, after the third session of each module, participants will write a short paper to critically reflect on the readings, lectures, and discussions and to discuss their relevance to their own research.

Requirements and ECTS

Individuals who follow the entire course may receive up to 6 credits (according to European Credit Transfer System). The course is pass or fail. In order to pass each module, participants must attend all sessions and presentations. For **Module 1**, participants must write three one page reflection papers in sufficient quality; make a presentation on the relevance of the course materials to their own research in sufficient quality on the last day; and write a meta reflection on their learning. For Module 2-5, participants must write one short paper in sufficient quality per module.

Location

The sessions will be held in building "De Leeuwenborch", Hollandseweg 1 in Wageningen, The Netherlands. The exact rooms will be announced later.

Registration

Registration is possible electronically via the WASS courses page:

<http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/PhD-Programme/Graduate-Schools/Wageningen-School-of-Social-Sciences/Courses/Registration.htm>

The maximum number of participants per module is set at 15 PhD candidates, the minimum at 5 PhD candidates.

Please make sure that you provide the most recent contact details so that in case of any changes you will be notified promptly. After your internet registration you will receive a short notification that your name has been registered. At least two weeks before the course you will receive a confirmation about the location and the schedule. WASS will also send an invoice to the address indicated in the registration form.

Please e-mail to Marcella.haan@wur.nl in case you have not received the second confirmation two weeks before the course.

Cancellations

Cancellations may be made free of charge until 1 month before the start of the course. Cancellation fee of 100% applies if participants cancel the course less than 1 month prior to the course. The organisers have a right to cancel the course not later than 1 month before the course starts. The participants will be notified of any changes at their e-mail addresses.

Further information

On course content please contact the course coordinator Chizu Sato (Consumption and Healthy Lifestyles). She can be reached through chizu.sato@wur.nl.

On WASS: www.wur.eu/wass

For details about the logistics, accommodation, registration, fees, study materials, etc. please contact Marcella Haan

Tel +31 317 484126

Marcella.haan@wur.nl

Contact addresses:

Wageningen School of Social Sciences

Wageningen University

Hollandseweg 1

6706 KN WAGENINGEN
The Netherlands

Useful information on accommodation for participants from outside Wageningen

Hotels:

Wageningen International Congress Centre (WICC): 75 euro for 1 persons room, 90 euros for 2 persons room, both prices are including breakfast; <https://www.wicc.nl/en/>

Hotel de Wageningseberg: 85 euro for 2 persons room, also including breakfast;
<http://hoteldewageningscheberg.nl/en/>

Hotel Nol in 't Bosch: 79 euro for 1 person room, 85 euro for 2 persons room, also including breakfast;
<http://www.nolintbosch.nl/>

Air B&B Wageningen:

https://www.airbnb.com/s/Wageningen--Netherlands/homes?allow_override%5B%5D=&ne_lat=51.98588152023385&ne_lng=5.688003552017875&search_by_map=true&sw_lat=51.965332680231015&sw_lng=5.656776971552205&zoom=15&s_tag=vDEq_E8E

Bed&Breakfast:

See also : <https://www.bedandbreakfast.nl/bed-and-breakfast/wageningen/netherlands/c2745088> or <http://www.shortstaywageningen.nl/> or <https://www.duwowageningen.com/>

B&B De Heksenspeeltuin: 30 euro for a 1 person room
Address: Einthovenstraat 15, 6706JA Wageningen
Phone: +31 317-418161
E-mail: callyd@zonnet.nl
Website: www.heksenspeeltuin.nl

Ons Bakhuus Bed & Breakfast: 50 euro for a 1 person room
Address: Dolderstraat 64, 6706 JG Wageningen
Phone.:+31 317-411994
E-mail: info@onsbakhuus.nl
Website: www.onsbakhuus.nl

Toproom B&B: 60 euro for a 1 person room
Vossenlaan 17
6705 CD Wageningen-Hoog
Phone: +31 317-450214
E-mail: info@toproom.nl
Website: www.toproom.nl
Possibilities to rent a bike

From Schiphol Amsterdam Airport to Wageningen

At the Airport you can buy a train ticket in the 'arrivals' area by the baggage claims. You will see the sign "Train tickets" near the exit. Then follow the signs 'Nederlandse Spoorwegen' (NS) or 'Trains and busses' to the railway station.

Buying a single-use chipcard

You can travel with the train on NS with a **single-use chipcard**. The single-use chipcard is a paper ticket with a chip inside.

- The most important thing to be aware of when buying a single-use chipcard is that you can only buy these tickets from an NS ticket machine (with the blue sign and white NS logo across the top).
- Tickets can also be purchased from the Tickets & Service desks at major stations.



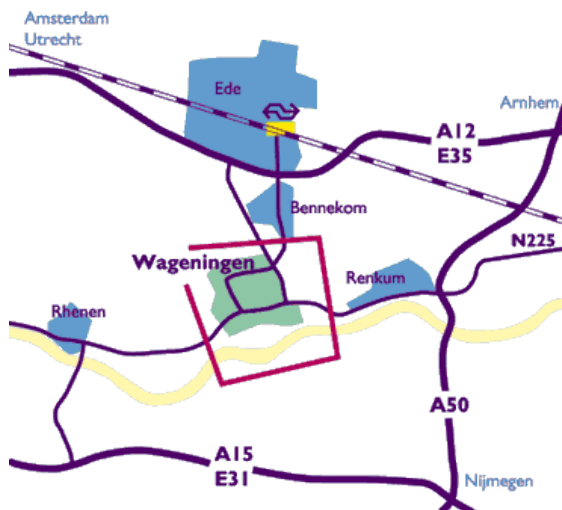
Travelling with a single-use chipcard or OV-chipkaart

To travel with a single-use chipcard or OV-chipkaart you have to **check in** and **out** at an access gate or check-in/check-out point. When travelling with NS you have to check in and out with an NS reader at a gate or post. If you change to a different carrier during your journey, you have to check in and out then as well. For questions about using the card, please contact our staff at the Tickets & Service counter, at the station or on the train.



There are direct connections from Schiphol Amsterdam Airport to Ede-Wageningen every 30 minutes. Additionally, twice an hour there is a connecting service from Schiphol to Ede-Wageningen where you have to change trains in Utrecht. The destination boards on the platform will indicate the different stations where the train will stop. Check for the names Ede-Wageningen or Utrecht and board the train and when necessary change in Utrecht. The trip from Schiphol to Ede-Wageningen takes you a bit more than one hour.

For Dutch train connections use www.ns.nl, www.thalys.com, www.db.de



The train station is not located directly in Wageningen. This lack is fully compensated by fair means of transportation by buses and taxis. From railway station Ede-Wageningen you can take a taxi (approx.15 min.). Taxis leave at the north side of the station. You can also come by bus: line 84, line 86 or line 88 (direction Wageningen/ Arnhem) leaves from the north side of the station. You have to purchase a ticket from the driver in the bus, which will cost about 3 euros.