

## COURSE INFORMATION GUIDE

**COURSE: CHYS 3P44: Gender and Sexuality in Childhood and Youth** (also offered as SOCI 3P44 and WISE 3P44)

**Instructor:** Jenny Janke

**Important:** The information contained in this guide is not equivalent to the course syllabus. It is intended to provide students with more information about scheduled courses than is provided through the undergraduate calendar. Keep in mind that it is prepared well in advance of the final courses preparation and merely provides an early idea about course objectives, content, and structure. Do not purchase texts or acquire readings based on the information guide.

**Restriction:** open to CHYS (single or combined), CHYS BA (Honours)/BEd (Primary/Junior), CHYS BA (Pass)/BEd (Primary/Junior), SOCI and WISE (single or combined) majors, SOCI or WISE minors with a minimum of 8.0 overall credits or permission of the Department.

**Prerequisite:** one of CHYS 2P38, SOCI 2P11 and 2P13, WISE 2P90, 2P91.

**Course Description:** CHYS 3P44 explores the historical, cross-cultural and sociological approaches to the development of gender identities and sexuality amongst children and youth. Topics will include the role of families, the mass media, leisure activities, schools, peers and state policies. Using both sociological and feminist theories we will begin by addressing important differences between the concepts of 'gender' and 'sex'. From there we will focus on femininities, masculinities, transgender issues, as well as youth culture. We will explore the often dualistic nature of gendered norms and assumptions in both popular culture and in principle institutions in Canada.

**Course Objectives:** There are four main objectives in this course. 1) Students will have a working understanding of the differences between the categories of 'sex' and 'gender.' 2) Students will be able to assess how gender is socially constructed and how various institutions in Canadian society participate in this construction. 3) Through independent analysis, students will have the opportunity to critically analyze how various institutions both prescribe and proscribes gendered behaviour. 4) We will explore how gender norms are often resisted and challenged. By the end of the course students will have developed and applied the following: an understanding of the array of theories related to the constructions of gender; the role of the family, mass media, leisure activities, schools, peers and state policies on gender in youth; how young people resist and challenge hegemonic gendered norms.

**Course Evaluation:** Not available at the time

**Additional Information:** This course is scheduled as a three hour block.