Nebraska Wesleyan University

PHIL 2300 Philosophies of Race and Gender

Catalog

2025-2026

Course Description

Most Americans have some understanding of how the categories of race and gender influence our personal and social identities. Yet many Americans also assume that race and gender are "natural," i.e., that we are born into a certain race and naturally embody a certain sex. In this course, we will examine these assumptions by reading, discussing, and critically assessing the arguments for and against the "naturalness" of race and gender. We will consider how categories of race and gender position us, historically and philosophically, as a person of a certain "type" from whom certain behaviors are expected. We will look at socio-economic conditions and philosophic positions that support or challenge racism, sexism, classism, segregation, and violence. Cross listed with GEND 2300P.
(Normally offered alternate years.)

Course Hours

3 hours

Departments

1. Philosophy and Religion