

PhD course on gender and research methodologies in Social Sciences Radboud University October 28-29, 2021

(Preliminary) Course program

- Organisers:* prof. dr. Marieke van den Brink, and dr. Inge Bleijenbergh
- Contact:* Practical matters: g.sterk@maw.ru.nl
Programme content: m.vandenbrink@ru.nl or i.bleijenbergh@fm.ru.nl
- Subject:* This course is an introduction on how to employ various research methods in interdisciplinary social sciences from a gender perspective. We will touch upon classic and modern debates regarding feminist methodologies.
- Objective:* After this course, students will have a better understanding of feminist methodologies. They will be able to critically reflect upon the choice and application of research methods and analysis from a gender perspective in their own PhD research.
- Design:* The course takes two full days, with lectures, discussions of literature, and conversations about the research projects of the participants. The first day we will focus on gender perspectives and their translation into research methods, the second day we will discuss techniques and skills, and how to get to the gender aspects in the data. During the course, we will pay attention to the different phases in the research process. In small group discussions, you will be asked to reflect on the various aspects in your own research project: research design, research question, operationalization, choice of methods for accessing sources, data collection, data-analysis and interpretation, and reporting. To receive a certificate, you must have submitted the assignments before the start of the course and actively participated in both days, meaning that you have read the assigned literature, prepared for discussion and contributed to the conversation.
- Institutional context:* The course is designed as an interdisciplinary, interfaculty endeavour organised by Radboud University's Gender & Diversity Studies (Faculty of Social Sciences), in collaboration with the Nijmegen School of Management and the Netherlands Research School of Gender Studies (NOG).
- Participants:* The maximum is set at 20 PhD students in order to enable in-depth discussion. Advanced (R)MA students and other young researchers can participate, if and when the maximum number of PhD students has not been reached.
- Fee:* The participation fee is €200,-, which includes two full days of lectures/discussion, feedback on assignments, a certificate and coffee/tea during breaks. The course is free of charge for registered NOG members, PhD

students from participating faculties, and members of the Gender & Diversity PhD seminar.

Reading: Most of the literature is available in your library. We will mail you the articles that are not available online.

Study load: 2 x 7 hours workshop days, 4 hours working on the assignments and an estimated 2 x 32 hours of reading (= 84 hours, 3 ECT).

Date/time: Thursday October 28 and Friday October 29, 2021.

Location: Radboud University Nijmegen, TBA
For Information on how to get there, see www.ru.nl/english/about-us/contact/how-get/

Registration: Please send the fully completed registration form to g.sterk@maw.ru.nl no later than September 19, 2021.

Assignment deadline: Send in the completed assignments no later than September 26, 2021 to g.sterk@maw.ru.nl

COURSE SCHEDULE

Day 1: Thursday October 28, 2021 - Critical Feminist Research

Time	Activity	Lecturer
9:30 - 10:00	General introduction	prof. dr. Marieke van den Brink
10:00 - 11:00	Lecture 1: Feminist and critical methods in social sciences	Prof. dr. Marieke van den Brink
11:00 - 11:15	<i>Break</i>	
11:15 - 12:30	Small group discussion of literature and students work (max. 5 per group): Research questions and research design from feminist perspective	prof. dr. Marieke van den Brink
12:30 - 13:45	<i>Lunch break</i>	
13:45 - 15:00	Lecture 2: Discursive analysis of texts and interviews Discussion of the lecture and the literature	dr. Laura Dobusch
15:00 - 15:15	<i>Tea break</i>	
15:15 - 16:45	Lecture 3: Feminism and arts-based research Discussion of the lecture and the literature	dr. Noortje van Amsterdam
16:45 – 17:00	Closing of the meeting	prof. dr. Marieke van den Brink

Day 2: Friday October 29, 2021 - Research Methods, Skills and Reflections

Time	Activity	Lecturer
9:30 - 10:45	Lecture 1: Mixed methods in gender & diversity research Discussion of the lecture and the literature	dr. Inge Bleijenbergh
10:45 - 11:00	<i>Break</i>	
11:00: - 12:15	Small group discussion of students assignments (max. 5 per group): Data collection, analysis and interpretation, reporting your findings	dr. Inge Bleijenbergh
12:15 - 13:45	<i>Lunch break</i>	
13:45 - 15:00	Lecture 2: Quantitative techniques, gender & intersectionality Discussion of the lecture and assigned literature	dr. Niels Spierings
15:00 - 15:15	<i>Tea break</i>	
15:15 - 16:30	Lecture 3: Qualitative techniques: 'Gendered Fields'; Relations, taboos and safety. Discussion of the lecture and the literature	dr. Tine Davids
16:30 – 17:00	Closing of the meeting + evaluation	prof. dr. Marieke van den Brink and dr. Inge Bleijenbergh

ASSIGNMENTS

We expect students to actively participate in the course.

- After each lecture, there will be a discussion based on the literature. Every discussion is prepared by 2 students.

Please, **sign up** for the lecture/literature/topic you would like to discuss in the registration form.

! NB: Be aware, that we cannot guarantee that you will be assigned to prepare for the topic you chose.

- The small group discussion will be related to your research project. A group consists of max. 5 students. The discussion will be prepared by 2/3 students.

We would like to know you and your research project better: What is your topic? Where did you incorporate a critical/feminist perspective in your research design? What are your struggles?

We ask you therefore to submit these two assignments before the start of the course.

Assignment 1

Provide your name, the title of your research and a summary of your research topic.

Write a short reflection on the gender aspects of your research project and how you incorporated a gender critical perspective into your design. You can also indicate the challenges you have encountered in designing your research, or the methodological questions you may have.

Assignment 2

Provide your name and title of your research. Describe the quantitative and qualitative aspects of your research, and what methods you (like to) employ in a gender critical manner. You can also indicate the challenges you have encountered in collecting and analysing your data, or any methodological questions you may have.

Each assignment is 500 - 750 words max.

Send your assignments to g.sterk@maw.ru.nl before **September 26, 2021**.

MANDATORY LITERATURE

Day 1

Read and prepare one discussion point for each article or chapter:

- Nagy Hesse-Biber, S. ed (2014). *Feminist Research Practice. A Primer*. London: Sage (p 1-72).
- Harding, S. (1986). From the Woman Question in Science to the Science Question in Feminism. In *The Science Question in Feminism*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press (p 15-29).
- Lazar, M. M. (2007). Feminist Critical Discourse Analysis: Articulating a Feminist Discourse Praxis. *Critical Discourse Studies*, 4(2), 141-164.
- Biehl-Missal, B. (2015). 'I write like a painter': Feminine creation with arts-based methods in organizational research. *Gender, Work & Organization*, 22(2), 179-196.

Day 2

Read and prepare one discussion point for each article or chapter:

- Bleijenbergh, I. & Fielden, S. (2015). Examining Diversity in Organizations from Critical Perspectives: the Validity of the Research Process. In *Oxford Handbook on Diversity in Organizations*. London: Oxford University Press (21 p.).
- Davids, T. (2014) Trying to be a vulnerable observer: Matters of agency, solidarity and hospitality in feminist ethnography. *Women's Studies International Forum*, 43, 50-58.
- Dubisch, Jill (2005) Lovers in the field; sex, dominance and the female anthropologist. In Don Kulick and Margaret Wilson (eds) *Taboo sex, identity and erotic subjectivity in anthropological fieldwork*. London/New York: Routledge (p. 22-39).
- Maiale, Brenda (2009) A Hell of a Party. In: Parvis Ghassem-Fachandi (ed) *Violence Ethnographic Encounters*. Oxford/New York: Berg Publishers (p. 130-141).
- Miner, K. & Jayarante, T. (2014). Feminist survey research. In S. Nagy Hesse-Biber & P. Lina Leavy (eds) *Feminist Research Practice. A Primer*. London: Sage (p. 296-329).
- Naples, N.A., B. Gurr (2014) Feminist Empiricism and Standpoint Theory; Approaches to Understand the Social World. In S. Nagy Hesse-Biber & P. Lina Leavy (eds) *Feminist Research Practice. A Primer*. London: Sage (p. 14-41).
- Pandey, Annarose (2009) Unwelcomed and Unwelcoming Encounters, In: Parvis Ghassem-Fachandi (ed) *Violence Ethnographic Encounters*. Oxford/New York: Berg publishers (p. 175-187).
- Reinharz, S. (1992) *Feminist Methods in Social Research*. New York/Oxford: Oxford University Press (p. 3-17; 76-94).
- Spierings, Niels (2022 – forthcoming). Quantitative Intersectional Research – Approaches, Practices, and Guidelines. In Davis, Kathy & Lutz, Helma (eds) Routledge *Handbook of Intersectionality Studies*. London: Routledge.

DESCRIPTION OF THE LECTURES

DAY 1

Lecture 1: **General introduction: Feminist and critical methods in social sciences**

prof. dr. Marieke van den Brink

This class provides a general introduction in feminist epistemologies and research methods. We will focus on how feminist scholars challenge dominant theories of knowledge and the major methodologies employed in the social sciences. We explore how gender theory and feminist politics shape the kinds of research questions we ask, the types of materials we use, and how we define our relationships with our subjects.

Reading: Nagy Hesse-Biber, S. ed (2014). *Feminist Research Practice. A Primer*. Sage (p 1-72).

Lecture 2: **Analysing gendered images and artefacts**

dr. Els Rommes

The famous sentence by Bruno Latour 'science (and technology) is politics with other means' indicates the relevance for doing a feminist analysis of science and technologies. But how can we study non-textual material, like artefacts (a door closer, bridge or tea cup), standardized systems (e.g. computer programs, the energy infrastructure or scientific discoveries) or images (e.g. in advertisements for the university, cartoons or a soap opera series)? And how do we study the power hierarchies within these non-textual, non-human things?

Reading: Harding, S. (1986) From the Woman Question in Science to the Science Question in Feminism. In *The Science Question in Feminism*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press (p. 15-29).

Lecture 3: **Discursive analysis of text and interviews**

dr. Laura Dobusch

The lecture gives an overview of the origin and contemporary applications of the method of discourse analysis. It discusses what a feminist discourse analytical approach might entail and also touches upon epistemological dilemmas connected to conducting empirical research from a discourse oriented perspective.

Reading: Lazar, M. M. (2007). Feminist Critical Discourse Analysis: Articulating a Feminist Discourse Praxis. *Critical Discourse Studies*, 4(2), 141-164.

Lecture 4: **Feminism and arts-based research**

dr. Noortje van Amsterdam

This lecture addresses how feminist research can benefit from using practices borrowed from the arts, such as poetry, dance, photography and theatre. Through examples from different research projects, it illustrates how arts-based methods can be used for data collection, analysis and the representation of research outcomes. Most importantly, it stresses the need to re-think how knowledge is created and valued within academia and poses the question how in- and exclusions are shaped by conventional academic practices.

Reading: Biehl-Missal, B. (2015). 'I write like a painter': Feminine creation with arts-based methods in organizational research. *Gender, Work & Organization*, 22(2), 179-196.

DAY 2

Lecture 1: **Mixed methods in gender and diversity research**

dr. Inge Bleijenbergh

The lecture discusses the strengths and pitfalls of using mixed methods in gender and diversity research. The lecture focuses on the challenges of combining research methods from different epistemological backgrounds and of coping with resistance from organizational stakeholders in accepting the knowledge produced in gender and diversity research.

Reading: - Bleijenbergh, I. & Fielden, S. (2015) Examining Diversity in Organizations from Critical Perspectives: the Validity of the Research Process. In *Oxford Handbook on Diversity in Organizations*. London: Oxford University Press (21 p.).

- Naples, N.A., B. Gurr (2014) Feminist Empiricism and Standpoint Theory; Approaches to Understand the Social World. In S. Nagy Hesse-Biber & P. Lina Leavy (eds) *Feminist Research Practice. A Primer*. London: Sage (p. 14-41).

Lecture 2: **Quantitative techniques, gender & intersectionality**

dr. Niels Spierings

Quantitative methods are at the core of understanding pay gaps on the labour market, differences in political representation, and understanding the popular support for gender+ equality. In this lecture, we will first look at the strengths and challenges of quantitative research, and how to assess (i.e. read) such studies. In the second part, more attention is paid to doing intersectional quantitative research.

Reading: - Miner, K. & Jayarante, T. (2014) Feminist survey research. In S. Nagy Hesse-Biber & P. Lina Leavy (eds) *Feminist Research Practice. A Primer*. London: Sage (p. 296-329).

- Reinharz, S. (1992) Introduction. In *Feminist Methods in Social Research*. New York/Oxford: Oxford University Press (p. 3-17)

- Reinharz, S. (1992) Feminist Survey Research and Other Statistical Research Formats. In *Feminist Methods in Social Research*. New York/Oxford: Oxford University Press (p. 76-94).

- Spierings, Niels (2022 – forthcoming). Quantitative Intersectional Research – Approaches, Practices, and Guidelines. In Davis, Kathy & Lutz, Helma (eds) *Routledge Handbook of Intersectionality Studies*. London: Routledge.

Lecture 3: **Qualitative techniques: ‘Gendered Fields’ – relations taboos and safety**

dr. Tine Davids

In this lecture we discuss how to deal with different relationships in the field. Questions about what kind of observers and participants we want to be as researchers, will be connected to the consequences for the different relationships that can develop while doing fieldwork. These relationships can entail, friendship, intimate but also violent relationships. We will touch upon taboos such as sexual relations, but also sexual harassment in the field.

- Reading:
- Davids, T. (2014) Trying to be a vulnerable observer: Matters of agency, solidarity and hospitality in feminist ethnography. *Women's Studies International Forum*, 43, 50-58.
 - Dubisch, Jill (2005) Lovers in the field; sex, dominance and the female anthropologist. In Don Kulick and Margaret Wilson (eds) *Taboo sex, identity and erotic subjectivity in anthropological fieldwork*. London/New York: Routledge (p. 22-39).
 - Maiale, Brenda (2009) A Hell of a Party. In: Parvis Ghassem-Fachandi (ed) *Violence Ethnographic Encounters*. Oxford/New York: Berg Publishers (p. 130-141).
 - Pandey, Annarose (2009) Unwelcomed and Unwelcoming Encounters, In: Parvis Ghassem-Fachandi (ed) *Violence Ethnographic Encounters*. Oxford/New York: Berg publishers (p. 175-187).

Lecturers

<p><u>Prof. dr. Marieke van den Brink</u> Professor Gender and Diversity</p>	<p>Marieke van den Brink is Professor Gender & Diversity at the Faculty of Social Sciences. She researches the place and functioning of gender and diversity in organizations (especially professional recruitment and selection) for Radboud Cultural and Social Research and provides education for, inter alia, the Bachelor and (research) Master programmes of Sociology and Cultural Anthropology and Development Studies. Furthermore she is dedicated to further university wide interdisciplinary research and education on Gender and Diversity.</p>
<p><u>Dr. Inge Bleijenbergh</u> Associate professor Research Methods</p>	<p>Inge Bleijenbergh is associate professor Research Methods, specialized in participatory action research, gender & decision-making and social policies. She finished her PhD on European social citizenship at the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam in 2004 and moved to Radboud University in 2006. She coordinated and implemented three EU funded research projects on gender equality in academia and is co-editor of the Oxford Handbook of Diversity in Organizations (2015).</p>
<p><u>Dr. Noortje van Amsterdam</u> Assistant professor at Utrecht University</p>	<p>Noortje van Amsterdam is assistant professor in Organization Studies at Utrecht University. Her research focusses on health and embodiment in organizations. She combines feminist theorizing with arts-based research to address inequalities based on gender, age, ability, social class, size and race. She is particularly interested in opening up space for thinking and talking about experiences that are marginalized, silenced or taboo.</p>
<p><u>Dr. Tine Davids</u> Assistant professor Feminist anthropology</p>	<p>Tine Davids is assistant professor at the department of Cultural Anthropology and Development Studies. She teaches and conducts research on gender, politics, globalization, gender mainstreaming, feminist ethnography, and (return) migration, and has published internationally on these research areas. She specializes in these issues mainly in Latin America, in particular Mexico and Central America and is involved in narrative approaches.</p>
<p><u>Dr. Laura Dobusch</u> Assistant professor Gender & Diversity</p>	<p>Laura Dobusch's main research and teaching topics are: why and how differences become relevant in organizations, how organizational inclusion can be theorized and practically implemented as well as how contemporary forms of organizing are linked to il/legitimate subjectivities. She has developed a special focus on gender and dis/ability and their relevance for inclusion and exclusion at the workplace. In her theoretical approach she builds on poststructuralist theories, inclusion/exclusion theories and a relational sociology perspective in general.</p>
<p><u>Dr. Niels Spierings</u> Associate professor Sociology</p>	<p>Niels Spierings' work concentrates on gender and political sociology. His interests include political behaviour and attitudes, gender attitudes, women's participation, the Middle East, migration, Islam, social media, and populism. His PhD focused on women's employment in Muslim countries. Current works focusses on gender equality and sexuality attitudes; gender and sexuality in migrant and Muslim communities in Europe and the Middle East; and gender</p>

	and sexuality in populist radical right politics. In addition he published on combining statistical research with a gender or intersectional approach.

Registration form PhD course on gender and research methodologies

Radboud University October 29-30, 2020

Last name	
First name	
Email address	
Phone number	
University/institute	
(preliminary) Thesis title	
Supervisor's name	
What do you expect from this course?	
For which lecture would you like to prepare for discussion?	
Is there something in your project with which you struggle? What aspect of your research project would you like to discuss?	
Does any of these situations apply to you*:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Registered NOG member2. PhD candidate at the RU Social Sciences Faculty3. PhD candidate at the RU Nijmegen School of Management4. Member of the Gender & Diversity PhD seminar

*In case none of these categories apply to you, the fee for this course is €200,-.
We will send you the information about payment after registration.

After filling out this form, you can send it to Garjan Sterk via email: g.sterk@maw.ru.nl
The application deadline is **September 20, 2020**.

Recommended further readings

General feminist Methods

- Reinharz, S. (1992). *Feminist Methods in Social Research*. New York/Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Actor network model/heterogeneity

- Leigh Star, S. (1990). Power, Technology and the Phenomenology of Conventions: On being Allergic to Onions. *The Sociological Review*. Vol 38, Issue 1_suppl, p. 26 – 56.

Mixed methods, in depth interviewing and focus groups

- Nagy Hesse-Biber, S. (2014). Feminist approaches to in-depth interviewing. *Feminist Research Practice. A Primer*. London: Sage. p 182-232.

- Munday, J. (2014) The practice of Feminist Focus Groups. In: Nagy Hesse-Biber, S. (2014). *Feminist Research Practice. A Primer*. London: Sage (p 363-388).