

# Gender, Sexuality and Law Module (LA3C3-15) 2025-26

## Overview

This module will introduce you to thinking about the law through the analytical lenses of gender and sexuality. Gender and sexuality are themes you may have explored in other law or non-law modules (eg, criminal law or family law). This module will provide you with an opportunity to pursue your interest in these themes in much greater depth. In the module, you will learn about how gender and sexuality are understood within feminism(s), queer theory, and liberalism. You will consider feminist legal methods, including feminist judgment writing, and you will contrast liberal theories of equality and justice with feminist accounts. And you will learn, through a series of case studies, about some important historical and contemporary clashes within feminism, ones that take shape around queer sexuality, race and trans.

## Content

### **Lectures**

Week 1: Feminist History/Theory  
Week 2: Feminist Legal Methods I  
Week 3: Feminist Legal Methods II  
Week 4: Equality, Justice and Gender  
Week 5: Sexuality and Feminism  
Week 6: Race and Feminism  
Week 7: Trans, Law Reform and Feminism I  
Week 8: Trans, Law Reform and Feminism II  
Week 9: Essay Guidance

### **Seminars**

No seminar  
Feminist History/Theory  
Feminist Legal Methods I  
Feminist Legal Methods II  
Equality, Justice and Gender  
Sexuality and Feminism  
Race and Feminism  
Trans, Law Reform & Feminism I  
Trans, Law Reform and Feminism II

## Learning Outcomes

- Be able to understand a range of feminist, queer and liberal theories and situate them within their historical contexts
- Be able to discuss the role of law in constructing, reproducing and challenging ideas of gender and sexuality
- Be able to understand the idea of equality from a liberal perspective and from a series of feminist counter perspectives
- Be able to apply theoretical understandings to concrete case studies
- Be able to provide a critique of law's relationship to gender and sexuality
- Be able to make a coherent set of written and oral arguments that demonstrate a nuanced understanding of law's relationship to gender and sexuality

## Assessment

Summative: a 3,000 word essay

Formative: a 500 word plan

## Essay support

You will receive extensive written feedback on your 500 word essay plan, and there will be two essay drop-in sessions and one lecture devoted to essay writing on the module.

Module Convenor:  
Professor Alex Sharpe

24 March 2025