

Social Divisions

First year module

Lecturer: [Dr Shelley Budgeon \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/budgeon-shelley.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/budgeon-shelley.aspx)

This course provides an introduction to the key social divisions in modern society. In this module you will learn about the various dimensions of social divisions and the role they play in organising identities, everyday interactions, communities, and social spaces.

We will also examine how social differences become the basis for stratifying societies and as such result in social hierarchies and inequalities. The module will explore in depth key debates about the role of gender, class, and 'race' and ethnicity, and their intersections, in modern societies.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the module the student should be able to:

- Understand the importance of social differences in modern societies.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the social processes associated with class, gender and ethnicity and the relation among them
- Explain the role of inequality as an issue in the development of sociological thought and research.
- Critically evaluate social processes which result in social divisions and their role in everyday life.

Assessment

- Term One: 2000 summative essay (30%)
- Term Three: 3 hour examination (70%)