

Translation k03e00

Good afternoon and welcome to the third chapter in this diversity lecture series. This chapter, "Gender and Gender Identity," will invite you to reflect on gender as a social construction, critically engage with the gender binary and prevailing hierarchies and norms, and learn about specific examples of discrimination based on gender identity.

I would now like to briefly introduce the three speakers who will accompany you in this chapter and give you an overview of what to expect in this chapter.

In episode 1, Prof. Dr. Ella Roininen from Karlshochschule International University in Karlsruhe, Germany, will take a critical look at socially constructed gender and the binary gender system. The goal of this episode is for you to learn and understand the difference between socially constructed gender and biological gender and how socially constructed gender is a system of norms and hierarchies. And you should also learn to think critically about the meaning of socially constructed gender in the context of identity and culture. In addition, Professor Roininen invites you to take an intersectional perspective and together reflect upon how you can consciously challenge the heteronormative and binary gender system in your everyday life.

In the second episode, Dr. Ruth Abramowski from the University of Bremen looks at gender in the context of the labor market. In this lecture, you will have the opportunity to gain basic knowledge about the topic of the labor market and gender, and to sharpen your understanding of sociological perspectives on work, occupation, and the labor market. In addition, you will learn about the data sources and methods used to look at gender differences in the labor market and gain insight into descriptions and explanations for such gender differences, for example, with regard to career choice, career start, work life, and also end of career.

In episode 3, you will see an interview with Professor Andrea Petö from the Central European University, who offers an overview of the anti-gender movement in academia in Europe, using her own university and the situation in Hungary as examples. In this interview, you will learn more about how difficult the work of gender studies scholars can be, who makes their work difficult and why, and what we can do to counter this anti-gender movement.

Finally, I would like to give you some impulses to take away and use to think along as you work through this chapter. Use this introduction to the topic to reflect on your experiences with gender as a socially constructed category and the heteronormative and binary gender system and consider the contributions in this chapter as an invitation to take different perspectives in order to develop a better understanding of how socially constructed gender relates to hierarchy and norms, to participation and justice, whether in everyday life, in the labor market, or at university.