

## GENDER RELATIONS IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

### INTRODUCTION

Gender relations and dynamics and conflicts relating to gender positions and sexuality are increasingly important in contemporary societies. Their study constitutes a fundamental perspective of sociological analysis, providing a specific focus regarding the shaping of social inequalities. While differences and inequalities based on gender and sexuality have a long history, their form is specific to each particular society and time, which means it is necessary to consider the transformations that have arisen in the current context. Gender is not an analysis tool that may be considered entirely separately from other keys to social stratification such as class, race, ethnicity, sexuality, various functional skills, citizenship or age, to name some aspects. This subject has the fundamental objective of clarifying the dynamics and conflicts regarding gender relations in contemporary societies, as well as considering the possibilities that an analysis from a gender perspective offers for social evaluation and intervention.

The gender perspective has become a fundamental model of analysis, which must be incorporated transversally into the study of the social reality. Social work students clearly need to examine its meaning and implications for their future professional activities in depth. This subject hence seeks to develop the theoretical and practical competencies that will allow effective understanding and intervention by students, applying this gender perspective transversally to all social analysis and intervention.

### COMPETENCIES

- Know and understand the incidence of the gender variable in contemporary social relations. Introduce the gender perspective into analysis of social relations as a transversal variable. Know and understand the development of different theoretical perspectives and their possible applications in social intervention.
- Develop conceptual and methodological tools directed at the application of social work to problems affecting contemporary gender relations. Be able to apply European and State guidelines with respect to gender equality.
- Know and understand the principal contemporary theories in the study of gender relations and sexuality. Know and understand the principal social problems from a gender perspective. Know and understand the development of social movements relating to gender and sexuality.

### CONTENT

1. Basic concepts: the sex/gender system, concept of gender, sexualities. Contemporary theoretical perspectives.
2. Feminist and queer theories.
3. Gender socialization: identities, gender and other forms of social stratification (class, race, sexuality).
4. Gender relations in contemporary society: work, family relations, health, sexuality, gender and migration.
5. Gender in social movements and public policy: feminism, sexual liberation movements.
6. Institutional feminism.
7. Public policy and gender.