



Equal for Equal – Making everyday stories visible. Ordinary aspects of daily life that can teach about the state of women's rights

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This teaching resource is allocated to following University:

UET – European University of Tirana

Institution:

European University of Tirana

<http://www.sustainicum.at/en/modules/view/338.Equal-for-Equal-Making-everyday-stories-visible.-Ordinary-aspects-of-daily-life-that-can-teach-about-the-state-of-womens-rights>



Work in pairs
Group work



Independent of
the number of
students



up to 1 semester



English, Shqip

Please note: module with excess length – more than 7 lecture units required!



Gender inequality has many faces. It is not only the obvious stories that show how a society deals with gender equality, but also real life stories, from different aspects of our daily life, can help students

understand the dynamics of gender roles and how they influence our identity, communication and social life in a multicultural environment. It is important to combine theory and practice in the class room, providing an insight into different social and political realities of women and men. Field work is the method used for this teaching resource. It is a vital and valuable group exercise that can be used to facilitate education for sustainable development. The basic procedures involved in carrying out fieldwork are to identify the area of interest, locate a suitable place to visit and to analyse the data obtained using suitable statistical strategies to interpret the findings of the research. That is why it is perfect for collecting stories.

“Equal for equal” is a class project, part of the Gender Studies course, where students of sociology and psychology, will be combined together to collect stories about how women and men experience their gender roles in the society. For 15 weeks of the second semester, students will bring real life stories into each class. For the first week we will create a set of questions that will be the same for each story. For this, we will ask the help and expertise of AWEN- a network of NGO-s that work in the field of protection of human rights, in particular of the rights of women and girls and whose main aim is the social, economic, cultural and politic empowerment of Albanian women. This partnership will have a twofold importance. Firstly, it will give information to students about the dynamics of problems that women face in the Albanian society and secondly it will facilitate the contacts with many women who would like to share their stories of success or failure with us and how they dealt with each of these situations; how they experience gender equality within their families, workplace and social relationships.

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Another important aspect of this class project is that it aims to be organized as an online platform. The students will create a Facebook page and each week this page will publish at least 3 stories, collected by students. Each story will be accompanied with a personal photo, of things they think are important to them. The most clicked story will be published in MAPO Weekend, in a special column, titled “equal for equal”. This will promote the project and the Facebook page will increase the chances for

success of the project; firstly because students will be more motivated to combine field and virtual work; secondly it will increase the number of people who can join this project and in the future students themselves can write a complete project and apply for sponsorship.

At the end of the semester, students and the lecturer will organize a round table and, together with two or three consultants from AWEN will share their experience during this project and discuss innovation and sustainable development that this kind of project produces, especially in the field of gender, a topic that effects the lives of each of us, in all stages.

Teaching Tools & Methods



Mini-project



Written material



Simulation program



Simulation

Integration of Social Stakeholders

Consultants of AWEN

- will help the students to set type of questions
- Identify possible women or men who would like to share their stories; kind of database
- They can organize one or two seminar classes to talk about the project

MAPO journal

- Will promote the project
- Enrich its profile

Strength

- Active learning experience for students through field work
- Understand how they can collect data for research methods
- Strong trans-disciplinary approach
- Understand the dynamics of gender roles in the Albanian society
- Learn to work in groups
- New paths of research for students in master or doctoral studies
- Experience and have a better understanding of the importance of sexual and gender identities
- Raise the awareness for the importance of gender equality in a democratic society

-Invest in projects that sustain development.

Weakness

- Difficult to collect stories.
- Many interviewers hesitate to share their stories with us, if they have suffered from inequalities or were discriminated because of their gender.
- Students' motivation, because this will ask for extra hours
- NGO must agree to discuss their problems with students and reveal to them difficulties they have to convince people talk about this issue.

Learning Outcomes

- To enhance student capacities in field work and team work
- To raise awareness of gender inequalities
- To develop students' project writing skills
- To bring everyday life stories into the classroom
- To improve collaboration between the university and other social institutions such as NGO-s
- To create the premises for a students' online platform

Relevance for Sustainability

- Sustainable development cannot be taught without an explicit commitment to gender equality, women empowerment and women's rights.
- Awareness of gender equality and equity is a key component for the positive growth of future generations and their sustainable contribution to the democratization of our society

At the end of the semester, students and the lecturer will organize a round table and, together with two or three consultants from AWEN (NGO active on human rights) will share their experience during this project and discuss innovation and sustainable development that this kind of project produces, especially in the field of gender, a topic that effects the lives of each of us, in all stages.

Related Teaching Resources

No specific previous knowledge / related resources required

Preparation Efforts

Medium

Preparation Efforts Description

Preparation for the lecturer (4 weeks teaching resource) –The first week of the semester will be presenting the project and creating the groups – Finding contacts with AWEN and other NGO- who work in this field – Creating a timetable and dividing responsibilities for each group –Create the set of questions –The next 2 weeks of the semester: collecting stories – Opening a Facebook page –Contact the MAPO journal for the column each weekend –The final week of the semester: organizing the round table

Access

Free

Assessment

This project will be part of the the course overall evaluation and it will have 20% of the evaluation. Usually, at the end of the course students are used to compile an essay, but in this course we will implement something new, the group project and students will be engaged during the whole course in it.

Credit/Certification Description

NA

Sources and Links

1-<http://awenetwork.org/sq/>

2-<http://www.culturalinnovators.org/>

3-<http://mapo.al>

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