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## Question

Difference between Gender and women studies also discuss autonomy vs integrated debate

### 1- Introduction

Gender studies and women studies are considered as same fields but these are different. Gender studies is an umbrella term that is related to every gender while women studies particularly discusses women related issues. Along with it there is a debate whether gender studies should be autonomous or integrated subject. According to Florence Howe, "Two strategies are for gender studies either autonomous or integrated the ultimate is integration."

### 2- Difference between gender and women studies

① Gender Studies and how it is different from women studies?



## 1- Definition

"Gender studies interdisciplinary field related to gender issues at three levels: economy, society and politics."

## 2- History

Gender studies emerged after women studies. It emerged during the third wave of feminism. So we can say that it is a contemporary to the women studies and it discusses every gender.

## 3- Point of Discussion

It discusses every gender. It encapsulates all gender whether lesbians, gays, bisexual, transgender, transgender, men and women. It even discusses the women related issues.

## 4- Point of Focus

Gender studies focuses on the gender issues related to every gender. It specially focus on the gender related issues which are related to identity.



## 5- Nature of gender studies

The gender studies is multidisciplinary field. It integrates different subjects into it.

## 6- Theoretical perspective of gender studies

It focuses on the gender-related perspective and theories that are related to gender studies and development along with it. Queer theory.

## 6) How women studies is different from gender studies?

### 7- Definition

women study is an interdisciplinary field and it particularly focuses on the women related issues.

### 8- History

women studies emerged during the second wave of feminism in 1960.



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Discuss the differences under same subheadings. Separate headings create monotony

Mary Ritter Beard wrote an Article during second wave of feminism, "A changing Political economy & its effects women". After their women studies emerged as a discipline.

### 9. Point of Discussion

women studies does not encapsulates all the gender. it particularly focuses on the women related issues. According to Zimmerman, "women studies today is and will be field in motion."

### 10. Point of focus

It only focuses on the issues related to the women and not ~~only~~ other genders.

### 11. Nature of women studies

women studies is by nature an inter disciplinary field. It is not an integrated subject.



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## Theoretical Perspective of women Studies

It discusses the theories like feminism, women and development and women and development.

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## Differences between these two studies

	<u>Gender Studies</u>	<u>Women Studies</u>
1-	Multidisciplinary	interdisciplinary
2-	Emerged after third wave of feminism	Emerged during the second wave
3-	It studies every gender	It only focuses on the women related issues
4-	It talks about the equality of every gender	It only talks about equality of women
5-	Queer and Gender and development approaches are discussed in it	Feminism, WID and WAD are discussed in it.



# Discuss the integration v/ autonomy debate

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## Introduction

No need for separate introduction in the same qs

There has always been a debate whether gender studies should be an autonomous subject or integrated. This debate was initiated by National Women Suffrage Association in America in 1982. Either to make a separate discipline or merged it with others. According to Florence Howe, "Two strategies to gender studies is autonomous or integration the ultimate is integration".

## ① Autonomy v/ Integration

### 2- Gender Studies as an Autonomous Subject

This view point supports that gender studies should be an independent subject. So as an independent subject it is easy to progress.



### 3- Reproductive Approach.

As per this view gender studies should be an independent so that it is easy to progress only when there is no influence of other subjects.

### 4- Radicalist in Approach

Those who are supporting it as an independent subject they are radicalist. Their approach and want a drastic change in our society. They lack legal access in this way.

### 5- Revolutionary Approach

Revolutionary approach means the one who is supporting it as an independent subject want a sudden change either a revolutionary.

### 6- Less role in policy making

The "autonomy" means less role in policy making



The integration while on the other hand has more role in the policy making.

## 7. Integration will impose constraints

According to autonomous view point making gender studies as an integrated subject will impose constraints and it won't be possible for gender studies to progress.

## 8. New knowledge and progress in gender studies

The supporter of this view point says that keeping it autonomous will help gender studies to progress and it will add new knowledge into the subject -

## Gender Studies As an Integrated Subject

## 9. Gender As an Integrated Subject

Those who support this



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view point consider gender studies will progress more as an integrated subject. Florence Howe said, "There are two strategies to gender studies i.e. autonomy and integration the ultimate is integration."

### 10- Moderate Approach

Those who support gender studies target the moderate approach. It means integration helps in getting the legal access.

### 11- Evolutionary Approach

The integrationists are evolutionary in approach. It means that the change comes with time it evolves after time.

### 12- Role in Policy making

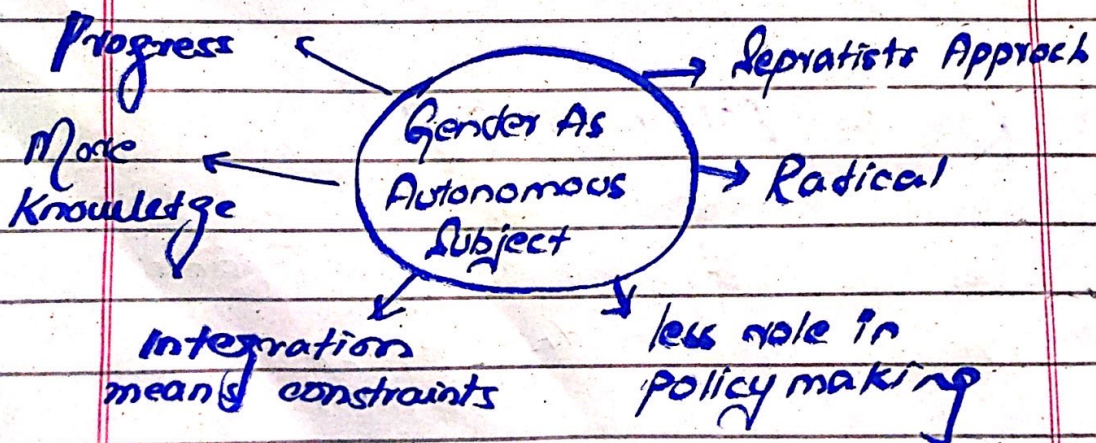
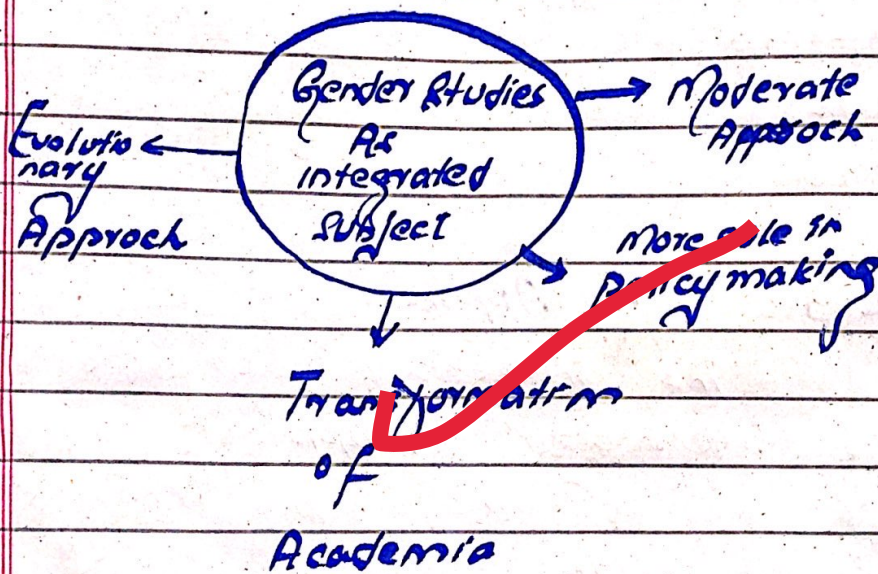
Keeping gender studies as an integrated subject means more role in the policy making.



once there is access to policy making it would be easy for the subject to flourish.

### 18- Transformation of academics

Integration means that the subject can easily transform the academia as there is easy to access the policy making so transformation is easy.





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## Conclusion

Gender Studies and women Studies are different subjects in their approaches and both asked for the rights but one specially targets the women rights while other targets the rights for every gender. Similarly the integration and autonomy debate is for gender studies but the best way is to keep it as an integrated subject.

Overall a good answer!!