

11

DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

2 Differentiate between gender studies and women's studies. Discuss in detail the multidisciplinary nature of gender studies.

Introduction:

women studies and gender studies are mixed with each other by the people but they are two separate fields of studies. women studies emerged as discipline in 1960s, as a result of feminist activism. On the other hand gender studies emerged as a discipline in late 1990s, tracing its roots to women studies studies of sexuality, and the increasing interest in rights of Gays, Lesbians and the Transgender community. So all of the communities combine together led the foundation of gender studies. There is also difference in nature and scope of both the disciplines.

An overview of women studies

Till late 1960s, disciplines ignored the contributions of women in many field. Disciplines like sociology and social sciences did not recognize or acknowledge women, their experiences, contributions and issues, which means that these disciplines were gender blind.

DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

These subjects were men centered.  
~~which is~~ It means that was  
the of Androcentrism.

Androcentrism:

It the practice of placing a  
masculine point of. Like it was  
man centred worldview. Androcentri-  
-ism exist everywhere and in  
every field of study at that time  
women were ignored during that  
time. Since women were in  
disadvantage position in many fields.  
That was the time 1860s when  
women gathered in the form of  
Feminist activism and raised their  
voice on every available forum.  
So many discipline starts to pay  
attention to women specially,  
women socialists. They started  
to focus on the issues of  
gender inequalities, and tried  
to fill the gaps in knowledge  
which were present due to  
male bias.

Emergence of women studies as  
a discipline

women studies emerged as  
a subject in 1970s. Although  
the first course ~~of~~ on women  
studies started in 1868 in  
Cornell University.

DATE: \_/~/

(3)

In 1970, the first program in women studies began at San Diego university. It was the time women studies were flourishing various programs on women studies were offered. The first scholarly journal on women studies Feminist studies published in 1972. In 1990 P.H.D was also offered in various universities. women studies led to the concept of gender studies.

When women as a concept expanded during late 1990s, people began to study of gender as a social construct. Initially ~~gender~~ the concept of gender started from feminist activism, but in the process it recognized how gender is socially constructed. The idea of men was also gendered, even men begin to look masculinity the way female were looking to femininity. which leads to the "men's studies and sexuality studies". Moreover there was great interest ~~in~~ about the rights of transgenders, gay, and lesbian. These studies form the basis of gender studies.

DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

(3)

## Difference between Gender studies and women studies.

### Women studies

① Origin:

it is originated due to Feminist activism.

② scope:

~~The~~ The scope of women studies is very inclusive, it only focuses on the issues of women.

Like ~~that~~ <sup>it</sup> talked about women suppression and the difficulties.

③ conscious raising component

Women studies contain the component of conscious raising, which means that it focuses on the needs of women only.

④ interdisciplinary

It is interdisciplinary in nature. Roots of women studies are based on sociology, history, and English, which means it draw its knowledge from several other disciplines.

p. t. o

DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

## Gender studies

### Origin:

Origin of Gender studies can be traced back to women studies and feminist writings.

### Scope:

Its scope is more inclusive as compared to women studies. Gender studies talked about every existing gender, which means its scope is wider.

### Multidisciplinary:

Gender studies is multidisciplinary in nature which means same topic can be study from different point of views.

### Goal of study:

Its main goal is to provide equality to every gender without any discrimination.

P. t. O

DATE: \_/ \_/ \_

(16)

## Multidisciplinary Nature of Gender Studies

Multidisciplinary ~~app~~ nature means when two or more disciplines studies the same topic from its own point of view while restricting themselves to certain boundaries.

Gender Study is a multidisciplinary discipline in nature. It takes multidisciplinary approach to study problems faced by different genders like men, women, transgenders, gays, etc. in their cultural, social, and political settings.

### Sociology

Sociology can be used to understand how society functions. And then how gender discrimination and gender inequality continues to exist in society.

### Anthropology

Anthropology can be used to explain how gender evolved with time. And what kind of difficulties were faced by them.

DATE: \_/ \_/ \_

(7)

### Psychology

Psychology can be used to understand the human nature like how it perceives sexuality.

### Biology

Biology can be used to know the biological differences between genders. Biology determined how sex is different from gender.

### Conclusion

Gender studies and women studies are two different disciplines dealing with various subjects and areas of studies. Women studies is narrower in scope while gender studies deals with the study of all genders. Additionally gender studies is a multidisciplinary while women studies is interdisciplinary in nature.