

Q NO=01

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## ANSWER

### I. INTRODUCTION:

Gender studies and women's studies are two different disciplines. Gender studies refers to analyze how gender roles with intersection to race, colour, identity shape society. While, women's studies refers to the women's lives, experiences, achievements and issues. Gender studies differ to women's studies in origin, focus of study, scope, and purpose. Moreover, Gender studies is a multi-disciplinary in nature which draws sources from other courses.

## II. DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GENDER STUDIES AND WOMEN'S STUDIES:

### A. Definition

Gender studies:

It is a multi-disciplinary field focusing on how genders are formed in a society and how they are affected by social-structures.  
Women's studies:

It is an inter-disciplinary field focusing on women's lives, experiences and their issues.

## B. Oxyton:

Gender studies:

It is expansion of women's studies field which was started in 1980s.

Women's studies:

It is an off-shoot of 2nd wave of feminism of 1960s.

use more elaborate and self explanatory headings.

## C. Arm:

Gender studies:

To analyze gender roles, power dynamics among different genders and power. Women's studies.

To highlight women's oppression and mainstream

their achievements.

### D. Scope:

Gender studies:

Its scope broader which includes not only male and female but also masculinity, femininity and queer theory etc.

Women's studies:

Its scope is narrower - only focuses on women's lives.

### E. Criticism,

Gender studies:

Gender studies is criticized for diluting

focus on women's  
oppression and inequalities  
among ~~men~~ and  
women.

Women's studies:

It is criticised  
that women's studies  
is only women  
centric ~~which~~ excludes  
other genders like  
non-binary or transgender.

# MULTI-DISCIPLINARY

## NATURE OF GENDER

### STUDIES:

Gender studies is a multi-disciplinary field. It draws many theories, research conclusions and perspectives from other fields like - sociology, Economics, literature, Anthropology etc.

A. Sociology, source of understanding society and gender roles.

Sociology aids in gender studies to study and analyze that how societies has evolved and how they

affected gender roles.

For example: Sherry Ortner says ~~that~~ in her book 'Man the hunter, women the gatherer' that primitive societies were egalitarian.

B. Anthropology: Aid in to understand culture dynamics,

Anthropology provides research and theories that how culture impact on genders in a particular society.

C. Economics: gender income inequalities

Economics describes in detail that how different economic

systems like capitalism and communism have impacted on genders. How does the economy shifted powers from women to men.

#### D. Psychology: understanding different genders' mentality:

While studying different genders' behaviours, gender studies seeks help of psychology. Psychology unfolds that how does the mentality of different genders work which translates into reality.

#### E. Political Science:

This discipline adds that how genders

Specially women are systematically marginalized. This discipline also provides ways in which women can project themselves to ensure gender equality.

#### IV. CONCLUSION:

The whole above discussion revolves around difference between gender studies and women studies and how gender studies seeks sources, theories from other disciplines which make it multi-disciplinary in nature.