

## **InterGender – International Consortium for Interdisciplinary Feminist Research Training**

<https://liu.se/en/research/intergender>

For this course PhD students, but also advanced Master's students are eligible to apply.

### **Title of the Course: Resisting Anti-Gender Politics – Strategies, Solidarities, and Democratic Defense**

**Dates:** 24-26 August 2026

**Location:** University of Bergen and Online

**Deadline for Application:** 28 June 2026

#### **Applications should be sent to:**

InterGender Consortium Coordinator Edyta Just ([edyta.just@liu.se](mailto:edyta.just@liu.se))

**Maximum number of participants:** 30

#### **Organized by:**

Centre for Women's and Gender Research (SKOK)

InterGender, International Consortium for Interdisciplinary Feminist Research Training

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**Course coordinator:** InterGender Consortium Coordinator, Edyta Just ([edyta.just@liu.se](mailto:edyta.just@liu.se))

#### **Lecturers:**

Kari Jegerstedt, Associate Professor in Gender Studies, Centre for Women's and Gender Research (SKOK), University of Bergen.

Elisabeth Lund Engebretsen, Professor in Gender Studies, Centre for Gender Studies, University of Stavanger.

Livia Gonçalves Buzolin, PhD, Law and Development/ Gender Studies, FGV Sao Paulo Law School (Brazil), currently guest researcher at the Centre for Women's and Gender Research (SKOK) and the Centre on Law & Social Transformation, University of Bergen.

Matthew Gichohi, Senior Researcher, Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI), University of Bergen.

#### **Course description**

Over the past decade, anti-gender politics have consolidated into a powerful transnational political formation shaping struggles over feminism, LGBTQ+ rights, academic freedom, and democratic governance. This course shifts the analytical centre of gravity from *diagnosis* to *resistance* and examines how feminist and LGBTQ+ scholars, activists, social movements, and institutions respond to anti-gender attacks across political, cultural, and geopolitical contexts. Drawing on recent

interdisciplinary scholarship, the course explores resistance not as a singular or unified reaction but as a heterogeneous field of strategies ranging from grassroots mobilization and coalition-building to legal, parliamentary, pedagogical, and epistemic interventions.

Analytically, the course builds on the understanding of anti-gender politics as an organized and productive political project rather than a mere backlash. Against this backdrop, resistance is approached as both defensive and transformative: contesting anti-gender discourses while simultaneously rethinking feminist strategies, solidarities, and democratic practices. Particular emphasis is placed on tensions and dilemmas within resistance, including questions of inclusion, intersectionality, securitization, institutionalization, and the risk of co-optation.

Empirically, the course engages with cases from Europe, Latin America, Asia, and transnational arenas, with particular attention to how resistance strategies are shaped by local political opportunity structures while remaining embedded in global dynamics. Special attention is given to feminist responses in contexts of democratic backsliding, authoritarian governance, and increasing restrictions on civil society and academia.

The course is explicitly interdisciplinary and relevant to PhD candidates in gender studies, sociology, anthropology, political science, law, media and cultural studies, global health, and related fields. It also aims to provide space for participants to reflect critically on their own research positionalities when studying highly politicized and contested fields.

## **Course schedule**

### **Monday, 24.08.2026**

10:00 Welcome address

10:30 – 12:00 Introductory lecture: Anti-gender and Resistance  
Kari Jegerstedt

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch break

13:30 – 15:00 Keynote Lecture: Resisting or existing? Anti-gender politics and  
Latin American strategies.  
Lívia Gonçalves Buzolin

15:00 – 17:30 Panel: Student Presentations (Part 1)

19:00 Dinner at own expense

### **Tuesday, 25.08.26**

09:00 – 12:00 Keynote Lecture: Transnational Anti-Gender Politics Across “Most of the World”:  
A Sino Nordic Approach

Elisabeth Lund Engebretsen

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch break

13:30 – 15:00 Keynote Lecture: Anti-Gender Politics in the African Context  
Matthew Gichohi

15:00 – 17:00 Panel: Student Presentations (Part 2)

18:00 – 19:00 Public talk at Literaturhuset  
Are we approaching fascist times? Anti-rights movements and how to resist them.

19:30 Dinner at own expense

### **Wednesday, 26.08.26**

10:00 – 13:00 Workshop: A Comparative Overview of Anti-Gender Politics  
Siri Gloppen (guest)

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch break

14:30 – 16:00 Reports and closing discussion

### **Obligatory preparations after the acceptance to the course**

- Course readings (list provided after acceptance to the course), about 1000 pages (600 obligatory and 400 optional).
- **Paper** (2–5 pages describing a research problem related to the course and the participant's PhD thesis project or MA thesis project) to be sent to the InterGender Consortium Coordinator Edyta Just ([edyta.just@liu.se](mailto:edyta.just@liu.se)). The deadline will be indicated in due time. Remember to mark it with your name and the course name.
- All participants are expected to read the paper of their fellow group members before the course and be prepared to offer constructive comments. The papers will be made available online.

### **Optional essay after the end of the course**

- An essay of 6000-7000 words to be handed in no later than 3 months after the course. One copy should be sent to the InterGender Consortium Coordinator Edyta Just ([edyta.just@liu.se](mailto:edyta.just@liu.se)) and, depending on the topic, another copy should be sent to the Head of Centre for SKOK Kari Jegerstedt ([Kari.Jegerstedt@uib.no](mailto:Kari.Jegerstedt@uib.no)) or to Livia Gonçalves Buzolin ([livia\\_gb@hotmail.com](mailto:livia_gb@hotmail.com)), this will be discussed during the course. The teacher has 3 months to evaluate the essay.
- The essay should strike a balance between addressing a theme that has been part of the course (lectures, discussions, reading material), and be relevant for participant's own research.

- The essay should, moreover, be considered as an exercise in doing a written presentation aimed at an academic readership not familiar with the author's research. The essay should constitute a whole and explain relevant contexts.

### **Accreditation and examination**

1. 7.5 ECTS credits are given for active participation and a short paper, 2-5 pages (graded pass/fail) for 3 days course.
2. 10 ECTS credits are given for active participation plus an optional essay (graded pass/fail) for 3 days course.

### **Course certificate:**

In order to request the certificate, please send an e-mail to Edyta [Just\(edyta.just@liu.se\)](mailto:edyta.just@liu.se).

The Consortium Coordinator issues, upon request, a certificate indicating to how many ECTS credits course participation is considered equal. It is the candidate/student's own responsibility to ask her/his/their home institution about its accreditation rules and to obtain appropriate credit for participation in InterGender course within the enrolled curriculum.

### **Applications should be written in English and include:**

- \* Name, affiliation, full address, e-mail, phone
- \* Name and affiliation of PhD supervisor or MA supervisor
- \* Brief CV
- \* Description of PhD project or MA project (1-2 pages)
- \* Motivation: why do you want to participate in the course (1-2 pages)
- \* Please, indicate if you are in the first/middle/last phase of your PhD research or if you are an advanced MA student
- \* Please, indicate whether you intend to attend the course in person or online.

### **Information on Admission:**

1. The event is free.
2. The course will be issued in a hybrid mode, participants who wish to attend remotely will receive the link to join on admission.
3. Participants have to be registered as PhD candidates or advanced MA students.
4. The InterGender courses are open for PhD and advanced MA students from all disciplines and countries.
5. Participants will be selected on the basis of an evaluation of their CV, project description and a letter of motivation.
6. If there are more applicants who qualify for participation, than there are places, the places will be distributed along the following criteria:

- a) Applicants registered as PhD candidates or advanced MA students at a Partner Unit will be prioritized for a maximum of 90% of places with

approximately 25 % of the 90% open to MA-students. When the places are distributed among the Partner Units, a good spread between these units will also be ensured.

b) Applicants registered as PhD candidates in another unit at the Partner Higher Education Establishments will be prioritized for 10 % of the places. When the places are distributed among the Partner Higher Education Establishments, a good spread between these establishments will also be ensured. If places remain of the 90 % prioritized for PhD candidates and advanced MA students registered at a Partner Unit, these places will instead be prioritized for PhD candidates registered at a Partner Higher Education Establishments.

c) If the applicants according to a) and b) do not fill all the places, remaining places will be open for competition between all eligible and qualifying applicants from any higher education establishment.

6. If there are more eligible and qualified applicants for the available places, a selection process will take place, which, in addition to academic quality and motivation/relevance, will use non-discriminatory selection criteria, which will ensure a spread of nationalities, regions, institutions and disciplines.

7. An additional lot drawing procedure will be used, if several eligible and in all respects equally qualified applicants are competing for the limited number of places in the different categories.

8. In case of too many eligible and qualifying applicants, a waiting list will also be organized, and places will be offered to applicants on this list, should some of the selected participants cancel her/his/their participation.

9. The consortium coordinator (5.3) selects participants under the auspice of the Board and is required to report to the Board how selection is distributed between the Consortium Partners. If the Board finds that the distribution is uneven, the Consortium Coordinator shall compensate for this in future selections.

10. Upon request of a Partner/Partner Unit/Partner Higher Education Establishment, the Consortium Coordinator (5.3) issues a certificate indicating how many ECTS credits should be awarded for the participation in a particular course. It is the candidate/student's own responsibility to ask her/his/their home institution about its accreditation rules and to obtain appropriate credit for participation in InterGender course within the enrolled curriculum.

### **InterGender Partner Units and Higher Education Establishments**

1. Higher Education Establishment: **Linköping University**, Partner Units: **Unit of Gender Studies, Department of Thematic Studies**, Coordinating Partner
2. Higher Education Establishment: **Göteborg University**, Partner Unit: **Centre for Interdisciplinary Gender Research**, Full Partner

3. Higher Education Establishment: **Karlstad University**, Partner Unit: **Centre for Gender Studies**, Full Partner
4. Higher Education Establishment: **Luleå University of Technology**, Partner Unit: **Department of Business Administration, Technology and Social Science**, Full Partner
5. Higher Education Establishment: **Lund University**, Partner Unit: **Department of Gender Studies**, Full Partner
6. Higher Education Establishment: **The Norwegian National Research School in Gender Studies**, Full Partner
7. Higher Education Establishment: **Södertörn University**, Partner Unit: **Gender Studies**, Full Partner
8. Higher Education Establishment: **Goethe University Frankfurt**, Partner Unit: **Cornelia Goethe Center/GRADE Center Gender**, Full Partner
9. Higher Education Establishment: **University of Granada**, Partner Unit: **Grupo Investigación PAI Hum592 Recepcion, Modos y Géneros de la Literatura en Lengua Inglesa**, Full Partner
10. Higher Education Establishment: **Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin**, Partner Unit: **Center for transdisciplinary Gender Studies**, Full Partner
11. Higher Education Establishment: **University of Innsbruck**, Partner Unit: **Center for Interdisciplinary Gender Studies Innsbruck (CGI)**, Full Partner
12. Higher Education Establishment: **University of Lodz**, Partner Unit: **Women's Studies Centre**, Full Partner
13. Higher Education Establishment: **University of Oviedo**, Partner Unit: **Gender and Diversity PhD and MA Programmes**, Full Partner
14. Higher Education Establishment: **Utrecht University**, Partner Unit: **Graduate Gender Programme/Netherlands Research School of Gender Studies**, Full Partner
15. Higher Education Establishment: **University of Vienna**, Partner Unit: **Gender Research Office**, Full Partner