

Virtual Lecture Series “Sex and Gender in the Life Sciences 2025”

A lecture series of DFG networks in the field of Biomedical Sciences of the University of Duisburg-Essen (UDE), initiated by UDE's strategic research area Biomedical Sciences and the Essen College of Gender Research.

https://www.uni-due.de/ekfg/sex-and-gender-in-the-life-sciences_2025.php

Introductory Lecture 2025

Sex and Gender-Aspects in Physiology Impact Daily Life

Prof. Dr. Katja Ferenz, UDE/University Hospital Essen

11:00–12:00 h; online

Host: EKfG, ZMB & ELH

Abstract

In 2019, the Medical Faculty of the University Duisburg-Essen established the elective course “Gender medicine”, decisively coordinated by Prof. Dr. Anke Hinney & PD Dr. Andrea Kindler-Röhrborn. This first focus on gender aspects in medicine resulted in the foundation of the “Institute of Sex and Gender-Sensitive Medicine” (IGSM) at our Faculty of Medicine at the University of Duisburg-Essen in 2023. By this, beyond personal research activities of individual researchers and clinicians at Medical Faculty Duisburg-Essen, we join forces and also implemented fundamental aspects of gender-related differences in medicine in the curriculum of our students (medicine, medical biology or medical engineering).

Me working at the Institute of Physiology, being a pharmacist by training with a comprehensive background in biochemistry and physiology have a high interest in highlighting gender-related physiological differences in humans to my students and especially how they impact on their daily life. In my presentation, I would like to give you an insight on how I fascinated my students for at first sight boring physiological topics such as colour perception, thermoregulation, breathing, hearing and animal models in physiological research in the context of gender. Hopefully, I can convince you how important gender-sensitive physiological research is in our daily life and maybe my talk helps to spark creative ideas how to implement gender-aspects in your own research and teaching.