Research for a new course: Gender, Sustainability and Digital Futures of Work

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Contents

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1. Tasks

Conduct research on decolonial feminist perspectives on digitalisation of work and sustainability, to contribute to development of new optional course "Gender and Digital Futures of Work" at the Gender Department

	Task	Output
A	Survey existing courses that engage with sustainability and digital futures of work	Brief report with an overview of courses, and any reading lists
B	Review decolonial feminist perspectives on sustainability and digital futures of work	Annotated bibliography

2. Process

Initial meeting
with Dr Islam

Check-in with
Dr Islam

Check-in with
Dr Islam

Develop approach
and proposed format
of outputs

Undertake initial
research, recording
findings in spreadsheet

Refine search
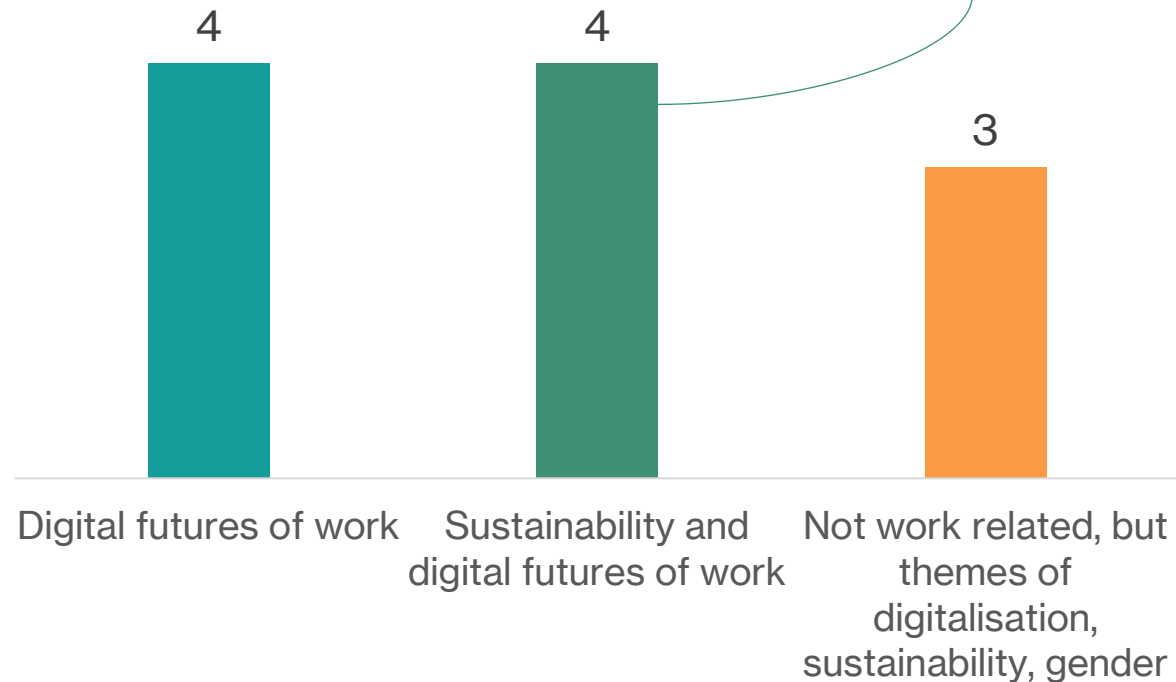strategy, finalise
research

Write
reports

3. Outcomes – Task A: Review of courses

Survey existing courses that engage with sustainability and digital futures of work

11 relevant courses identified, with varying relevance of themes

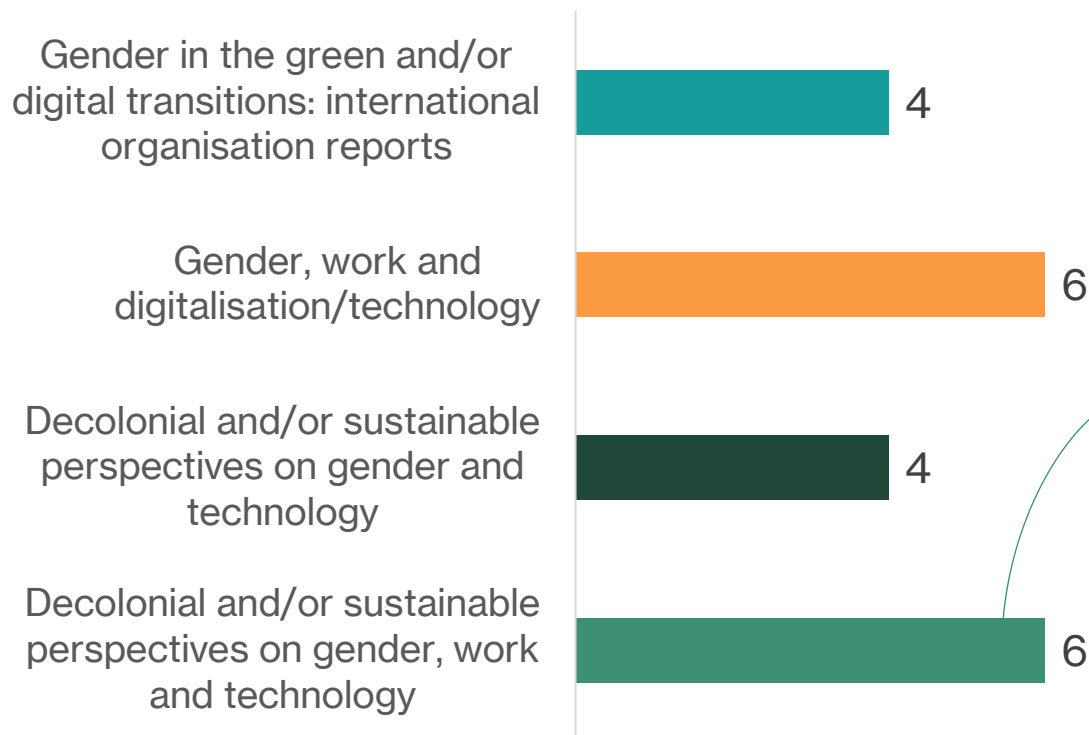|		
4	4	3
Digital futures of work	Sustainability and digital futures of work	Not work related, but themes of digitalisation, sustainability, gender

Example: Work in the Digital Era, University of Warwick, UK

- Explores how digital and social technologies are shaping the definition, content and organisation of work and workplaces

- Topics include 'New work practices in response to environmental and sustainability challenges (e.g. SDG 8)', and 'Utilising technologies in sustainable and responsible employing organisations.'

3. Outcomes – Task B: Annotated bibliography

Review decolonial feminist perspectives on sustainability and digital futures of work

20 key sources identified, with varying relevance of themes

Theme	Count
Gender in the green and/or digital transitions: international organisation reports	4
Gender, work and digitalisation/technology	6
Decolonial and/or sustainable perspectives on gender and technology	4
Decolonial and/or sustainable perspectives on gender, work and technology	6

Example: Ramirez, J., Vélez-Zapata, C. P., & Maher, R. (2023). Green colonialism and decolonial feminism: A study of Wayúu women's resistance in La Guajira. Human Relations, 77(7).

- Case study of Wayúu women's resistance to green energy investment in La Guajira, Colombia

- Explores how technological resources are used to justify green energy investment that exploits Indigenous lands and peoples (a new form of 'green' colonialism).

- Argues that the green and digital energy transition is rationalised by the modernity and rationality of colonial exploitation

- Outlines the complex dynamics of gender-based oppression and the coloniality of power, as the Wayúu women are excluded from green energy consultations by men from their communities

4. Reflections

- Engaging research content, similar but distinct to content in my courses
  - Interesting observation – difficulty finding content on sustainability that linked to other themes

- Opportunity to discuss themes and collaborate with Dr Islam

- Gained insight into how courses are put together

- Freedom/initiative to develop process, approach, and format