

## Psychology of Women - Psychology 208/WS 305, Spring 2009

**Instructor:** Dr. Patti Owen-Smith

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**Office:** 317 Seney

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Texts:** Selected readings (on e-reserve)

**About this class:** The Psychology of Women explores women's experiences and issues in the context of psychological theory and research. Emphasis is placed on the critical examination, reanalysis, and reinterpretation of numerous concepts in psychology as they inform our knowledge of women.

There are three distinctive features to this class:

1. The class is *writing intensive* and satisfies the sophomore writing requirement. This means that you will be writing and revising on a consistent basis and that you will need to devote time and effort to the writing and revision processes. You will also be reviewing one another's paper. Therefore, your ability to help your classmates via constructive written criticism will contribute to your grade.
2. In-class dialogue and discussion will be a significant component. While I will lecture on a regular basis, I will also expect you to take some leadership and ownership of the class. This will *not* be a class where you can sit quietly, take notes, and then leave.
3. The most distinctive feature of the class is the Theory Practice/Service Learning (TPSL) format.

**Objectives of the Course:** Each of us in this class should expect the following:

1. To participate actively in class discussions and in Learn Link conversations on a regular basis and in a thoughtful manner. This means that each of us should be able to frame our conversations around the readings and the theory concerning the psychology of women.
2. To connect the psychological theory to the daily lives of girls and women. Our community placements will be one important venue for doing this.
3. To see the specific ways in which class, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and age intersect to influence female growth and development.

4. To grow in heart and mind. This means that we will make a conscious attempt to develop a tolerance and appreciation of others' ideas and convictions, particularly those views that are different from our own.
5. To enjoy this moment in time in our own journey of learning!

### **Requirements of the Course:**

1. Attendance and class participation (10%)
2. Black Board Discussion entries (10%)
3. Community Placement and TPSL Reflection Paper (30%)
- 4 . Response Papers (30%)
5. Biography (20%)

The plus-minus system will be utilized in the calculation of final grades.

The student Honor Code of Oxford College applies to every member of the class. Please review this code carefully giving special attention to plagiarism. Remember that plagiarism occurs when one uses the words and/or ideas of another person without quotations and without adequate referencing. PLEASE NOTE ALSO THAT THE USE OF FORMER STUDENTS' PAPERS MAY NOT BE USED IN ANY FORM; TO DO SO IS TO VIOLATE THE HONOR CODE!!!

### **Course Schedule:**

1/14	Introduction
<b>*1/19</b>	<b>No Class – Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday</b>
1/21	Discussion of TPSL Community Placements Theoretical Perspectives
1/26	Theoretical Perspectives
1/28, 2/2	Prenatal development, infancy, & childhood
<b>*2/4</b>	<b>READING SET 1-Response Paper Due! Discussion</b>

2/9, 2/11	Adolescence
<b>*2/16</b>	<b>READING SET 2-Response Paper Due! Discussion</b>
<b>*2/18</b>	<b>TPSL Discussion</b>
<b>* 2/23, 2/25</b>	<b>Individual/Group Presentations of Biographies (attendance is required for both days)</b>
3/2, 3/4	Love Relationships and Sexuality
<b>*3/6</b>	<b>Last day for dropping course without academic penalty</b>
<b>*3/9-13</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>
3/16	Pregnancy and Childbirth
<b>*3/18</b>	<b>READING SET 3- Response Paper Due! Discussion</b>
<b>*3/23</b>	<b>TPSL Discussion!</b>
3/25	Motherhood
<b>*3/30</b>	<b>READING SET 4-Response Paper Due! Discussion</b>
4/1	Women and Work
<b>*4/6</b>	<b>READING SET 5-Response Paper Due! Discussion</b>
4/8	Women and Health
<b>*4/13</b>	<b>TPSL Complete Draft due! Peer Review</b>
4/15, 4/20	Violence Against Women
<b>*4/22</b>	<b>READING SET 6- Response Paper Due! Discussion</b>
<b>*4/27</b>	<b>TPSL Reflection Papers Due and Abstract Posted to Conference; TPSL Discussion</b>

