
Anthropology 324/Women's Studies 340

Women in Cross Cultural Perspective

Tues/Thurs 1:00-2:15

Spring Semester, 2006

Instructor: Dr. Wendy Dirks

Office: Language 102

Office Hours: TBA. I will be very flexible in scheduling appointments, so please feel free to come and see me with any concern or question.

Phone: (770) 784-8349

E-mail: wdirks@emory.edu

Textbooks: *A World Full of Women*, 4rd Edition (2005). Martha C. Ward & Monica Edelstein. Allyn & Bacon.

Baghdad Burning: Girl Blog from Iraq (2005). Riverbend. The Feminist Press at the City University of New York.

Additional readings will be assigned throughout the semester.

Goals of the Course:

There are two primary goals for this course. The first is to explore women's issues across cultures. What concerns do women share around the world, regardless of where they live? How do the cultures in which women live shape and influence their responses to these common themes in their lives? In this course, we will explore the answers to these questions.

The second goal is to learn how to write a library-based research paper using available databases to find peer-reviewed journal articles and scholarly books. The goal is to prepare students to write research papers for upper level classes and senior honors theses, as well as to provide a good background for the kind of research required in post-graduate studies. The papers for this course will be published in the online journal, *The Oxford Journal of Anthropology*.

Student Requirements for Completing the Course:

The course will be in seminar format. Each week, we will read a chapter of Ward & Edelstein's textbook and students will be assigned as discussion leaders for the topic of the week. Prior to our discussion, the leaders will do literature searches to find appropriate articles and book chapters to augment the textbook, which they will distribute to the class. Each student will keep a reading and research journal on the class Blackboard site to help prepare for the discussion. There will be several short written assignments related to the discussion topics.

In addition, I will show several films over the course of the semester. These will be shown outside of class and will be on reserve for those students who are unable to view the films during the screening time.

While the papers are being formatted for publication, we will read a book that is taken from a web blog of an Iraqi woman commenting on the war.

As the course progresses, students will select a topic for their own research paper in consultation with the instructor. Students will prepare an annotated bibliography and prepare drafts of their paper. We will have regular peer-review sessions of each draft in class as well. The grade will be based on participation and the final paper. Participation will include attendance and turning in drafts, assignments, and articles for discussion on time and will count for 50% of the grade. The final paper will count for 50% of the grade. The grading system will be A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C-, D+, D, F.

Honor Code: As a member of Oxford College's Honor Council and a scientist, academic integrity is extremely important to me. Learning how to write research papers requires learning appropriate citation and paraphrasing, both of which are skills. We will work hard on that aspect of writing, along with the other skills necessary to write research papers. The papers produced in this course will be published online if they meet the standards of our journal. This should be a further incentive to make sure that all work done in this class adheres to the highest standards of academic integrity. Any violations of the Honor Code will be turned over to the Honor Council. If you have any questions about citation or plagiarism, or any other aspect of the Honor Code, please don't hesitate to ask.

Course Outline

Week of:	Topic:	Student Leaders
Jan 19	Intro to the course	NA
Jan 24	Research Methods	NA
Jan 31	Work and Gender	TBA
Feb 7	Mothers of Anthropology	NA
Feb 14	Biocultural Aspects of Women's Lives PAPER TOPICS DUE	TBA
Feb 21	Nonhuman Primates	TBA
Feb 28	Patterns of Partnering ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE	TBA
Mar 7	Cultural Separation of Genders FIRST DRAFT DUE	TBA
Mar 14	Spring Break	
Mar 21	Alternative Genders	TBA
Mar 28	Women and Religion SECOND DRAFT DUE	TBA
Apr 4	Human Rights REVIEWS DUE	TBA

Apr 11	Exploitation in the Workplace FINAL DRAFT DUE	TBA
Apr 18	War in Iraq	TBA
Apr 25	War in Iraq	TBA
May 2	PUBLICATION PARTY	