

Psychology of Women - Psychology 208/WS 305, Spring 2007

Instructor: Dr. Patti Owen-Smith

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Office: 317 Seney

Office Hours: MWF – 3-4 pm and *always by appointment*

Texts: Rogers, A.G. (2006). The Unsayable. New York: Random House.
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 two distinctive features to this class:

1. 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.
2. The most distinctive feature of the class is the Theory Practice/Service Learning (TPSL) format. What is "Theory/Practice?" A Theory/Practice component can deepen your understanding of the subject you are studying and develop your ability to reflect on, "practice," and apply to a real life situation what you are learning in the classroom. I believe that knowing facts, reciting theories and concepts, and regurgitating back on an exam what you have memorized is not necessarily reflective of a "deep" understanding of the material nor does it prepare you for real life experiences. Therefore, you will be expected to *reflect on what you are learning* by working in a social service agency in the greater surrounding community *at least* two hours a week. I will provide you with a list of possible placements and times, and you then may select the placement based on your personal preferences and schedules. Detailed information will be given in class about this component of the class.

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.