

Oxford College of Emory University
INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S STUDIES
WS 100/SOC SCI 103

Fall 2007 Seney Hall 208

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Office hours: Tues and Thurs after class – please make an appointment by email.

Course Description

An interdisciplinary and multicultural approach to the fundamental concepts and necessary tools of analysis in the study of women. The focus will be on the social practices, cultural representations and institutions that shape women's lives in American society and how women have resisted these structures. We will critically examine themes that are essential to understanding the place of women in contemporary American society. As we explore the impact of gender on women we will seek to understand the intersections of race, class, ethnicity and sexuality on women's lives.

Required Readings

1. Kesselman, Amy, Lily McNair, Nancy Schneidewind, *Women: Images and Realities, A Multicultural Anthology*, 4th edition, 2008 McGraw-Hill.
2. Taylot, Verta, Nancy Whittier, Leila Rupp, *Feminist Frontiers* 7th edition 2007, McGraw-Hill.
3. Fels, Anna, *Necessary Dreams: Ambition in Women's Changing Lives*, 2004, Anchor Books..

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

- 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 of the day and the theory presented and to listen respectfully and carefully to one another.
- To connect the theory of the readings, films, and lectures to our daily lives and the lives of girls and women throughout the world.
- To understand the ways in which all girls and women have been discriminated against, marginalized, and often treated as invisible in virtually every culture for which we have empirical research
- To evaluate specific ways in which class, ethnicity, sexual orientation and age intersect in defining your own lives and the experiences of girls and women

-To appreciate the gains made by the three waves of the feminist movement and acknowledge the work that still remains for the liberation of all women throughout the world

-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 who are different from our own.

Requirements of the course and percentage contribution toward your grade:

1. Quotation and Talking points (QTP) (20%) – Due at the beginning of each class. For most of the class periods a set of readings is assigned (see attached schedule). You are required to read these selections prior to the class designated for discussion of the readings and to submit a one-page, typed response to these readings. This response paper will consist of two parts: (1) a quotation from the reading that you found particularly compelling or controversial, and (2) a brief outline of ideas prompted by the readings that you can use as “talking points” in class discussion.

2. Attendance, Class Participation, and Learn Link Entries (20%) – Since your individual voice is considered very significant to the integrity of this course, you should attend every class and actively participate in discussion.

Each student will make at least 10 Learn Link entries during the course of the semester. Each entry should be a response or personal reaction to a concept presented in the lecture/readings, in a film, by another student, etc. and should be approximately 3-4 sentences in length (at least!). It is hoped that these entries will serve as a type of conversation among students in the class. Please respond thoughtfully and respectfully to one another on this and demonstrate careful reflection as opposed to an “off the cuff” reaction. I am interested in whether you are able to incorporate ideas from the class and then articulate them.

In addition, each student in the class will be responsible for leading the discussion of the readings for one or more class sessions. It will be incumbent on the facilitators to submit to me a list of discussion questions that they will use to lead the discussion of the readings. *This should occur 2-3 days prior to the discussion.* A list of discussion leaders for each class will be given out in class, but EVERY student will have the opportunity before the semester ends.

3. Mid-term exam on 10/23 (25%) Final paper (25%) on the book *Necessary Dreams* (more to follow on final paper) due Friday Dec 14.

4. In class project to be presented to the class on the last days of class (10%). Each student will have 10-15 minutes to present a feminist analysis and evaluation of a

newspaper article or magazine ad or film showing the class that you have learned the tools of analysis used in the field of women's studies.

COURSE SCHEDULE

8/30 Introduction to the course

Course overview; course requirements; and class expectations

Introduction to the academic field of women's studies

Interdisciplinary and multicultural

What is the history of the field?

Deconstructing what is considered to be "natural"

9/04 Theoretical perspectives and dominant ideas in the field of women's studies

Understanding patriarchy (power relations and hierarchies); feminism (several perspectives that place women at the center of the analysis; all perspectives seek to understand women's oppression); the social construction of gender (learning to be a woman; woman as object; masculinity and femininity); understanding and valuing differences between women; the social construction of race; white privilege; the personal is the political; homophobia as social control of gendered behavior

REQUIRED READINGS for 9/04

FEMINIST FRONTIERS pp.1-37

Note: Last day to change courses 9/05

9/06 More on theoretical perspectives and key ideas

REQUIRED READINGS for 9/06

FEMINIST FRONTIERS pp. 38-93

9/11 The social construction of gender

REQUIRED READINGS for 9/11

WOMEN pp. 1-69

9/13 How we learn to become a woman

REQUIRED READINGS for 9/13

FEMINIST FRONTIERS pp. 94-138

9/18 Language, culture and gender

REQUIRED READINGS for 9/18

FEMINIST FRONTIERS pp: 139-192

WOMEN pp.70-113

9/20 OPEN FORUM IN CLASS

Select one or two readings that particularly moved you, tell us why and how it clarified or related to an event you have observed in your life or in our culture.

9/25 Sexualities

Challenging the patriarchy

FEMINIST FRONTIERS pp. 300-348

WOMEN pp.140-168

9/27 Women's bodies; female beauty

Why is beauty and appearance so important to women?

Whose gaze matters?

FEMINIST FRONTIERS pp. 349-414

WOMEN pp. 115-139

10/2 Intersections of race and class

Women pp.375-414

Note: Last day to drop without academic penalty 10/3

10/04 Understanding and valuing differences between women

Women pp. 415-433 and 447-476

10/9 NO CLASS MID SEMESTER BREAK

10/11 Film – Video- an exploration of some women's journeys to self- esteem

I am Beautiful-documentary by Suzie Galler

10/16 Women and work

FEMINIST FRONTIERS pp. 191-250

WOMEN pp.169-212

10/18 Midterm review

10/23 MID-TERM EXAM

10/25 Health and reproductive justice

Women pp. 309-374

10/30 Women and families

Feminist Frontiers pp.251-299

Women pp.243-275

11/01 Violence against women and girls

Women pp. 477-534

11/06 Violence against women and girls

Feminist Frontiers pp.415-452

11/08 Global Politics- international perspectives

Feminist Frontiers pp. 453-495

11/13 Feminist movements and social protest

Feminist Frontiers pp. 501-557

Women pp. 535-595

11/15 Feminist movements and social protest

Women pp. 535-595

11/20 Women organizing

Women pp. 596-627

11/22 No Class: HAPPY THANKSGIVING

11/27 Film –Cut From Different Cloth: Burqas and Beliefs-DVD

A documentary film by Cliff Orloff and Olga Shalygin

Women in Afganistan

11/29 In-class presentations

12/04 In-class presentations

12/06 In-class presentations

12/11 Review of course

12/14 Friday FINAL EXAM PAPER due by noon

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 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. Should you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please consult with me.

Please make certain that your cell phones are off and that I do not see nor hear them in the classroom at any time. Thank you.

WS 100

Fall Semester 2007

Quotation, and Talking Points (QTP)

The purpose of this assignment is to provide a framework for you to think about and respond to the reading sets. Therefore, each student will read the entire reading set assigned for a respective date and then prepare a *quotation*, and *talking points* prior to the class in which the reading set will be discussed. The QTP will be in the format of a one-page, typed page. Since you will be reading more than one article for each reading set, the QTP should be a synthesis of ideas reflected across readings or individual talking points for each article. This will be turned in to me at the beginning of class on the first day of the discussion as indicated in your syllabus.

(1) **Quotation** - Selecting compelling or controversial quotations can increase involvement in reading materials. Therefore, you are to select a quotation from *one* of the readings that is particularly provocative or compelling to you, reflect it in your paper (be certain to cite it appropriately in terms of author and page number), and *briefly* state why it was, in fact, significant to you.

(2) **Talking Points** – Composing “talking points” should encourage you to construct, organize, and focus your ideas prior to class discussion. Therefore, you should choose *at least* 5-7 points that you see as critical to these readings. You may simply “bullet” these points or enumerate them. They might serve as a type of summary.

I will grade your QTP's in the following manner:

A= outstanding (questions, quotation reflection, and talking points that indicate serious thought, analysis, synthesis, evaluation, or make important connections between and among the readings assigned)

B= good (questions, quotation reflection, and talking points that go beyond the reading but demonstrate little in-depth analysis)

C= poor (questions, quotation reflection, and talking points that are confusing and/or ones that be answered simply from the facts in the article)

F= not handed in on time or are incomplete

Please remember that this must be a one page, double spaced, standard point paper.

**WOMEN STUDIES 100
Fall 2007
Dr. P. Del Rey**

REQUIRED READINGS:

9/04 Theoretical perspectives

Feminist Frontiers 1-37

PART ONE Introduction

Marilyn Frye

Peggy MacIntosh

Laura Lopez and Frances Hasso

Paula Allen Gunn

Sojourner Truth

Audre Lorde

9/06 Theoretical perspectives

Feminist Frontiers 38-93

Judith Lorber

Suzanne Kessler

Maxine Baca Zinn and Bonnie Thorton Dill

Chandra Talpade Mohanty

RW Connell

Alice Walker

9/11 The social construction of gender

Women 1-69

bell hooks

Mai Kao Thao

Adrienne Rich

Hull and Smith

Michael Kimmel

Stacy G.H. Yap

Danista Hunte

Luana Ferreira

Deborah Lennon

Evan Weissman

Marilyn Boxer

Emily Martin

Betty Friedan

Margie Piercy

Francine Klagsbrun

Naomi Wolf

Elisa Davila

Ann Grossman and Emma Peters-Axtell

Ani Di Franco

9/13 How we learn to become a woman

Feminist Frontiers 94-138

Laurel Richardson
Lauren Sandler
Debra Gimlen
Roberta Galler
Ingrid Banks
Cheryl Keyes

**9/18 Language, culture and gender
Feminist Frontiers 139-192**

Barrie Thorne
AAUW
Michael Kimmel
Yen Le Espiritu
France Winddance Twine

Women 70-113

Murielle Minard
Nancy Henley and Jo Freeman
Anastasia Higginbotham
Noami Weisstein
India.arie

**9/25 Sexualities
Feminist Frontiers 300-348**

Deborah Tolman
Rizman and Schwartz
Patricia Hill Collins
Leila Rupp

Women 140-168

Rebecca Walker
Yen Le Espiritu
Kat Dowd
Robyn Ochs

**9/27 Women's bodies
Feminist Frontiers 349-414**

Ann Fausto-Sterling
Becky W. Thompson
Andrea Smith

Women 115-139

Noami Wolf
Nellie Wong
Inez Hernandez-Avila
Aishe Berger
Lucille Clifton
Meah Clay
Abra F. Chernik

Jennifer Ollendorf
July Siebecker
Lucille Clifton

10/2 Intersections of race and class in women's lives

Women 375-414

Beverly D. Tatum
Janice Mirikitani
Carrie Castro
Angela Davis
Donna Langston
Bernice Mennis

10/4 Understanding and valuing and differences between women

Women 415-433

Perils of heterosexism
Suzanne Pharr
Carla Trujillo
Megan McGuire
Mr. Barb Greve

Women 447-476

Laura Hershey
Mari Matsuda
Audre Lorde
Beverly Yuen Thompson
Lisa S. Majaj

10/16 Women and work

Feminist Frontiers 191- 250

Bose and Whaley
Padavic and Reskin
Miliann Kang
Barbara Reskin
Pierette H. Sotelo
Eileen Boris

Women 169-212

Bravo, et. al.
US Bureau of Labor Statistics
US National Committee for Pay Equity
Redstockings
Ann Crittenden
Bravo et.al.
Ellen Bravo –Sexual harassment
Arlene F. Reynolds
Unions
Bernice Sandler

Alice Walker

10/25 Health and reproductive justice

Women 309-374

Introductory material

Boston Women's Health

Marielena Zuniga

Silliman, et.al

2 boxes

Sabrina McCormick

Box

Reproductive justice

Willis

DiFranco

Fowler, et.al.

Box

Males

Conn

Hubbard

Roberts

Fried

10/30 Women and families

Feminist Frontiers 251-299

Morrison

Wagle

Segura

Cam Thai

Naples

Women 243-275

Lehrer

Jordan

Shulman

Washington

Ackelsberg and Plaskow

11/01 Violence against women and girls

Women 477-534

Introductory material

Jones

Latina anónima
bell hooks
Griffin
Rachel
Shange
Sanday
Modell
Rainbow

11/06 Violence against women
Feminist Frontiers 415-452

Martin and Hummer
Allen and Kivel
Gloria Steinem
Crenshaw
Nagel

11/08 Global politics and women
Feminist Frontiers 453-495

Social change
Global politics and the state
Enloe
Chang
Navarro
Abu-Lughod
Onishi

11/13 Feminist movements and social protest
Feminist Frontiers 501-557

Social protest and the feminist movement

Taylor et. al.
Aronson
Jervis
Cohen
Darraj
pp. 556-559

11/15 Feminist movements and social protest
Women 535-595

Changing our world

Feminism as a social movement

Kesselman

Seneca Falls

Middleton

Sarachild

Roth

Garcia

Shanley

Shah

Faludi

Bunch

Lara

11/20 Women organizing

Women 596-627

Laduke

Sanchez

Walker

Ramsby

Voices

Poo and Tang

Gold and Villari