

**Sociology of Gender
History, Technology, and Society 3017
M/W/F 9:05 - 9:55 AM
D.M. Smith Building, Room 207**

Dr. Amy V. D'Unger

Office: 215 D.M. Smith Building

Office Hours: M 10:00 - 11:00 AM, W 1:00 – 2:00 PM, & by appointment

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Introduction:

This course is an introduction to the sociological study of gender. Our focus is on gender as a social construction that is negotiated through interaction and affects our social relationships and personal experiences. We examine the changes and maintenance of gender roles and identity and the ways in which gender and power are interconnected. We will begin the class with an examination of biological and socialization theories and investigate cultural and structural explanations for gender differences. We then analyze how gender impacts and is impacted by such social institutions as the family, work, education, medicine, politics, and law. Throughout the course we will explore the intersections of class, race, sexual orientation, and gender. The assignments are designed to help you learn to think critically about the social construction of gender, to give you an introduction to sociological research, and to develop your skills in communicating clearly and convincingly during class discussions and in written work.

Texts:

There are two **REQUIRED** books for this class:

- Disch, Estelle (ed). 2006. *Reconstructing Gender: A Multicultural Anthology, Fourth Edition*. Boston: McGraw-Hill.
- Kimmel, Michael S. and Michael A. Messner (eds). 2004. *Men's Lives, Sixth Edition*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

These books are all available at the ENGINEER'S BOOKSTORE, located at 748 Marietta Street.

In addition, there are many readings throughout the semester that are *on reserve*. They are indicated with an asterisk and a bibliographic entry for the reading. You can access these readings via the library's online reserve system at www.library.gatech.edu.

Course Requirements:

(1) Assignments: Students will complete three short assignments, with due dates noted on the syllabus. All three assignments involve an activity in which you need to participate, followed by a 3-5 page response paper that you will complete after doing the activity. Assignments will be posted on WebCT—they will not be handed out in class. Make sure to pay attention to the syllabus for upcoming assignment due dates! Late assignments will not be accepted. Each assignment will count for **10%** of your final grade (**ASSIGNMENTS=30% TOTAL**).

Assignment #1: Due 1/25/06

Assignment #2: Due 2/17/06

Assignment #3: Due 3/27/06

(2) Examinations: There will be two examinations for this course. The midterm exam is scheduled for February 24th and the final exam is scheduled for May 2nd. Each of these exams will consist of essay and short answer questions, which will require students to draw on course readings, lectures, and discussions. The midterm examination will count for **20%** of your grade and the final examination will count for **30%** of your grade (**EXAMS=50% TOTAL**).

(3) Participation: Participation will consist of three major elements, including attendance, in-class discussion participation, and through the submission of discussion questions. Attendance will be taken on most class days and will count for **5%** of your final grade. Excused absences will not be counted against you. Making informed, intellectual contributions to class discussion is another important element of participation (and also requires that you attend class!). Thoughtful, consistent in-class participation will count for **5%** of your final grade. Finally, you will be randomly assigned days on which you are responsible for contributing discussion questions. You will be responsible for submitting to me 2-3 questions for each day you are assigned to cover. These questions must be sent via email to amy.dunger@hts.gatech.edu by 12:00 PM on the day before your discussion day. For example, if you are assigned to contribute questions on Friday, January 27th, then your questions must be sent to me *no later than Thursday, January 26th at noon*. Questions received after noon will not be counted! More details on this, as well as assigned days, will be provided in a separate handout. Discussion questions will be worth **10%** of your final grade (**PARTICIPATION=20% TOTAL**).

Accommodating Disabilities:

If you have or acquire any sort of condition that may require special accommodation(s), please inform me AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (e.g., not the day of an exam) so that we may make the appropriate arrangements. Proper documentation from the ADAPTS Office will be required. Please contact them to get more information on available services and accommodations, as well as documentation requirements. They can be reached via the web at <http://www.adapts.gatech.edu/index2.htm>. Please note that there are no retroactive accommodations.

Academic Conduct:

All students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the policies of the Georgia Tech Honor Code with respect to conduct and academic honesty. Anyone engaging in acts that violate these policies, such as plagiarism or cheating, will be penalized. For more information on the Honor Code, see <http://www.deanofstudents.gatech.edu/Honor/>. If you are not familiar with what constitute plagiarism, PLEASE ASK!

Make-Up Policy:

My permission is needed to make-up assignments. (Having work/exams in another class will NOT get you my permission.) If you are going to miss an assignment, please make every effort to **notify me before the missed class** and to gather appropriate material to justify your absence (e.g., a note from your physician if you are ill). If you are unable to notify me before the class/due date, please try to have a friend, roommate, etc. contact me via e-mail and inform me of your absence. A mutually convenient time will be arranged for you to make up the assignment. Make up assignments will *only* be allowed in a

situation of an excused absence (e.g., illness, family emergency, etc.). A note from the Dean will be required to make up the final exam.

*The use of cell phones and/or pagers is not permitted in this class. Please turn **OFF** your phones and pagers before entering the classroom. **Those who violate this policy will be asked to leave the class for the day.***

So, How Can I Succeed in This Course?

- (1) Attend class and be on time--there is nothing more disruptive to your learning than missing class and there is nothing more disruptive to other students than individuals who come in late and interrupt the lecture and class discussion.
- (2) Do the reading!!! It will help you to participate in class as well as succeed on the exams.
- (3) Notes, notes, notes. Take notes on each of the readings. What is the main point of the article/chapter? What is the theory trying to explain? How can this be integrated with other material discussed in class and the texts? etc. etc. *These notes will be valuable study tools for the exams.* Also, study in groups--other may pick up on material that you overlooked, and vice-versa.
- (4) The reading load varies for each class. Anticipate days with heavy reading and **START EARLY.**

COURSE SCHEDULE AND READINGS (SUBJECT TO REVISIONS/ADDITIONS)

*****In addition, there is a possibility for guest speakers and/or additional films during the semester.***

D=DISCH (RECONSTRUCTING GENDER)

KM=KIMMEL & MESSNER (MEN'S LIVES)

ALL OTHER READINGS ARE ON RESERVE

DATE

TOPIC/ASSIGNMENT DUE

READINGS

Part I: Explaining Gender Differences

January 9	Introduction and Welcome	read the syllabus!
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January 11	What is Gender & How Do We Study It?	KM pp. 342-346 KM pp. 347-348
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*****On-line Reserve:** West, Candace and Don H. Zimmerman. 1987. "Doing Gender." *Gender and Society*. Vol. 1, no. 2: 125-151.

January 13	What is Gender & How Do We Study It? (Part II)	D pp. 113-120
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*****On-line Reserve:** Lucal, Betsy. 1999. "What It Means to Be Gendered Me: Life on the Boundaries of a Dichotomous Gender System." *Gender and Society*. Vol. 13, No. 6: 781-797.

January 16	<i>Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, No Class</i>	
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<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC/ASSIGNMENT DUE</u>	<u>READINGS</u>
January 18	Gender and Biology	
<p>***<u>On-line Reserve:</u> Archer, John. 1996. "Sex Differences in Social Behavior: Are Social Role and Evolutionary Explanations Compatible?" <i>American Psychologist</i> vol. 51: 909-917.</p> <p>***<u>On-line Reserve:</u> Fausto-Sterling, Anne. 1991. "Myths of Gender: The Biological Connection," pp. 42-49 in <i>The Sociology of Gender</i>. Laura Kramer (ed). New York: St. Martin's Press.</p>		
January 20	Cultural Approaches to Explaining Gender—Communication	D pp. 216-221
<p>***<u>On-line Reserve:</u> Maltz, Daniel and Ruth A. Borker. 1982. "A Cultural Approach to Male-Female Miscommunication," pp. 196-216 in <i>Language and Social Identity</i>. J. Gumphez (ed.) Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.</p>		
January 23	Structural Approaches to Explaining Gender—Organization & Stratification	KM pp. 227-240
<p>***<u>On-line Reserve:</u> Kanter, Rosabeth Moss. 1993. "Numbers: Minorities and Majorities," pp. 206-242 in <i>Men and Women of the Corporation</i>. New York: Basic Books.</p>		
January 25	Structural Approaches to Explaining Gender—Organization & Stratification (Part II)	D pp. 91-99
<p>***<i>Assignment #1 Due</i></p> <p>***<u>On-line Reserve:</u> Ridgeway, Cecilia L. and David Diekema. 1992. "Are Gender Differences Status Differences?" pp. 157-180 in <i>Gender, Interaction, and Inequality</i>. Cecilia L. Ridgeway (ed). New York: Springer-Verlag.</p>		
<i>Part II: Cultural Expectations of Males and Females</i>		
January 27	Gender Socialization	D pp. 153-154
<p>***<u>On-line Reserve:</u> Shaffer, David. 2000. "Sex Differences and Gender-Role Development" Ch. 8 in <i>Social and Personality Development, Fourth Edition</i>. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth. Read pp.231-259.</p>		
January 30	Gender Socialization: The Case of Education	D pp. 354-360
<p>***<u>On-line Reserve:</u> Grant, Linda. 1994. "Helpers, Enforcers, and Go-Betweens: Black Females in Elementary School Classrooms," pp. 43-63 in <i>Women of Color in U.S. Society</i>. Maxine Baca Zinn and Bonnie Thornton Dill (eds.). Philadelphia: Temple University Press.</p>		
February 1	Gender Socialization: School and Sports	D pp. 120-137 D pp. 361-375

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC/ASSIGNMENT DUE</u>	<u>READINGS</u>
February 3	Gender Socialization: School and Sports (Part II)	KM pp. 103-115 KM pp. 154-166
February 6	Gender Socialization: The Use of Language & Images	KM pp. 533-542
*** <u>On-line Reserve:</u> Lindsey, Linda. 1997. "Language and Socialization." Ch. 4 in <i>Gender Roles: A Sociological Perspective</i> . Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. Read pp. 74-80.		
February 8	Gender Socialization: The Use of Language & Images (Part II)	KM pp. 169-178
*** <u>On-line Reserve:</u> Cohn, Carol. 1987. "Sex and Death in the Rational World of Defense Intellectuals." <i>Signs</i> . Vol. 12, No. 4: 687-718.		
February 10	Beauty and the Body	D pp. 137-141 D pp. 162-172 D pp. 176-190
February 13	Beauty and the Body (Part II)	D pp. 203-214 KM pp. 349-362
February 15	Gender and Popular Culture	D pp. 239-247 D pp. 252-256
*** <u>On-line Reserve:</u> Leblanc, Lauraine. 1999. "'I'll Slap on My Lipstick and Then Kick Their Ass:' Constructing Femininity," pp. 134-165 in <i>Pretty in Punk: Girls' Gender Resistance in a Boys' Subculture</i> . New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.		
February 17	Contested Representations	D pp. 31-41 KM pp. 335-341
*** <u>Assignment #2 Due</u>		
February 20	Contested Representations (Part II)	
*** <u>On-line Reserve:</u> Collins, Patricia Hill. 2000. "Mammies, Matriarchs, and Other Controlling Images," pp. 69-96 in <i>Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment, Second Edition</i> . New York: Routledge.		
*** <u>On-line Reserve:</u> Espiritu, Yen Le. 1997. "Ideological Racism and Cultural Resistance: Constructing Our Own Images," pp. 86-107 in <i>Asian American Women and Men</i> . Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.		
February 22	Catch Up and Review	
February 24	Midterm Examination	

DATE**TOPIC/ASSIGNMENT DUE****READINGS*****Part III: Theories, Worldview, and Social Movements*****February 27****Changing the Rules, Changing the Roles**

*****On-line Reserve:** Faludi, Susan. 1992. "Blame It on Feminism," pp. ix-xxiii and "Backlashes Then and Now," pp. 46-72 in *Backlash: The Undeclared War Against American Women*. New York: Doubleday.

March 1**FeminismS**

KM pp. 555-563

*****On-line Reserve:** Moraga, Cherrie. "La Güera," pp. 593-599 in *Reconstructing Gender, Third Edition*. Boston: McGraw-Hill.

March 3**FeminismS (Part II)**

*****On-line Reserve:** Willis, Ellen. 2000. "Sisters Under the Skin? Confronting Race and Sex" pp. 253-267 in *The Gender Reader*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

March 6**The Women's Movement and Abortion**

*****On-line Reserve:** Buechler, Steven M. 1990. "Roots and Origins," pp. 9-40 in *Women's Movements in the United States*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.

March 8**The Abortion Debate**

D pp. 575-578

*****On-line Reserve:** Luker, Kristin. 1984. "World Views of the Activists," pp. 158-191 in *Abortion and the Politics of Motherhood*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.

*****On-line Reserve:** Amir, Delila and Orly Biniamin. 1992. "Abortion Approval as a Ritual of Symbolic Control," pp. 5-25 in *The Criminalization of a Woman's Body*. Clarice Feinman (ed.). New York: Haworth Press.

March 10**Women of the New Right**

*****On-line Reserve:** Ehrenreich, Barbara. 1983. "Backlash: The Antifeminist Assault on Men," pp. 144-168 in *The Hearts of Men: American Dreams and the Flight from Commitment*. New York: Doubleday.

*****On-line Reserve:** Klatch, Rebecca E. 1987. "The Two Worlds Views," pp. 20-54 in *Women of the New Right*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.

Part IV: Gender and Social Institutions**March 13****Gender, Relationships, and Family**

KM pp. 383-388

*****On-line Reserve:** Belsky, Jay and John Kelly. 1995. "The His and Hers Transition," pp. 278-294 in *Diversity and Change in Families*. M.R. Rank and E.L. Kain (eds.). Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC/ASSIGNMENT DUE</u>	<u>READINGS</u>
March 15	Gender, Relationships, and Family (Part II)	D pp. 314-320 D pp. 321-330 D pp. 341-345
March 17	The Family and Work	D pp. 304-313 KM pp. 469-475
March 20-24	<i>Spring Break, No Classes</i>	
March 27 ***Assignment #3 Due	Work and Gender Stratification	
*** <u>On-line Reserve:</u> Kanter, Rosabeth Moss. 1993. "Opportunities," pp. 129-163 in <i>Men and Women of the Corporation</i> . New York: Basic Books.		
*** <u>On-line Reserve:</u> Reskin, Barbara and Irene Padavic. 2000. "Sex Differences in Moving Up and Taking Charge," pp. 369-383 in <i>Reconstructing Gender, Second Edition</i> . Mountain View, CA: Mayfield.		
March 29	Gender and Poverty	D pp. 401-416 D pp. 417-424
March 31	Gender and Poverty (Part II)	D pp. 453-462 KM pp. 258-267
*** <u>On-line Reserve:</u> Albelda, Randy and Chris Tilly. "It's A Family Affair: Women, Poverty, and Welfare," pp. 420-426 in <i>Reconstructing Gender, Third Edition</i> . Boston: McGraw-Hill.		
April 3	Women in Law and Politics	
*** <u>On-line Reserve:</u> Thomas, Sue. 1994. "The Impact of Women," pp. 128-148 in <i>How Women Legislate</i> . New York: Oxford University Press.		
*** <u>On-line Reserve:</u> Jurik, Nancy C. and Susan E. Martin. 2001. "Femininities, Masculinities, and Organizational Conflict; Women in Criminal Justice Occupations," pp. 264-281 in <i>Women, Crime, and Criminal Justice: Original Feminist Readings</i> . Claire M. Renzetti and Lynne Goodstein (eds.). Los Angeles, CA: Roxbury.		
April 5	Women in Academics and Science	D pp. 248-251 D pp. 376-387 D pp. 388-394
April 7	Gender, Medicine, and Health	D pp. 541-558 D pp. 559-574
*** <u>On-line Reserve:</u> Fugh-Berman, Adriane. 2000. "Tales Out of Medical School," pp. 351-355 in <i>Reconstructing Gender, Second Edition</i> . Mountain View, CA: Mayfield.		

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC/ASSIGNMENT DUE</u>	<u>READINGS</u>
April 10	Gender and Violence	D pp. 478-490 D pp. 491-495 D pp. 511-513
April 12	Gender and Violence (Part II)	KM pp. 406-411
<p>***<u>On-line Reserve:</u> Herek, Gregory M. 2000. "Psychological Heterosexism and Anti-Gay Violence: The Social Psychology of Bigotry and Bashing," pp. 254-266 in <i>Men's Lives, Fourth Edition</i>. Michael S. Kimmel and Michael A. Messner (eds.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon.</p>		
April 14	Gender and Sexuality	
<p>***<u>On-line Reserve:</u> Fine, Michelle. 1988. "Sexuality, Schooling, and Adolescent Females: The Missing Discourse of Desire." <i>Harvard Educational Review</i>. Vol. 58, no. 1:29-53.</p> <p>***<u>On-line Reserve:</u> Horowitz, Ruth. 1981. "Passion, Submission and Motherhood: The Negotiation of Identity by Unmarried Inner-city Chicanas." <i>Sociological Quarterly</i>. Vol. 22:241-252.</p> <p>***<u>On-line Reserve:</u> Willis, Ellen. 1983. "Feminism, Moralism, and Pornography," pp. 460-467 in <i>Powers of Desire: The Politics of Sexuality</i>. Ann Snitow, Christine Stansell, and Sharon Thompson (eds). New York: Monthly Review Press.</p>		
April 17	Gender and Sexuality (Part II)	D pp. 285-292 D pp. 293-298 KM pp. 421-426 KM p. 427
April 19	Gender and Sexuality (Part III)	D pp. 264-274 D pp. 274-278 KM pp. 428-432 KM pp. 433-446
April 21	Where Do We Go From Here?	D pp. 605-612 D pp. 627-642
April 24	Where Do We Go From Here? (Part II)	D pp. 598-599 KM p. 564 KM pp. 565-579
April 26	Wrap Up and Review	
April 28	Wrap Up and Review	

****The final exam will be held in-class on Tuesday, May 2nd from 2:50-5:40 PM. This is the time slot assigned by the Registrar's Office. Please notify me if you have any conflicts.*

How the Final Grade Will be Determined:

Assignment #1	10%
Assignment #2	10%
Assignment #3	10%
Midterm Examination	20%
Final Examination	30%
Discussion Questions	10%
Attendance	5%
In-class Participation	+ <u>5%</u>
	100%

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59