

PHIL 936939
Feminist Philosophy and Philosophy of Gender
Professors: Sara Bernstein and Michael Rea

Recent years have seen a resurgence of philosophical interest in feminist philosophy and the philosophy of gender. This course will examine the latest developments in the area, including philosophical analyses of sexism, misogyny, gender equality, objectification, and intersectionality. There will be a few areas of special focus, including the metaphysics of feminist theory, feminist philosophy of language, and intersections of gender with other social identities.

All course texts will be posted on Sakai.

Course Requirements: (a) Research paper, 6500 words maximum, submitted in two drafts. (b) Class participation (attendance at class meetings; substantive contributions to class discussions; etc.) (c) One in-class presentation on a reading or a topic related to the course. This class will be held on Zoom.

Tentative Schedule

Week 1: Introduction

- Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex* (selections)
- Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble* (selections)
- Elizabeth Spelman, "Woman as Body"
- Emily Martin, "The Egg and the Sperm"

Week 2: The Metaphysics of Gender (I)

- Haslanger, "Gender and Race: (What) Are They? (What) Do We Want Them to Be?"
- Ásta, "The Metaphysics of Sex and Gender"
- Katharine Jenkins, "Amelioration and Inclusion: Gender Identity and the Concept of Woman"
- Elizabeth Barnes, "Gender and Gender Terms"

Week 3: The Metaphysics of Gender (II)

- Talia Bettcher, "Trans Identities and First Person Authority"
- Talia Bettcher, "Trans Women and the Meaning of 'Woman'"
- Sophie Grace Chappell, "Trans Women/Men and Adoptive Parents: An Analogy" (APA Blog Post)
- Heather Logue, "Gender Fictionalism"
- Esa Díaz León, "Woman as a Politically Significant Term: A Solution to the Puzzle"

Week 4: Sexual Orientation

- Robin Dembroff, "What is Sexual Orientation?"

- Peter Finocchiaro, “Intrinsic Masking and Sexual Orientation”
- Matt Andler “The Sexual Orientation/ Identity Distinction”

Week 5: Intersectionality

- Kimberlé Crenshaw, “Demarginalizing the intersection of race and sex”
- Kate Ritchie, “Does Identity Politics Reinforce Oppression?”
- Maria Rodó-Zárata, “Gender, Nation, and Situated Intersectionality: The Case of Catalan Pro-independence Feminism”
- Sara Bernstein, “The Metaphysics of Intersectionality”

Week 6: Black Feminism

- Dee Payton, “Analytic Black Feminist Philosophy”
- Charles Mills, “But what are you *Really*?: The Metaphysics of Race”
- Mikki Kendall, “Hood Feminism” (excerpts)
- Tressie McMillan Cottom, “Black is Over (or, Special Black)” (from *Thick*)

Week 7: Epistemic Injustice, Gaslighting, and Silencing

- Elizabeth Fricker, *Epistemic Injustice* (selections)
- Cynthia Stark, “Gaslighting, Misogyny, and Psychological Oppression”
- Ishani Maitra, “Speech & Silencing”

Week 8: Feminist Philosophy of Language and Political Speech

- Jenny Saul, “Feminist Philosophy of Language” (SEP article)
- Sara Bernstein, “Biased Evaluative Terms”
- Robin Dembroff and Daniel Wodak, “How Much Gender is Too Much Gender?”
- Ishani Maitra, “Subordinating Speech”

Week 9: Misogyny & Male Entitlement

- Kate Manne, *Down Girl* (selections)
- Kate Manne, *Entitled* (selections)

Week 10: Metaphysics and Feminist Theory

- Sara Bernstein, “Countersocial Counterfactuals”
- Isaac Wilhelm, “Gender is Essential to Some, but not All, Individuals”
- Natalie Stoljar, “Essence, Identity, and the Concept of Woman”
- Mari Mikkola, “Doing Ontology and Doing Justice: What Feminist Philosophy Can Teach Us About Meta-Metaphysics” OR Barnes on Social Fundamentality

Week 11: Objectification

- Martha Nussbaum, “Objectification”

- Lina Papadaki, "What is Objectification"
- Michael Rea, ""Representational and Attitudinal Sexual Objectification: Philosophical Insights from James Tiptree, Jr.'s 'And I Awoke and Found Me Here on the Cold Hill's Side'"
- David Livingstone Smith, *Less than Human*, Ch. 2

Week 12: Student Presentations / Open Discussion

- No new reading

Week 13: Gendered Labor

- Quill R. Kukla, "Measuring Mothering,"
- Laura Callahan, "When Breast isn't Best"
- Laura Callahan, "Motherhood and The Moral Load"
- Olúfẹ́mi O. Táíwò, "Stoicism (as Emotional Compression) is Emotional Labor"
- Optional: Judy (Syfers) Brady, "I Want a Wife"

Week 14: Masculinity

- Gail Bederman, "Remaking Manhood through Race and Civilization"
- Michael S. Kimmel, "Wimps, Whiners, and Weekend Warriors"
- Peggy Orenstein, "Toxic Masculinity and the Brokenness of Boyhood"
- C. S. Lewis, "Friendship"