



ender

&



omen's



tudies

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
SPRING 2017**



Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies

GWS 207

This interdisciplinary course introduces students to the field of gender and women's studies. The course will enable students to understand how gender impacts their everyday lives, social institutions, and cultural practices both locally and globally. Additionally, students will examine the significance and meaning of one's gender identity in different historical periods, the history of feminist movements, and transnational perspectives on feminism. Students will also discuss how gender intersects with other identities such as socio-economic class, race, ethnicity, sexuality, age, geography, and generational location. Lastly, students will examine and critique cultural representations and claims about women and gender identities. *Gen Ed.*

Professor Jamie Schmidt Wagman

MW 11:00-12:15

Independent Study

GWS 497

Many faculty members are willing to direct independent study projects. Students interested should speak first to the Gender and Women's Studies faculty member who will guide the project, then contact Professor Phyllis Kaminski to formalize the proposal and ensure proper registration.

Internship

GWS 499

Practical off-campus experience in a Gender and Women's Studies related field at an approved site. Jointly supervised by a faculty member and a representative from the sponsoring agency. Open to junior or senior majors or minors who have taken at least two Gender and Women's Studies courses. Must be approved by Professor Kaminski. Graded S/U. May be repeated for up to three hours. A reflection paper appropriate to the nature of the internship will be required.

Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective

ANTH 346

This course introduces students to anthropological theories and methods for the critical analysis of gendered structures of inequality globally. By comparing culture specific ideas and practices, anthropology provides a unique lens for understand the cultural construction of gender identity. As we explore gender identity cross-culturally, students will also discover their own culturally formed, taken for granted, notions of the role of gender. Topics explored include: the saliency of the categories man and woman; the relationships between race and gender; the role of colonialism and neocolonialism in the representation of gender, sex and sexuality; and the role of gender in the family and the household, the realm of religion and the world of work.

Professor Laura Elder

TR 2:00-3:15

Designing Game Art and Art Games

ART 366

Using cotemporary cybertheory and cyberpunk fiction as a foundation, students will explore the tools and techniques of new media through the lens of cyberfeminism. The course will explore the key issues of cyberfeminism, namely the position of women in technological disciplines, the unique experiences of women within technoculture, and the gendering of various technologies. Creative projects and assignments will explore hypertext and non-linear narrative, generative/programmatic net+ art, gaming, virtual personae and environments.

Professor Krista Hoefle

MW 1:00-3:30

History and Criticism of Public Address

COMM 302

This course is an introduction to rhetoric, rhetorical criticism, and public address studies. We will study, in a critical and analytical way, how public communicators (journalists, politicians, activists, celebrities and other public figures) use language and images to influence society. Every day, these communicators attempt to shape and reshape the meaning of people, events, issues, and ideas in society in order to influence our perceptions and beliefs about the world. The ability to better understand and critically analyze public communication is important because of the potential impact of such widely-distributed and widely-consumed discourse. The course pays particular attention to the rhetorical acts of women, including the speeches of 19th and early 20th century women's rights activists and the method of feminist rhetorical criticism.

Professor Michael Kramer

TR 12:30-1:45

Masculinities in US Media

COMM 422

This course serves as a broad introduction to masculinities and theories of masculinity, and provides the opportunity to research a topic related to masculinity or masculinities in depth. We will discuss how masculinity is understood, defined, and socially constructed. By thinking through various representations of manhood as they appear in American magazines, films, television shows, and advertising, we will consider how "manliness" is produced, articulated, enforced, and subverted, particularly as concepts of masculinity intersect with other iden-

Professor Helen Ho

TR 3:30-4:45 *pending Curriculum Committee approval

ties like race, class, and sexuality. By the end of this class, you should be able to: Understand how masculinity, manhood, and manliness are theorized; Identify how larger cultural, historical, and political processes affect our understandings of masculinity, and how masculinity is communicated; and Apply theories of masculinity to media texts for in-depth critique and close reading.

**Women, Leadership & Communication
COMM 418**

American women today are also surrounded by a history of cultural practices that dictate how we should behave and appear. We are to be quiet, dainty ladies, or at least present ourselves as primarily feminine. We are to attire ourselves in the latest clothing and make-up styles. At the same time we are expected to be strong, dynamic leaders who have a successful career. These expectations are embodied in a number of discourses and are communicated in a variety of forms. We are supposed to be quiet and dainty at the same time we are strong and confident. These then are the assumptions on which this course is based: that women have had and still do have far less access to leadership roles than men; that the reasons for this diminished access are numerous and complex; that as a simple matter of equity women should have greater access to positions of leadership in the future than they did in the past; and that so far as leadership is concerned, women have challenges that uniquely are theirs. We will begin the semester by examining the role of intersectionality in how we “do” identity and how all that we do is influenced by various identity factors. You will also complete a leadership self-assessment in order to determine your strengths and weaknesses as a leader. We will then turn to an examination of historical perspectives of women in the workplace. Other topics covered throughout the course will include stereotypes, diversity, leadership, work-family interface, inclusion, and current trends/issues.

**Professor Terri Russ
MW 3:00-4:15**

**History of Women in the U.S.
HIST 324**

A study of how race, class, and gender come together to shape the identities of American women from Colonial times to the present.

**Professor Jamie Schmidt Wagman
TR 9:30-10:45**

**Gender and Politics
POSC 365**

This course will combine theoretical and empirical analysis of gender as a political issue. Case studies will permit comparative analysis of the diverse ways in which gender emerges as a political issue within distinct social, economic, cultural, and political contexts. The course will also assess the value of gender analysis in the field of political science (also listed as HIST 408). This course may be repeated with a different instructor.

**Professor Patrick Pierce
TR 9:30-10:45**

**Psychology of Violence
PSYC 437**

This course will cover many aspects of the psychology of violence. Students will read classic and modern psychological journal articles, paired with memoirs and films, in order to better understand the processes that contribute to, or reduce, violence from the individual to the larger scale. Prerequisite: PSYC 337 or permission of instructor

**Professor Bettina Spencer
TR 2:00-3:15**

**Contested Masculinities
SOC 222**

This course is an introduction to various forms of masculinity, how masculinities are constructed and performed by individuals, and how individual performativities create larger social and cultural understandings of masculinity in specific historical, social, and cultural settings.

**Professor Susan Alexander
MW 4:30-5:45**

**Sociology of Families
SOC 257.01; 02**

This course will examine family life through the lens of the sociological perspective. Students will study topics such as family roles, mate selection, marriage, and divorce. Contemporary issues facing families such as balancing work and family, parenting, aging, and abuse will be explored. Additionally, students will examine how families are shaped by economics, politics, and culture. Finally, students will consider how families reflect inequalities of gender, sexuality, race, and class.

**Professor Henry Borne
MWF 10:00-10:50; MWF 12:00-12:50**

**Sexuality/Intimacy/Relationship
SW 341**

This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to examine human sexuality and intimacy within a lifespan, relational context. Students will address these topics through knowledge of the biological, social, spiritual, and psychological aspects of relationships, sexuality, and intimacy. We will also explore populations-at-risk—namely, those who are experiencing issues with intimacy, sexuality, and relationships. Perspectives from feminist literature will be used to strengthen the analysis. Psychosocial issues are emphasized.

**Section 01: Professor Kimberly Sangster - W 3:00-5:30
Section 02: Professor Ann Drake - W 6:00-8:30**