

# Fall 2018 Courses

## WST 102: Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies in the Social Sciences - CER, SBS

Theresa Tiso

Tu/Th 10:00 - 11:20 am OR Tu/Th 11:30 - 12:50 pm

This course is an introductory and interdisciplinary survey that will familiarize students with gender and sexuality theories, histories of women's and feminist movements, and current debates within Women's and Gender Studies. We draw on sources from across the social sciences to understand how gender and sex is explained with respect to specific physical bodies; formulates identities within gendered institutions; and influences our everyday personal and political interactions. Critically thinking of these issues can only occur when we include the intersection of racial, class, age, ableist and national identities within our analysis. The overarching theme of power, hierarchy, and privilege in structured(ing) institutions will always guide our study.

## WST 103: Women, Culture, Difference - CER, HUM

Ritch Calvin - Lecture: Mon/Wed 12:00 - 12:53 pm & Recitations: Friday 12:00 - 12:53 pm

An introductory humanities survey focusing on women's traditional association with the home and men's association with public life and how writers, artists, philosophers, and religious thinkers have reflected upon those relationships over the past 150 years. Through lectures and critical analyses of novels, poetry, art, philosophy, and religious texts, the course explores how changing intellectual, artistic, and religious precepts have affected gender identity and different genres in the humanities.

## WST 111: Introduction to Queer Studies - CER, HUM

Tara Holmes

Mon/Wed 4:00-5:20 pm

This course will provide students with a broad overview of queer studies and major theorists and thinkers within the field. Beginning with Foucault before turning to more contemporary theorists, this course will be an interdisciplinary approach to American queer studies. Through the examination of visual culture, literature, and theory, students will learn to read critically through the lenses of queer theory, critical ethnic studies, disability studies, and feminist theory.

## WST 210: Contemporary Issues in WaGS: "Queer Visual Cultures: World Making Practices" - CER & SBS+

Andy Eicher

Tu/Th 4:00-5:20 pm

Queer visual cultures have long existed beneath the surface of mainstream cultural practices and productions. Sometimes seeking to subvert, overthrow, work against, or imagine otherwise, queer activists, academics, and cultural practitioners have produced rich cultural artifacts and communities throughout the last several decades. This course looks from the mid-20th century to the current moment to consider how queer representations have responded to key historical moments, including gay liberation, the AIDS crisis, neoliberalism, "equality," and moments of backlash. Through the examination of different kinds of evidence—ephemera, film, experimental art, theory, graphic novels, performance, and literature—this course will interrogate how queer cultural productions are created, sustained, fail, and how they contribute to subcultural and alternative practices. Ultimately, this course will consider the contentions and interactions that occur between the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans\* bodies that queer visual cultures/productions/ practices/theories represent—or perhaps, fail to represent. Texts and primary sources may include works by Juliana Delgado Lopera, Samuel Delany, Kenneth Anger, Susan Sontag, José Esteban Muñoz, and Juana María Rodríguez.

## WST 247: Sociology of Gender -SBS

Linda Wicks

Mon/Fri 1:00-2:20pm

The historical and contemporary roles of women and men in American society; changing relations between the sexes; women's liberation and related movements. Themes are situated within the context of historical developments in the U.S. This course is offered as both SOC 247 and WST 247.

WST 276: Feminism: Literature and Cultural Contexts - HUM

Yalda Hamidi

Tu/Th 1:00-2:20pm

An examination of works written by or about women reflecting conceptions of women in drama, poetry, and fiction. The course focuses on literature seen in relation to women's sociocultural and historical position. This course is offered as both EGL 276 and WST 276.

WST 291: Introduction to Feminist Theory - ESI, HFA+

(2 sections)

Mon/Wed 2:30-3:50 p.m. - Alexandra Novitskaya

Tu/Th 1:00-2:20 p.m. - Shruti Mukherjee

An introductory survey of historical and contemporary interdisciplinary theories used in Women's and Gender Studies. Theoretical debates on sex, gender, sexuality, race, class, knowledge, discourse, representation are among the topics to be considered. The course will provide a strong theoretical foundation for further studies in Women's and Gender Studies.

WST 301: Histories of Feminism -SBS+

Victoria Hesford

Tu/Th 11:30-12:50pm

An historical study of the theoretical and practical developments that form contemporary feminism. Beginning with the 18th century critiques of women's rights, the course traces the expansion of feminist concerns to include a global perspective, as well as attention to race and class. Representative texts include Mary Wollstonecraft's *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*, poems by Phyllis Wheatley and Sojourner Truth, Charlotte Perkins Gilman's *The Yellow Wallpaper*, Virginia Woolf's *Three Guineas*, and Simone de Beauvoir's *The Second Sex*.

WST 305: Feminist Theories in Context - HFA+

Liz Montegary

Tu/Th 4:00 - 5:20pm

This course offers students an introduction to major traditions in critical and cultural theory while focusing specifically on how feminist scholars have pushed these theories in new directions. The aim of this class is not to provide a comprehensive survey of modern theoretical traditions; instead, we will examine several key theoretical terms that have become central to feminist thought during the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. In addition to unpacking the ways in which liberalism and neoliberalism have shaped contemporary debates about sex, gender, and sexuality, we will also look at how feminist perspectives have challenged and complicated theories of nationalism and citizenship, labor and consumption, and representation and circulation. In doing so, we will gain insight into how feminist theories inform and are informed by other interdisciplinary fields, such as queer studies, disability studies, transgender studies, postcolonial studies, and critical race and ethnic studies.

WST 340: Sociology of Human Reproduction - STAS

Cathy Marrone

Wed 7:00-9:50pm

A study of the links between biological reproduction and the socioeconomic and cultural processes that affect and are affected by it. The history of the transition from high levels of fertility and mortality to low levels of both; different kinship, gender, and family systems around the world and their links to human reproduction; the value of children in different social contexts; and the social implications of new reproductive technologies. This course is offered as both SOC 340 and WST 340.

WST 374: Historical Perspectives on Gender Orientation -SBS+

Liz Montegary

Tu/Th 1:00 - 2:20pm

An examination of contemporary American gender orientation from an historical perspective. Topics include gay marriage, gay clergy, medical definitions of gender orientation and gays in the military.

WST 381: AIDS, Race, and Gender in the Black Community - SBS+

Adryan Wallace

Mon/Wed 5:30-6:50pm

Review of current biological and epidemiological knowledge about the HIV virus, and examination of the virus' social impact on the Black community. This course is offered as both AFS 381 and WST 381.

WST 382: Black Women's Literature of the African Diaspora - HFA+

Tracey Walters

Tu/Th 10:00-11:20am

Black women's literature presents students with the opportunity to examine through literature the political, social, and historical experiences of Black women from the African Diaspora. The course is structured around five major themes commonly addressed in Black women's writing: Black female oppression, sexual politics of Black womanhood, Black female sexuality, Black male/female relationships, and Black women and defining self. This course is offered as AFH 382, EGL 382, and WST 382.

WST 390: Special Topics in WaGS in the Humanities - "Plays & Voices of Resistance" - HFA+

Francesca Spedalieri

Mon/Wed 4:00 - 5:20 p.m.

This course explores how the work of contemporary women playwrights, performance artists, and activists engage with ideas of Resistance and Revolt. We will consider how the content and form of plays written by contemporary women and productions by performance artists have contributed to voice intersectional feminist concerns and resist against contemporary injustices. We will also investigate the theatrical/performative aspects of protest looking at performance as a tool for disobedience and revolt (looking at groups such as Gabriela and Pussy Riot). The course will use close readings, creative in-class assignments, and spoken word poetry to question the texts we will encounter and to venture into activism.

WST 391: Special Topics in WaGS in the Humanities - "Food and Culture" - HFA+

Theresa Tiso

Wed 10:00-12:50pm

Designed for upper-division students, this course provides an in-depth study of specific current topics in women's and gender studies within humanities disciplines such as literature, art, music, religion, and philosophy. Past topics include World Women Writers, Music and Sexuality, Contemporary Memoirs, and Alice Walker. May be repeated as the topic changes.

WST 392: Special Topics in Women and Science - "Cultures of Dis/ability" - STAS

Lisa Diedrich

Tu/Th 11:30 - 12:50pm

In this course we will consider disability historically and cross-culturally, and investigate the shifting ways disability has been understood and misunderstood, celebrated and stigmatized, made invisible and made spectacular. We will look at various models for understanding disability, including the biomedical model and the social model, and we will analyze the emergence of the disability rights movement and disability studies in the university. We will approach disability and dis/ableism as categories of analysis, operating intersectionally with other categories, including race, gender, sexuality, and class. Because the "experiences" of disability are so varied (the concept covers physical and mental disabilities; visible and invisible disabilities; congenital, sudden, or progressive disabilities; permanent or temporary disabilities), and because most of us will, at some point in our lives, become disabled, investigating the "experiences" of disability gives us insight into the complicated and changing relationship between selves, bodies, and worlds. Investigating disability allows us to ask many questions, including: What makes humans human? What is the relationship between thought and language? How do we articulate experiences of the body? How are certain situations, including poverty, war, and incarceration, disabling?

WST 395: Topics in Global Feminism - "Global Science/Women's Health" - GLO, SBS+

Lisa Diedrich

Tu/Th 2:30-3:50pm

In this course we will explore two broad themes: Global Science and Women's Health. We will investigate how these two themes relate to each other through particular case studies. Our first series of case studies will look at various relationships within the institution of medicine: between doctors and patients, patients and nurses, doctors and nurses, etc. As we analyze these various relationships, we will consider the way knowledge, power, and choice gets expressed in and through these relationships. Our second series of case studies will expand out from those particular relationships within medicine to larger global structures that affect the health of peoples throughout the world, historically and in the present. In this section we will explore bioethical issues and the relationship between health and human rights. Some of our organizing questions for the semester include: what factors impact health?; what constitutes good care?; and how can we better deliver care throughout the world? The course is structured to move from the experience of the ill body in the world to the way global structures affect that particular experience and back again.

WST 398: Topics in Gender, Race, and Ethnicity - "Immigration, Nation, & The Media"-SBS+

Nancy Hiemstra

Tu/Th 10:00-11:20 pm

This course explores how immigration and debates about immigration tie to ideas of national identity, with a focus on the role played by media coverage of immigration issues and events. We will identify causes and consequences of immigration through a feminist, interdisciplinary lens, and analyze restrictive and punitive enforcement measures employed to maintain national borders—territorial and conceptual—as well as consequences of these measures in daily life. We deconstruct common narratives, metaphors, and images evident in media coverage of immigration, and examine how they shape immigration debates, immigrant/citizen interactions, and experiences of membership and belonging. Throughout the semester, we will pay attention to current news and events, and explore a range of contemporary topics with special attention to race, gender, sexuality, ability, and family. While our primary focus will be on the United States, we also give attention to the relationship between immigration, nation, and media around the world.

WST 399: Topics in Gender and Sexuality - HFA+

Victoria Hesford

Tu/Th 2:30-3:50pm

Past topics have included titles such as Sexual Citizens and Queer Theory. Designed for upper-division students, this course provides an in-depth study of a specific topic within humanities disciplines such as music, art, literature, religion, and philosophy. Students will be expected to demonstrate knowledge of the conventions and methods used in the humanities discipline(s) studied. May be repeated as the topic changes.

WST 407/408: Senior Research Seminar for Women's and Gender Studies Majors & Minors -EXP+, SPK, WRTD

Melissa Forbis

Mon 1:00-3:50pm

An exploration of significant feminist scholarship in various disciplines designed for students who are majoring in disciplines other than women's and gender studies. Seminar participants present and discuss reports on reading and research.