

Fall 2019 Undergraduate Courses

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

LEC 01 - Tu/Th 10:00 - 11:20 am - Suzanne Staub

LEC 02 - Tu/Th 11:30 - 12:50 pm - Cristina Khan; TA Kai Breaux

LEC 03 - Tu/Th 4:00 - 5:20 pm - Cristina Khan; TA Jose Flores-Sanchez

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, DIV

LEC 01: Mon/Wed 12:00-12:53 pm; REC 01, 02, 03: Fridays 12:00 - 12:53 pm - Lisa Diedrich

LEC 04: Tues/Thurs 2:30-3:19 pm; REC 04: Tues/Thurs 3:20 - 3:50pm - Stephanie Bonvissuto

LEC 05: Tues/Thurs 11:30-12:19 pm; REC 05: Tues/Thurs 12:20 - 12:50 pm - Suzanne Staub

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

Mon/Wed 4:00-5:20 pm - Carlos Vazquez

ONLINE - Tara Holmes

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 - " Toxic Ecologies: The Politics of Race and Place in the U.S." CER, SBS+

Tu/Th 1:00 - 2:20 pm

Miranda Saenz

A survey of contemporary issues in the field of Women's and Gender Studies. Potential topics for the course are timely and topical. Topics will consider legal, ethical, social, and political issues of the day, and will address the moral and ethical issues raised by them. Topics examples include Gender and Political Activism, Gender and Music Culture, Gender and Reality TV, Gender, Race, and Sports, Gender and Education, Sexual Medicine, and Gender and Social Media. May not be repeated for credit.

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

ONLINE

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+, DIV**Tu/Th 11:30 - 12:50 pm****Vicky Hesford, TA: Ashley Barry**

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 Theory in Context-HFA+**Tu/Th 4:00 - 5:20 pm****Valerie Moyer**

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 392: Topics in Women & Science - "Global Politics of Reproduction" - STAS**Tu/Th 11:30 - 12:50 pm****Annu Daftuar**

Members of oppressed communities have always had to fight to have children, and raise them in safe and healthy environments. The fight for abortion rights and the dark history of sterilization of women from marginalized communities continues to bear on present day reproductive politics debates. Can we then say that human reproduction is a solely biological phenomenon? In this course, we will examine two key questions: What makes reproduction a political issue? And what does politics of reproduction look like in the contemporary globalized world? Beginning with the concept of reproductive justice devised by women of color scholar-activists, we will examine what reproductive justice looks like in different global contexts to ensure that giving birth, and parenting is safer and dignified for all. In each class, we will consider the role of history, cultural and political discourses on reproductive processes, practices and experiences of women and men. Further, we will consider ways in which reproductive practices shape and are shaped by inequalities based on gender, race, class, sexuality, citizenship, religion etc. This course will provide a transnational approach to reproductive justice to understand how various debates on reproduction such as abortion, reproductive technologies, and intimate care work play out in different contexts.

WST 395: Topics in Global Feminism - "AIDS in a Transnational World" - GLO, SBS+**Tu/Th 1:00 - 2:20 pm****Andy Eicher**

This course centers around the historical and sociopolitical coincidence of globalization, de-industrialization in the west, and resource privatization alongside the AIDS epidemic. These factors ultimately shaped the trajectory of the AIDS epidemic and this course will invite students to consider the responses by transnational queer and feminist activists and scholars, critically considering how non-western ways of knowing and worldmaking influenced their reactions. Drawing on performance studies, transnational feminist theory, queer of color critique, and critical disability studies, students will consider case studies including AIDS service organizations that served primarily non-English speaking immigrants, artistic production by HIV-positive artists like Felix Gonzalez-Torres, and pop-cultural representations of AIDS such as Pedro Zamora. In addition to course readings and traditional assignments, students will also have the opportunity to undertake a creative project and engage directly with cultural production.

WST 398: Topics in Gender, Race, Ethnicity - " A Transnational Survey on Non-Normative Sexualities" - SBS+, DIV - ONLINE

Melis Umut

This course critically examines the social and cultural constructions of non-normative sexualities on a global level. A brief survey of what constitutes non-normative sexualities in different cultural contexts will be followed by a curated selection of how these sexualities in question are lived in people's everyday experience. The selection will include films, novels, and art pieces that vigorously portray the nuanced way of living, acting on, performing, and representing the so-called othered sexualities in a patriarchal and heteronormative world. The course particularly investigates the mundane experience of those who are othered otherwise - by race, ethnicity, nation, ability - so intersectionality and transnational feminism will be the critical tools we will be using throughout the course. By the end of the course, the students will gain an investigative outlook on how certain sexualities - those which do not necessarily approximate the mainstream and heterosexual world order - equip their performers with new everyday methodologies and survival strategies that aid them negotiating with their other 'othered' identities.

**WST 399: Topics in Gender & Sexuality - "Queering Science Fiction" - HFA+
Wednesday 10:00 - 12:53 pm**

Ritch Calvin

This class will introduce and examine theories of science fiction, theories and models of queer reading, and examples of authors who engage in queering science fiction. Theorist Darko Suvin defines "science fiction" as literature that makes the world we are familiar with seem strange, and the strange world seem familiar. Queer theorist William Haver writes about "queer" as "making strange, queer, or even cruel what we had thought to be a world. Given those similarities, you might think that SF had always been queer. That depends. If queer is taken to refer to an identity, then "no." If queer is taken to mean a critical lens that deconstructs familiar paradigms, then "yes." Readings/viewings will include works by Samuel R. Delany, James Tiptree, Jr., Joanna Russ, Larissa Lai, Nnedi Okorafor, Gabriela Damián Miravete, Janelle Monáe, Wendy Gay Pearson, and many others...

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

Mondays 1:00 - 3:50 pm

Ritch Calvin

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.