

Intro to Women's Studies: WMST 1080-05
Fall 2009
Tuesday/Thursday 9:35-10:50
BS 309

-Instructor: Emily Arendt

-Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday, 11-12:30

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*Email is going to be the best way to reach me, but please note that I do have some (however small) semblance of a social life, and so may not reply after business hours or over the weekend

Required Texts

-*Feminism: The Essential Historical Writings*, ed. Miriam Schneir (New York: Vintage Books, 1994)

-*Women's Voices, Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings* 4th Edition, ed. Susan Shaw and Janet Lee (Boston: McGraw Hill, 2009)

Objectives

Women's Studies is an expansive field which includes studies in history, anthropology, literature, science, law and virtually every other academic field imaginable. This course is designed to introduce you to some of the major themes, concepts, and theoretical precepts which make up the field. We will seek to examine the multitudinous issues which surround the ideas of gender and sexuality, focusing on the lives of women in the United States. It satisfies the CH and D requirements of USP 2003.

Expectations

-Attendance and Participation: The classroom is a forum for the exchange of ideas. This being said, the most important thing I expect from you is regular attendance. Simply showing up, however, does not guarantee your success: students must read all assigned material before arriving and be prepared to discuss it. While I will not take daily attendance, be warned: you will quite possibly do poorly if you do not show up. Likewise, while I will not mark you down for lack of participation, I may bump up the grade of someone who has participated regularly.

-Please turn cell phones off. If one rings during class, I reserve the right to answer it.

-RESPECT: See the University Statement on Discrimination and Harassment, below

-Plagiarism: While I encourage you to discuss material outside of class, I expect you all to submit your own answers. (Review University Regulation 802, Revision 4 on Academic Dishonesty. Needless to say, the same rules governing plagiarism, cheating, fraud, violation of standards, multiple submissions, interference/obstruction, and complicity apply here as well.)

-Problems, Concerns, Etc: Always feel free to contact me (during my office hours, by setting up an appointment, or through email) with any concerns you have regarding class, discussions, assignments, exams, or grades.

University Disability Support Services

If you have a physical, learning, or psychological disability and require accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible. You will need to register with, and provide documentation of your disability to, University Disability Support Services (UDSS) in SEO, room 330 Knight Hall, 766-6189, TTY: 766-3073.

Statement on Discrimination and Harassment

Campus environment characterized by diversity, free inquiry, free expression and balanced by interpersonal civility has always been, and continues to be, a top priority of the University of Wyoming. Civil discourse is an essential aspect of the search for and transmission of knowledge. Words and actions that promote and encourage self-worth, respect and dignity are consistent with the university's mission. Conversely, words or actions that reflect prejudice, stereotypes and discrimination are antithetical to the mission of the university and can not be countenanced. Specifically, racist and other discriminatory or harassing conduct based on gender, color, disability, sexual orientation, religious preference, national origin, ancestry or age impair and disrupt legitimate university functions. Every effort, within the context and protection of First Amendment rights, will be expended to eliminate such conduct from the campus community. Teaching our students to live productively in a multicultural/multiethnic society is a process that must take place within a constructive and harmonious multicultural/ethnic environment here at the University of Wyoming. It is the obligation of the faculty, staff, students and the administration of the University of Wyoming to provide this environment.

Exams: There will be three exams, each worth 100 points. Exams will not be comprehensive, and will consist of short identification/definitions and an essay. Make-ups will only be administered with an official University Excuse.

-Exam 1: Thursday, September 24

-Exam 2: Thursday, October 29

-Exam 3: Finals Week-- Thursday, December 10 (10:15-12:15)

Journals: Every week you are to submit a reflection paper (250-350 words, 12 pt. Times New Roman, double spaced) which catalogues your reactions to the readings and discussions of the week. Each week's journal reflection is due Thursday by midnight to the appropriate dropbox on ecompanion. I understand, however, that sometimes emergency situations come up. Therefore, you will be granted one "freebie"—a week where you will get a full 10 points for the assignment without turning it in. Please be sure to let me know when you are utilizing your freebie, lest I give you a zero. In total, then, there are 15 journals (including the freebie), worth 10 points each for a total of 150 points.

Newspaper Assignment: Throughout the semester, everyone will be required to present a current event topic once. A sign-up sheet will be passed around the first day of class. Each Thursday, one student will present from a blog, one from a newspaper, and one from a magazine. The student is expected to summarize the article, raise important questions, and suggest how the piece relates to concepts/themes discussed in class. 25 points

Term Paper: Each student will write a short paper (4-5 pgs.) on a gender/women's issue in their professed field of interest. More info to come. 100 points.

Presentation: Last week of class is dedicated to short presentations (five minutes or less) so students can share their term paper findings with the rest of the class. 25 points.

Grading Policy

Three exams (100 points each):	300 points
Journals (10 points each):	150 points
Newspaper Assignment:	25 points
Final paper (100 points):	100 points
Presentation:	25 points

Total: 600 points

- 90-100% = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D
- 59% and below = F

Women's Studies Calendar (Fall 2009; T/R, 9:35-10:50)

“Fem” signifies *Feminism: The Essential Historical Writings*; “WVFFV” signifies *Women's Voices, Feminist Visions*

Week 1: Intro and Why Women's Studies?

T, August 25

-Fem: “Declaration of Sentiments,” 76-82

-Declaration of Independence

R, August 27

-WVFFV: Chpt. 1 Intro, 1-19

Baumgardner and Richards, “A Day Without Feminism,” 28-31

Rhode, “Denials of Inequality,” 54-55

Quindlen, “Still Needing the F Word,” 56-57

Week 2: Inequality & Privilege

T Sept. 1

-WVFFV: Chpt. 2 Intro, 59-75

-Fem: Engels, “The Origin of the Family...,” 189-204

Sojourner Truth, “Ain't I a Woman?” 93-95

R Sept. 3 (begin newspaper assignment: 1)

-WVFFV: Hill Collins, “Toward a New Vision,” 76-84

Pharr, “Homophobia,” 87-91

McIntosh, “White Privilege and Male Privilege,” 91-98

Week 3: Gender as Performance? Nature v. Nurture

T Sept. 8

-WVFFV: Chpt. 3 Intro, 124-139

Lorber, “The Social Construction of Gender,” 142-145

-Fem: Mary Wollstonecraft, “A Vindication of the Rights of Women,” 5-16

Cady Stanton, “Womanliness,” 155-156

R Sept 10 (newspaper assignment: 2)

-WVFFV: Fausto-Sterling, “Two Sexes are Not Enough,” 140-142

Rosenberg, “(Rethinking) Gender,” 158-162

Connell, “Masculinities and Globalization,” 162-163

Week 4: Sexuality

T Sept. 15

- WVFFV: Chpt. 4 Intro, 170-185
- Fem: George Sand, "Indiana," 25-27
- Claflin, "Which is to Blame?," 149-151
- Goldman, "The Traffic in Women," 308-317

R Sept. 17 (newspaper assignment: 3)

- WVFFV: Schwartz & Rutter, "Sexual Desire and Gender," 186-193
- Baumgardner, "What is Bisexuality?," 197-203
- Moraga, "La Güera," 205-208

Week 5: The Body

T Sept. 22

- WVFFV: Chpt. 5 Intro, 223-243
- Martin, "Love your Fat Self," 280-284
- Weil Davis, "Designer Vaginas," 287-294

R Sept 24: **Exam 1**

Week 6: Women's Health and Reproduction

T Sept. 29

- WVFFV: Chpt. 6 Intro, 296-325
- Fem: Sanger, "Woman and the New Race," 325-334

R Oct. 1 (newspaper assignment: 4)

- WVFFV: Satcher, "American Women and Health Disparities," 326-329
- Dickerson, "The Tolling of the Bell," 329-335
- Gordon, "Is Nothing Simple about Reproduction Control?," 336-350

Week 7: Gender and Family

T Oct. 6

- WVFFV: Chpt. 7 Intro, 278-395
- Fem: "Married Women's Property Act, NY 1848," 72-74
- Stone, "Marriage of Lucy Stone Under Protest," 103-105
- Cady Stanton, "Address to the NY State Legislature, 1854," 110-116
- "Married Women's Property Act, NY, 1860," 122-124

R Oct. 8 (gone for WHA)

- WVFFV: Miya-Jervis, "Who Wants to Marry a Feminist?," 402-404
- Gomes, "Partners as Parents," 408-414

Week 8: The Second Shift: Women's Labor

T Oct. 13

- WVFFV: Chpt. 8 Intro, 426-447
- Fem: Robinson, "Early Factory Labor in New England," 49-57
- Perkins Gilman, "Women and Economics," 230-246

R Oct. 15 (newspaper assignment: 5)

- WVFFV: Ehrenreich, "Maid to Order," 464-470
- Burk, "Power Plays," 483-485
- Klinger, "Prostitution, Humanism, and a Woman's Choice," 493-497

Week 9: Women in Culture

T Oct. 20

- WVFFV: Chpt. 9 Intro, 498-514
- Fem: Frances Wright, "Course of Popular Lectures," 18-24
- Woolf, "A Room of One's Own," 344-355

R Oct. 22 (newspaper assignment: 6)

- WVFFV: Levy, "Female Chauvinist Pigs," 522-527
- Armstead, "Growing the Size of the Black Woman," 535-542
- Valenti, "Pop Culture Gone Wild," 549-553

Week 10: Gendered Violence

T Oct. 27

- WVFFV: Chpt. 10 Intro, 555-577
- Davis, "Betrayed by the Angel," 590-593
- Carr, "Campus Sexual Violence," 593-599

R Oct. 29: **Exam 2**

Week 11: Government, Law, and Women

T Nov. 3

- WVFFV: Chpt. 11 Intro, 611-632
- Anthony, "Constitutional Argument," 633-634
- Fem: Chapman Catt, "The World Movement...", 286-292

R Nov. 5 (newspaper assignment: 7)

- WVFFV: MacKinnon, "Law in the Everyday Life of Women," 634-642
- Enloe, "Demilitarizing Society in a Globalized World," 659-667

Week 12: Religion & Spirituality

T Nov. 10

- WVFFV: Chpt. 12 Intro, 669-682

Cady Stanton, "Intro to the *Woman's Bible*," 683
-Fem: Mott, "Not Christianity, but Priestcraft," 99-102

R, Nov. 12 (newspaper assignment: 8)

-WVFFV: McCarthy Brown, "Fundamentalism and the Control of Women," 684-688
Nomani, "An Islamic Bill of Rights..." 692-697

Week 13: The F-Word: Feminism (US & Global)

T Nov. 17

-WVFFV: Chpt. 13 Intro, 707-721

R. Nov. 19 (newspaper assignment: 9)

-WVFFV: Hogeland, "Fear of Feminism," 722-725
Dixon Diallo, "Reflections of a Human Rights Educator," 733-736

Week 14: Conclusions

T, Nov. 24 (newspaper assignment: 10)

-WVFFV: Rosen, "Epilogue," 747-753

R, Nov. 26 (no class- Thanksgiving)

Week 15- Presentations

T, Dec. 1

R, Dec. 3

Final Papers: due Thursday, Dec. 3 by midnight

Final Exam: Thursday, December 10, 10:15-12:15