



Spring 2010 Women's Studies Courses

WS 1104: Feminisms and the Arts

Instructor: Carolyn Ginsberg

Mondays: 6:00-8:40 p.m.

This course focuses on interpreting the work of women artists in the visual arts, literature, music, and film in the United States, with an emphasis on diversity and multiculturalism. We will explore the work of women artists through the lens of feminist criticism, as feminism has enriched, challenged, and extended these artistic traditions. We will discuss ways that gender—especially as it intersects with race/class/age/sexuality—shapes artistic practice as well as other social practices and experiences. We will ask a lot of tough questions about women artists and their work. Together we will create a respectful classroom community where everyone will contribute, listen, and respond.

This class meets General Education Content Area 1 and Content Area 4.

WS 3453W/SOCI 3453W: Women and Health

Instructor: Ingrid Semaan

Mondays: 5:30-8:10 p.m.

Social factors shaping women's health, health care, and their roles as health-care providers.

This is a W Course. Open to sophomores or higher.

SOCI 3601W: Sociology of the Gender

Instructor: Laura Bunyan

Tu/Th: 9:55-11:10 a.m.

Explores processes contributing to social construction of gender; examines the theories used to explain the system of inequality in the United States with particular attention to the intersection of gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, and class; and evaluates how men and women are differentially constituted in the family, in education, work, politics, and language.

This is a W course

SOCI 3601: Sociology of the Gender

Instructor: Laura Bunyan

Tu/Th: 1:10-2:25 p.m.

Explores processes contributing to social construction of gender; examines the theories used to explain the system of inequality in the United States with particular attention to the intersection of gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, and class; and evaluates how men and women are differentially constituted in the family, in education, work, politics, and language.

ENGL 4613W: Advanced Study: Lesbian, Gay Bisexual and Transgendered Literature

Instructor: Frederick Roden

Tuesdays 5:30-8:10 p.m.

While gay, lesbian, and a whole array of queer lives are lived, and GLBTQ literature is written, gay/lesbian and queer experience is also theorized. This course will examine the development of theories of gender and sexuality in relation to feminist theory and other area studies. By nature interdisciplinary, our semester will examine the historical development of theories of sexuality: from early discourses on sex to the 19th-century sexologists to the emergence of gay/lesbian studies in relation to Second Wave Feminism. We'll pay particular attention to how gender theory differentiated itself from yet depended on later feminist thought, and how queer theory and post-gay identities coalesced at the end of the millennium.

This is a W Course and one of the required capstone classes for the English major

WS 3562 / HIST 3562: Women & Gender in the U.S.**Instructor: Mary Cygan****Wednesdays: 2:35-5:15 p.m.**

This course examines the lives of women in the United States from 1790 to the end of the twentieth century. We will consider the lives of well-known women such as Catharine Beecher, Sojourner Truth, Susan B. Anthony, Margaret Sanger and Rosa Parks as well as changes in the daily lives of unknown women. We will discuss the experiences of pioneer farmers, wartime construction workers, prostitutes, nurses, nuns, lawyers, physicians, social workers and domestic servants. We will ask what women from different races, classes, sexual identities, religions, and ethnicities have in common and what has divided them. Political activism to expand women's rights will be an important topic as well as changing ideas of women's work, femininity, sexuality, motherhood, and marriage.

WS 3269: The Women's Movement**Instructor: Rhea Hirshman****Wednesdays: 5:30-8:10 p.m.**

Voices for women's equality in the U.S. have been heard since the founding of the Republic. We'll begin with a brief chronological overview of U.S. women's rights activism, and continue with an examination of issues unique to their own times (e.g. the struggle for the right to vote) and those that remain with us (e.g. questions of reproductive justice, and connecting gender with issues of race and class). Always, we will be exploring what activism means and the multiplicity of ways that activism happens.

Recommended Preparation: At least one other WS course or a related course in History or Sociology

WS 1105: Gender in Everyday Life**Instructor: Ingrid Semaan****Thursday: 2:35 – 5:15 p.m.**

This course examines the social forces that influence the lives of women and men. We will contrast the idea that gender is fixed and/or biologically determined with the view that gender is variable and produced in social relationships. A central theme of this course is that race and class relations intersect with gender relations to produce difference and inequality. We will also look at the ways that women resist oppression and the ways that collective action can and does change gender, race, and class relations. Topics covered in this class will include work, intimate relationships, government policies, gender identity, sexuality, body image, and social movements. We will explore these topics through films, readings, and class discussions.

This class meets General Education Content Areas 2 and 4.

ENGL 3627: Romantic Love in Literature**Instructor: Morgne Cramer****Thursdays: 6:00-8:40 p.m.**

Romantic Love--its longings, courtship rituals, disappointments, and joys--has been central to western literature. Questions to be asked during the course: What are the origins of romantic love? How and why has romantic love been linked to other social concerns like militarism, property exchange, class, race and other forms of social conflict, political and personal transformation? Why have many post World War I writers been especially prone to reject romantic love conventions in the novel? When Romantic Love turns to domestic abuse is this "love gone wrong" or is the ideology of Romantic love itself to blame? Can Romantic Love plots and songs in art and "real" life still provide the "happy endings," utopian fantasies, and ecstatic transformations that have been historically linked to Romance?

HIST 1203/WS 1121: Women in History (Asian American Women in History)**Instructor: Grace Yun****Every other Saturday: 9am-2 p.m.**

This course will provide an overview of the historical experience of Asian women in the United States from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. The impact of historical, social, economic and cultural forces on the role and status of Asian women in the U.S. will be examined. Distinctive contributions by Asian American women to the historical development and contemporary life of American society will be documented. Critical topics and issues relating to immigration patterns, labor force participation, family formation, gender roles, arranged and interaction marriage and the educational and employment status of American women of Asian ancestry (Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Filipino, Indian, Vietnamese, Cambodia, etc.) will be explored.

This course meets General Education Requirements CA 1 and CA 4.

***** You need only 5 classes, at least 4 of which must be at the 3000 level to get a minor in Women's Studies. Contact ingrid.semaan@uconn.edu for more information *****