

WMST 2010: Introduction to Women's Studies
Maymester 2008
Daily – 9:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Benson Building 103

Instructor: Daleah Goodwin
Email: dgoodwin@uga.edu
Office Location: 120 LeConte Hall
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description:

This course introduces major themes, theories, discussions, and people in the study of women. We will focus on how women's everyday experiences and lives shaped and have been shaped by social, cultural, economic, political, and regional trends, practices and institutions. Guiding our overall course will be the various intersections of gender, race, ethnicity, class, and sexuality.

Course Objectives:

- ◆ To explore issues of central concern in the lives of women.
- ◆ To provide students with a framework that explores how the dynamics of race, ethnicity, gender and class work individually and collectively in society.
- ◆ To improve students' ability to master facts, concepts, and generalizations regarding women's experiences, and to expand their awareness of how gender affects women's lives.
- ◆ To teach students how to develop critical and analytical reading, thinking and feeling skills. Each student should be able to read and understand texts, as well as offer questions or comments that illustrate an awareness of the key arguments. Part of critical and analytical development is learning how to process emotional responses to historical events. Each student should understand the intellectual relationship between knowledge and feelings.
- ◆ To aid students in improving their oral and written communication skills. Each student should understand the value in being able to rationally express his or her thoughts, beliefs and opinions.

Required Text:

- ◆ Susan M. Shaw and Janet Lee, eds. *Women's Voices, Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings*. Third edition. New York: McGraw Hill, 2007.
 - Listed on Course Schedule as "WVFFV"
- ◆ Selected Readings available via WebCT.

Course Requirements:

1. Classroom Decorum
 - ◆ Anyone participating in behavior that, in my judgment, is disruptive to the learning environment will be asked to leave. Disruptive behavior includes, but is not limited to, using cell phones, sending/receiving text messages, unauthorized talking, arriving late to class, and using computers for anything other than note taking (i.e. – FaceBook, MySpace, surfing the Web, Instant Messaging, emailing, etc.). **Under no**

circumstances will I tolerate language and or behavior (written or spoken) that threatens or demeans others. Anyone who fails, in my judgment, to adhere to these rules will face immediate expulsion from the class.

- ◆ Tape recorders or other audio recording devices are prohibited during class.
 - ◆ I reserve the right to prohibit computer usage in the class.
2. Class Participation
- ◆ Students are expected to come to class prepared to engage the instructor and their classmates over the assigned readings.
3. Attendance
- ◆ I expect you to attend class regularly, be consistently prepared, and participate in discussions. Regular class attendance is mandatory and will be taken during each class meeting. It is the student's responsibility to sign the roll sheet.
 - ◆ Students arriving to class after 9:45 p.m. are considered late. Three (3) tardies equals one absence.
 - ◆ Excessive absences result in grades reduction. Students are allowed ONE absence. Your final grade will drop one-half letter grade (5 percentage points) for each absence thereafter. For example, if you miss three class meetings, your final grade will be deducted 10 percentage points.
4. Course work
- ◆ All course work is to be done individually, unless otherwise stated by the instructor.
 - ◆ Each student is expected to meet all deadlines for submitting assignments. All assignments, papers, and reviews, etc. are due at the beginning of class.
 - ◆ All assignments, papers, reviews, etc. turned in must be typed, double-spaced in 12-point font with 1-inch margins. Be sure to staple loose sheets together!
 - ◆ Work will not be accepted late, emailed, placed in my mailbox or slid under my office door, except in the event of an emergency and pending documentation.
 - ◆ Plagiarism, fabrication and cheating will not be tolerated and are prohibited in this course and in any other course at The University of Georgia. Any act of plagiarism will be taken seriously and result in an automatic '0' on that assignment and prosecution to the fullest extent of university policy. All students are expected to adhere to UGA's Academic Honesty Policy contained in 'A Culture of Honesty.' For more information, please visit– <http://www.uga.edu/honesty/index.html>

Students with Special Needs:

Federal Law (The American's with Disabilities Act) and The University of Georgia seek to provide students with disabilities the opportunity to fully participate in educational programs and services. In keeping with this philosophy, it is University policy that students with documented disabilities receive reasonable accommodations through access to classroom information. If you have a physical, psychological/psychiatric or medical condition, or a learning disability that will make it difficult for you to carry out the work outlined in the syllabus, or that will require additional time for taking exams and completing assignments, please notify me and the Disability Resource Center in Clark Howell Hall in the first two weeks of the semester so that we

may make appropriate arrangements. All information and documentation of a disability is confidential. For more information, please visit– <http://drc.uga.edu/>

Grading Scheme (Detail):

- 1. Class Participation – 100 points** **15 % of your final grade**
 - ◆ Regular attendance at class meetings is a minimum expectation for this course. You are also expected to complete the scheduled readings prior to attending class and are expected to participate fully in classroom discussions.

- 2. Quizzes – 100 points** **15 % of your final grade**
 - ◆ There will be thirteen quizzes throughout the course. I will drop the three lowest quiz grades. Each quiz is based on the readings and may consist of multiple choice, true/false, matching and short answer questions. If you miss the quiz, you miss the quiz. Quizzes may not be made up.

- 3. Individual Writing Assignments – 100 points** **25 % of your final grade**
 - ◆ Each student will complete three (3) individual writing assignments—one gender bend/bust reflection and two responses/critiques to a current event posted on our class blog. Each paper must be a thoughtful, critical and analytical engagement of the activity. Details on this assignment will be distributed in class.
 - **Paper #1 Due – May 19, 2008**
 - **Paper #2 Due – May 23, 2008**
 - **Paper #3 Due – May 30, 2008**

 - ◆ You can find our class blog at <http://wmst2010.wordpress.com/>

- 4. Group Media Critique/Review Project – 150 points** **25 % of your final grade**
 - ◆ Each student will work in a group to analyze music albums, magazines, movies, or television shows from a feminist perspective. Each group will submit an 8 – 10 page paper and deliver a prepared 15-minute presentation to the class. Details on this assignment will be distributed in class.

- 5. Final Examination – 100 points** **20 % of your final grade**
 - ◆ The final exam will cover material from the readings, lectures, and presentations in the form of multiple choice, true/false, matching, short answer and essay questions.
 - **Final Exam – Wednesday, June 4, 2008**

Grading Scheme (Overview):

1. Class Participation	15 %
2. Quizzes	15%
3. Individual Writing Assignments	25 %
4. Group Media Critique/Review Project	25 %
5. Final Examination	20 %
TOTAL	100%

Grading Scale:

A 94-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D 65-69	F 64 and below
A- 90-93	B 84-86	C 74-76		
	B- 80-83	C- 70-73		

The Instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus at any point during the semester.

Course Schedule:**Tuesday, May 13, 2008**

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ Distribute Syllabus
- ✓ Begin discussion on *What is Women's Studies?*

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

- ✓ *Women's Movements/Herstories*
- ✓ *Feminisms*
 - Reading – Handout
 - Treichler and Kramarae, “Feminism”
 - Walker, “Womanist”
 - Reading – WVFV
 - Baumgardner and Richards, “A Day Without Feminism”
 - Baxandall and Gordon, “Dear Sisters”
 - hooks, “Feminist Politics”
 - Quindlen, “Still Needing the F Word”

Thursday, May 15, 2008

- ✓ *Intersections – Identities, Difference, Oppression, Domination*
 - Reading – WVFV
 - Chapter 2
 - Collins, “Toward a New Vision”
 - Frye, “Oppression”
 - McIntosh, “White Privilege and Male Privilege”
 - Pharr, “Homophobia”

Friday, May 16, 2008

- ✓ *Gender*
 - Reading – WVFV
 - Lorber, “The Social Construction of Gender”

Monday, May 19, 2008 – Tuesday, June 3, 2008 - TBA