

2015 Spring Course Offerings

Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Director Monica Miller



Graduate certificate, major and minor declaration forms are available in the Office of Interdisciplinary Programs, Maginnes 490

WGSS 001-10 Women & Men in Society CRN 17859 4 credits (SS)

The course introduces students to key concepts, theoretical frameworks, and interdisciplinary research in the field of Women's and Gender Studies. Examines how gender interacts with race, age, class, sexuality, etc., to shape human consciousness and determine the social organization of human society. The course may include topics such as: gender and work; sexuality and reproduction; women's health; media constructions of gender and race; gender, law, and public policy. **Professor Krasas** T,TR; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS, ENG 104-10 Special Topics in Gender Studies: Made to Kill: Female Violence in Popular Cinema CRN 19209 4 credits (HU)

This course will examine the ways in which representations of female violence in popular cinema construct, reinforce and/or challenge normative ideas about female identity, violence and gender roles. Films include *The Hunger Games*, *Black Swan*, *Carrie*, and *The Silence of the Lambs*. The course will also introduce you to the language of film and enable you to use this language to interpret the way films make meaning. Readings will include critical essays, contemporary reviews, and feminist theory. **Professor Handler** M,W; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m. M; 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

PHIL 146-10 Philosophy and Gender CRN 19338 4 credits (HU) WGSS attribute

An examination of concepts, values, and assumptions relevant to gender in our diverse society, investigating how they affect our lives in both concrete and symbolic ways. Questions to be considered include: What is a woman? What is a man? What does gender have to do with sexual ethics? What does gender have to do with power and oppression? What are the ways in which gender intersects with sexuality, race, class, and religion? What are the theoretical and political consequences of such intersections? Special attention will be paid to how gendered assumptions color our understanding of knowledge production, experiences of embodiment and emotion, public and private activities, and the nature of ethical decision-making. **Professor Dillon** M,W; 11:10 - 12:25 p.m.

POLS 195-10 Gender, Race and Quantitative Reasoning in Political Science CRN 19283 4 credits (SS) WGSS attribute

Data and statistical analyses can be used to examine important political and social questions. A common critique of quantitative research is, however, that it fails to adequately model how gender and race affect politics. In this course, students are introduced to basic quantitative methods used in political science research, and learn to critically assess and evaluate quantitative reasoning through the lens of feminist and critical race theory. There is no prerequisite for this course. **Professor Mona Kleinberg** T,TR; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS, AAS, HIST, GS 195-10 Women, Gender, Sexuality and Race in African Societies CRN 19431 4 credits (HU) GCP attribute

This course explore the various ways in which womanhood, gender, sexuality and race is defined, constructed and articulated in African societies. The interdisciplinary course draw from historical writings, novels, biography, anthropology, political science, health and others to examine diverse activities and contributions of African women from the pre-colonial period. **Professor Essien** T,TR; 9:20 - 10:35 a.m.

WGSS, HMS 196-10 Maternal Bodies and Public Health CRN 19464 4 credits (SS)

Although a seemingly private issue, the subject of infant breastfeeding has long been informed by public and medical trends. This course will examine breastfeeding from an interdisciplinary public health perspective. Historical and social contexts that shape our understanding of this practice will be considered, from breastfeeding in public to commercialization. We will also consider health concerns for mothers and infants (including emotional and psychological as well as physical), health disparities, and strategies for supporting freely chosen breastfeeding practices. This course also includes an experiential learning component in which students will help create sustainable infrastructure changes based on best-practice strategies and local community needs. **Professor Martell** *Open only to HMS and WGSS majors/minors* M,W; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS, AAS, LAS 197-10 "Plátanos and Collard Greens": Politics of Race and Gender in 20th Century Afro-Latino Literature and Culture CRN 19433 4 credits (HU) English attribute, GCP attribute

In this course, we will focus on the ways that race, gender, and sexuality have interceded into cultural lives of black Latinas and Latinos living in United States. We will use 3rd wave feminist theories as a framework to develop an interdisciplinary examination into politics of difference and intersectionality. Course texts include literature by writers such as Junot Díaz and Marta Morena Vega, poetry and slam performances that have come out of the Nuyorican Poetry Movement, as well as scripts and live performances of hip hop theatre, including David Lamb's "Plátanos y Collard Greens". The class will also dedicate time to studying other Afro-Latino popular culture forms. **Professor Phillips** *OPEN to FY students* M,W; 12:45 - 2:00 p.m.

WGSS, REL, AAS, GS 198-10 Identity Wars and the Battle for Authenticity CRN 18850 4 credits (HU)

As identities proliferate so does the ongoing battle for recognition, power and authority. From race, religion, citizenship, sexuality, law, class, gender, etc., – much of society seems engaged in an endless struggle over and for authenticity, access, control, and influence in competing spheres of significance (i.e., popular culture, academic discourse, virtual reality). We'll explore what's at stake in ensuing culture wars and what strategies help construct and maintain identity claims/positions by applying various intellectual projects/approaches to popular cultural source material. **Professor Miller** W; 1:10 - 4:00 p.m.

WGSS 271-10 Independent Reading and Research CRN 17869 1-4 credits (SS/HU)

Independent study of selected topics designated and executed in close collaboration with a member of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies faculty. Students taking this course as a requirement for the minor must elect at least the three-credit option. May be repeated for elective credit. Prerequisite: consent of the WGSS program director. *Instructor permission required*

WGSS, MLL, GCP, GERM 303-10 Grimms' Fairy Tales: Folklore, Feminism, Film CRN 17871 4 credits (HU) (undergraduate only)

This intercultural history of the Grimms' fairy tales investigates how folktale types and gender stereotypes developed and became models for children and adults. The course covers the literary fairy tale in Germany as well as Europe and America. Versions of "Little Red Riding Hood", "Cinderella", or "Sleeping Beauty" exist not only in the Grimms' collection but in films and many forms of world literature. Modern authors have rewritten fairy tales in feminist ways, promoting social change. Taught in English. German language students may receive a German component. **Professor Stegmann** M,W; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS 330-10 Internship in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies CRN 17875 1-4 credits (SS)

WGSS 430-10 Internship in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies CRN 17883 1-3 credits (graduate only)

Supervised work in women's organizations or settings, combined with an analysis, in the form of a major paper, of the experience using the critical perspectives gained in WGSS courses. Placements arranged to suit individual interests and career goals; can include social service agencies, women's advocacy groups, political organizations, etc. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisites: WGSS 001 or WGSS 101 and consent of the WGSS program director. *Instructor permission required*

WGSS, PSYC, HMS 334-10 The Psychology of Body Image and Eating Disorders CRN 18915 4 credits (SS)

The course addresses the psychosocial aspects of the development of healthy and unhealthy body image and eating disorders. The roles of personality traits/individual factors, family and interpersonal functioning, and cultural factors will be examined, as will the impact of representations of body image in mass media. Public health and psychological interventions for prevention and treatment will be explored. Personal accounts/memoirs, clinical case presentations, and documentary and dramatic films will be incorporated in the presentation of topics. (Open only to declared HMS minors, declared WGSS minors, or those who have taken WGSS 001) **Professor Lomauro** HMS and WGSS majors/minors can register without permission, PSYCH students require Department permission T; 7:10 - 10:00 p.m.

WGSS 373-10 Internship in Women's Center CRN 17878 1-3 credits (SS) **Professor Jones**

WGSS 373-11 Internship in Women's Center CRN 17879 1-3 credits (SS) **Professor DeSipio**

Supervised work in the Women's Center allow WGSS students to bring critical perspectives on women and gender into the campus community. Students who wish to fulfill the internship requirement of the WGSS minor must take the Women's Center internship for (3). This course may be repeated for credit up to a maximum of 6 credits. Prerequisites: WGSS 001 or WGSS 101 and consent of the Women's Center director. *Instructor permission required*

WGSS, REL, AAS, ENG 395-10 Black Queer Saints: Sex, Gender, Race, Class and the Quest for Liberation CRN 19278 4 credits (HU)

WGSS, REL, AAS, ENG 395-11 Black Queer Saints: Sex, Gender, Race, Class and the Quest for Liberation CRN 19279 3 credits

This interdisciplinary seminar (drawing on fiction, biography, critical theory, film, essays, and memoirs) will explore how certain African American artists, activists, and religionists have resisted, represented, and reinterpreted sex, sexuality, and gender norms in the context of capitalist, white supremacist, male supremacist, and heteronormative cultures. Participants will examine the visions and lives of an exemplary cast, including but not limited to, Harriet Tubman, Langston Hughes, Alain Locke, James Baldwin, Bayard Rustin, Peter Gomes, Alice Walker, and bell hooks. **Professor Wiley** T; 1:10 - 4:00 p.m.

WGSS, SOC 396-10 College Sexuality CRN 18934 4 credits (SS) (undergraduate only)

This course will explore the sexuality of college students. We will examine several aspects of this intriguing topic including: historical and theoretical perspectives, sexual identity development, and sexual attitudes and behaviors. Students will have the opportunity to use the theoretical perspectives from class to investigate sexuality on Lehigh's campus. **Professor DeSipio** M,W; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS, AAS, SDEV 397-10 Women, Engineering and Sustainable Development in Africa CRN 19443 4 credits (SS) ES attribute, GCP attribute

This course embraces multi-disciplinary approaches in Environmental Engineering and Africana Studies. The course will engage students on issues of sustainable development and explore various green energy and environmental initiatives in Africa. Students will learn and develop models for simple, culturally competent, and economically feasible technologies, either adopted or developed, that can enhance the communal, infrastructural and individual capacity for agricultural communities in rural Africa to alleviate poverty. Through research, situational/case study analysis and several discussion-based approaches, we will examine women's roles and various gendered issues and challenges that impede the economic advancement and environmental conservation that is vital to development in Africa. **Professor Dzikor Darku** T,TR; 10:45 - 12:00 p.m.

WGSS, COMM, AAS 398-10 New Media, Race and Gender CRN 17880 4 credits (SS)

This class will take an exploratory approach to understanding the relationship between race, gender and new media. To this end, it will examine depictions of racial minorities and women online; how users access and use new media across race and gender (including a look at the digital divide); and differences in use of social media websites across race and gender. The goal of this course is for students to understand the ways in which existing racial and gender categorizations are/are not transmitted to the online community and do/do not become an extension of present social hierarchy. **Professor El-Burki** *Open only to Africana Studies, Journalism and WGSS students by instructor permission.* M,W; 12:45 - 2:00 p.m.

WGSS 399-10 Senior Thesis CRN 17882 2-4 credits (ND)

Research during senior year culminating in a senior thesis. May be repeated up to a total of 4 credits. Prerequisite: consent of the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program director. *Instructor permission required*

WGSS, MLL 403-10 Grimms' Fairy Tales: Folklore, Feminism, Film CRN 17872 3 credits

This intercultural history of the Grimms' fairy tales investigates how folktale types and gender stereotypes developed and became models for children and adults. The course covers the literary fairy tale in Germany as well as Europe and America. Versions of "Little Red Riding Hood", "Cinderella", or "Sleeping Beauty" exist not only in the Grimms' collection but in films and many forms of world literature. Modern authors have rewritten fairy tales in feminist ways, promoting social change. Taught in English. German language students may receive a German component. **Professor Stegmann** M,W; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS, CIE 405-10 Experiencing the United Nations: NGOs in Education Policy and Practice CRN 19472 3 credits

Building on the Lehigh University/United Nations partnership initiative, this course provides a structured practical experience for students to learn about the dynamics of NGO/UN relationships by representing one of the underrepresented international NGOs at the United Nations. Equips students with necessary experience, understanding, and skills in international education development such as policy brief writing and education sector analysis. **Professor Kong** *Open to undergraduate juniors and seniors by permission.* M; 1:10 - 4:00 p.m.

WGSS 491-10 Independent Study: Theories of Gender and Feminism CRN 17884 3 credits

Drawing its topic from the now famous Scholar and Feminist IX conference on sexuality, held at Barnard College in 1982, this course explores "Pleasure and Danger" in varied accounts of the relationship between sex and gender. In the first half of the course, we will explore different theoretical models for thinking gendered suffering and pleasure, with a particular focus on the relationship between feminist and queer theories from the 'Sex Wars' of the early '80s through the rise of queer theory out of gay and lesbian studies in the early '90s: How might we describe the relationship between sex and gender? What are the analytical and political costs and benefits of thinking through sex and gender together? Of—if possible—splitting them apart? In the second half of the course, we will explore the current legacies and possible futures of these debates about pleasure and harm by examining how they have influenced recent trends in scholarship on gender and sexuality. As we read the course texts, we will pay particular attention to critical analyses (and uses) of language as a symptom or mechanism of gendered harms and as a resource for pleasure and transformation. *Instructor permission required*