

2017 Spring Course Offerings

Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Director Monica Miller (Interim: Jackie Krasas)



Graduate certificate, major and minor declaration forms are available in the Office of Interdisciplinary Programs: 31 Williams Hall, Suite 101

WGSS 001-10 Women & Men in Society CRN 12233 4 credits (SS) CBE Diversity

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 M, W; 12:45 -2:00 p.m.

WGSS, MLL, ASIA 096-10 Sex, War, Women, Art CRN 13315 4 credits (HU) CBE Diversity

Through the study of selected visual, cinematic, and literary works in their historical and social contexts, students will gain knowledge of cultures in Japan. We will examine various cultures from the perspectives of gender and sexuality as constitutive factors of Japanese society. The material we will focus on includes (but not limited to): 1) The Twilight Samurai, a film depicting the romantic life of a samurai and his lover; 2) art works by Kusama Yayoi, a contemporary artist, known as the "dot lady" and nihonga by Matsui Fuyuko; 4) sex workers under the Japanese Empire in Okinawa, Shanghai, Colonial Korea, as well as women in Zainichi Korean communities. The course is designed for students with and without previous knowledge of Japan. No Japanese language ability is required. All lectures and readings are in English. Films are in Japanese with English subtitles. Students who are interested in gender and sexuality in Japan, as well as colonial and postcolonial issues, impacted by the Japanese empire, are strongly encouraged to take this course. By the end of the term, students will have acquired broad and critical knowledge of Japan. The course is open to freshmen with the consultation of Professor Yamasaki (noy215@lehigh.edu). **Professor Yamasaki** T, R; 1:10 - 2:25 p.m.

WGSS, ENGL 104-11 What Does Creativity Look Like? Documentary Visions CRN 14089 4 credits

What can documentary films tell us about the nature of creativity? What defines it? Why does it matter to people? Some of the course films explore activities such as painting, music and dance that we commonly associate with the term "art." Others explore the role of creative imagination in other activities, including political dissent, online romance, and relationships with animals. Most of the course films are about people who have been marginalized because of their sex, race, class position, age, mental health or political beliefs. We will consider how these people use imaginative work to define themselves and transform their communities. We will also examine how these documentaries frame their subjects, visually and narratively. The course will explore the ways in which documentary filmmaking, although committed to truth-telling, is itself always an act of creative imagination and interpretation. Finally, the course will encourage you to consider the role of creativity in your own life. **Professor Handler** M, W; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS, ENGL 104-12 LGBTQ Memoir CRN 14170 4 credits (HU)

From the 1980s to our current moment, diverse LGBTQ authors have turned to the genre of memoir as a political tool to highlight the challenges that we face both inside and outside of our communities. Frequently documenting the struggles of coming out to family members and the pressures to conform to familial desires for normative gender performance or heterosexual coupling, LGBTQ life-writers provide intimate details of the psychological impact of homophobia and gendered norms. This attention to adolescence in many memoirs of the period serves to create a space for LGBTQ readers to reflect upon our own stories about families of origin and to reach out to educate a larger reading public in the hopes of inspiring cultural transformation and greater acceptance. LGBTQ life-writing also explores finding acceptance within loving relationships as well as community spaces that support our diverse sexual and gendered identities. In this way, LGBTQ memoirs advocate for queer spaces and relationships and use them to model the kinds of social evolution that might take place outside of our community organizations. Even as memoirists often champion LGBTQ subcultures, they do acknowledge that our own communities are plagued by racism, classism, sexism, and our own gendered norms. Thus, rather than only provide idealist visions of queer subcultures, they use the space of memoir to call for transformation within our own communities to address racism both within and outside of our organizations, to recognize and to engage with the struggles of working class and impoverished community members, and to work to create more inclusive spaces for trans folk as well as bisexual and pansexual people. By reading a variety of memoirs by Cherríe Moraga, Audre Lorde, Eli Clare, Janet Mock, and others, this course will explore the political aims and narrative strategies of LGBTQ life-writers from the 1980s into the 21st century. This course is open to all students who maintain an interest in engaging with deeply moving and powerful diverse LGBTQ writers. **Professor Foltz** M, W; 12:45 - 2:00 p.m.

WGSS, PHIL 146-10 Philosophy of Sex and Gender CRN 14219 4 credits (HU) CBE Diversity

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; 12:45 - 2:00 p.m.

WGSS, REL, ASIA 196-11 Sex, Celibacy and Sainthood: Gender and Religion in East Asia CRN 13896 4 credits (HU) CBE Diversity

This course explores themes of sexuality, celibacy, gender and sainthood in East Asian Religions. We will pay special attention to the experiences of religious women from many walks of life and time periods, from traditions including Buddhism, Daoism, and shamanism. Through film, poetry, autobiography, philosophical writing, visual art, and description of visionary experience, students will encounter Buddhist and Daoist nuns, lay women, mothers, shamanic healers, oracles, activists, and royalty, from Tibet, Korea, Japan, China and the US. **Professor Pitkin** T, R; 10:45 - 12:00 p.m.

WGSS 271-10 Independent Reading and Research CRN 13559 1-4 credits (HU, SS)

Instructor permission required. **Professor Krasas**

WGSS, POLS, AAS 295-10 Revolution on Campus? Protest Politics and the University CRN 14174 4 credits

What leads to campus activism? When is it successful? When does it spread beyond a single location? This course examines campus activism both in the USA and around the world to try and answer some of these questions. We will consider how Lehigh can be a space of meaningful activism. The course uses social movement theorizing to make sense of student politics. **Professor Deo** R; 1:10 - 4:00 p.m.

CANCELED WGSS, POLS, ASIA 296-10 Women's Movement in China CRN 13586 4 credits

This course examines the state-directed movement for women's liberation in mainland China from the end of the imperial system (called "The May Fourth Era") through the Communist Era when the Communist Party in China was led by Chairman Mao Tsetung and into the contemporary era of "reform and opening" to the non-Communist world, beginning in 1978 and on to the present. While discussing many aspects of this movement, we will focus our attention on three issues: (1) identity and the development of women's political consciousness, (2) female labor force participation, and (3) sexuality, fertility, motherhood and population control. How have these issues been framed throughout China's modern history? How has this framing directed the development of women's individual and collective sense of power and agency? **Professor Fennell** T, R; 10:45 - 12:00 p.m.

WGSS 297-10 Internship in Pride Center CRN 13585 1-4 credits (SS) CBE Diversity

Instructor permission required. Professor Fullerton

WGSS, MLL, GERM 303-10 Grimms' Fairy Tales: Folklore, Feminism, Film CRN 12237 4 credits (HU) CBE Global

WGSS, MLL 403-10 Grimms' Fairy Tales: Folklore, Feminism, Film CRN 12238 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 330-11 Internship in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies CRN 13561 1-4 credits (SS)

Instructor permission required. Professor Krasas

WGSS 373-10 Internship in Women's Center CRN 12240 1-3 credits (SS)

Instructor permission required. Professor Jones

WGSS, COMM, AAS 376-10 New Media, Race and Gender CRN 13331 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. *Open only to Africana Studies, Journalism and WGSS majors/minors. All others require instructor permission.* **Professor El-Burki** T, R; 10:45 - 2:00 p.m.

WGSS, PHIL, ENGL 395-10 Foucault's Power: Sexuality, Surveillance, and Self CRN 12859 4 credits (HU)

PHIL, WGSS, ENGL 395-11 Foucault's Power: Sexuality, Surveillance, and Self CRN 14055 3 credits (HU)

Foucault's work continues to orient critical and interpretive work of scholars throughout the Humanities and Social Sciences. We will focus on Foucault's writings on power, the body, and the ethics of the self by considering his book-length studies, interviews, and dialogues. We will consider both the development of Foucault's work as well as his enduring influence on contemporary culture. **Professors Kramp and Bearn** W, 1:10 - 4:00 p.m.

WGSS, SOC 396-10 'Bad Girls': Gender, Sexuality, Deviance CRN 14177 4 credits (SS)

WGSS, SOC 496-10 'Bad Girls': Gender, Sexuality, Deviance CRN 14179 3 credits (SS)

This course focuses on "bad girls" (and boys!): people who perform their gender and/or sexuality in ways that fall outside of the norm. Topics include, but are not limited to: commercial sex workers, dominatrixes, transpeople, stay-at-home dads, and drag queens. Emphasis will be placed on understanding how cultural meanings shape our shared understandings of what is "normal" or "abnormal," "good" or "bad." We will regularly link the readings to current events and elements of popular culture. **Professor Lindemann** T, R; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS, AAS, ENGL 396-11 Race and Gender in 18th Century British Literature CRN 14059 4 credits (HU)

WGSS, AAS, ENGL 396-12 Race and Gender in 18th Century British Literature CRN 14062 3 credits (HU)

The Rights of Man, Thomas Paine's classic argument in defense of the individual's right to assert freedom in the face of tyranny, was a popular late-eighteenth century refrain originating from the 1789 French Revolution. But generalized arguments about individual human rights also gave rise to specific debates concerning the rights of women and Negro slaves. What rights were these individuals denied in eighteenth-century Britain and how did the period's literature reflect their dilemmas? This course will consider these questions as a way of introducing you to the study of race and gender in a British colonial context. But it is particularly concerned with occasions in literature where British writers combined simultaneous discourses about race and gender in ways that sometimes helped and at other times hindered the fights against tyranny that Negro slaves and female advocates fought. We will read plays, poetry, novels, short stories, travel literature, and non-fiction prose as well as recent theories about gender and racial construction in the eighteenth century to discuss representations of British men and women, and colonial Others like Africans, Negro slaves, Creoles and Jews. We will consider an assortment of issues ranging from slavery, anti-slavery, abolition, miscegenation, mimicry, ambivalence, hybridity, anti-Semitism, blackness and whiteness, to marriage, libertinism, and sexual double standards in a variety of canonical and obscure texts. *Department permission required* **Professor Dominique** T, R; 1:10 - 2:35 p.m.

WGSS, AAS 398-10 Readings: African American Women CRN 14267 4 credits (HU) CBE Diversity

This course will explore the cultural, economic and political history of African American women in the United States from slavery to the present. Through a combination of books, primary sources, and film we will explore how African American women have addressed what is often referred to as the "double burden" of sexism and racism while seeking to define their own identities as individuals, wives, mothers, workers, and citizens. Major themes will include labor, family, social movements, and civil rights. **Professor Duncan** R; 4:10 - 7:00 p.m.

WGSS 399-11 Senior Thesis CRN 13562 2-4 credits

Instructor permission required. Professor Krasas

WGSS, CIE 405-10 Experiencing the United Nations: Gender and Education in International Development CRN 12927 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. *Open to undergraduate juniors and seniors by permission.* **Professor Kong** R; 4:10 - 7:00 p.m.

WGSS 430-11 Internship in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies CRN 13563 1-3 credits

Instructor permission required. Professor Krasas

WGSS 491-11 Independent Study CRN 12978 3 credits

Instructor permission required. Professor Krasas