

2016 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: 31 Williams Hall, Suite 101

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

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 Edwards M, W; 11:10 - 12:25 p.m.

WGSS, MLL, ASIA 073-10 Film, Fiction, and Gender in Modern China (HU) *CBE Diversity 4 credits*

Study of the struggle for an individual "modern" identity out of traditionally defined roles for men and women as depicted by Chinese writers and filmmakers. Class, texts, and films in English. Students interested in setting up a corollary Chinese language component for credit as CHIN 251 may discuss this possibility with the professor. **Professor Cook** M, W; 10:45 - 12:00 p.m.

WGSS, MLL, ASIA 096-10 Sex Workers, Samurai Women, and Women Artists in Japan (HU) *CBE Diversity 4 credits*

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. **Professor Yamasaki** T, R; 10:45 - 12:00 p.m.

WGSS, REL, AAS, GS 096-11 God and the Almighty Market: Capital, Religion, and Future ROI (Return On Identity) (HU) *CBE Global 4 credits*

Religion functions economically, and economies function religiously. Various ideas and practices of social/economic actors often take on superstitious and even religious/theological qualities, in that capital is procured/created/lost in ways that we still don't fully understand. This interdisciplinary course looks at economy and market exchanges (broadly conceived) in global context, exploring the social and cultural concepts that shape capital by way of social identities, and the web-like relationships between religion/theology, capital, culture, markets, marketing and growing economies of identity. Religion functions economically, and economies function religiously. Various ideas and practices of social/economic actors often take on superstitious and even religious/theological qualities, in that capital is procured/created/lost in ways that we still don't fully understand. This interdisciplinary course looks at economy and market exchanges (broadly conceived) in global context, exploring the social and cultural concepts that shape capital by way of social identities, and the web-like relationships between religion/theology, capital, culture, markets, marketing and growing economies of identity. **Professor Miller** T, R; 1:10 - 2:25 p.m.

WGSS, REL, AAS, GS, HMS 097-11 Engineering the Impossible (in Modernity and Postmodernity) (HU) *4 credits*

Engineering the Impossible places religious studies in conversation with science and engineering to explore amazing technological successes AND the social, ecological, and economic costs associated with scientifically and technologically overcoming human limitations. Using a case study model covering topics including ecology, biomedical research, urban planning, the technological singularity, internet privacy, contemporary eugenics, and cutting-edge military research and development, this course is for anyone who might ever have to ask the question: "Sure, we can make that happen, but should we?" **Professor Driscoll** M, W; 11:10 - 12:25 p.m.

WGSS, REL, JST 098-10 Sex, Gender and Jews (HU) *CBE Diversity 4 credits*

How do Jews of all genders tell their stories? What are the varieties of Jewish approaches to sexuality? How have feminist movements affected Jewish rituals? In this course, we will consider how religion, gender, sexuality, race, and class intersect in the lives of Jews, with a particular focus on North America. Topics and genres will include a wide range of Jewish women's memoirs and poetry; the voices of LGBTQ Jews; recent innovations in Jewish ritual and leadership; Jewish masculinities; and the gendering of Jewish children's literature, among others. **Professor Eichler-Levine** T, R; 100 - 2:25 p.m.

WGSS, ENG 104-10 Special Topics in Gender Studies: Imaginary Friends w/Benefits&Other Virtual Relationships on Film (HU) *4 credits*

This course will explore stories that films and television shows tell about human relationships with computers, robots and avatars, giving particular attention to the gendered construction of artificial intelligence. Films include Ex Machina, Her, Unfriended, Avatar, Blade Runner, and The Matrix. The course will also ask you to examine your own relationships with hardware, software and representations of yourself and others on social media. Readings include works by Stephen Hawking, Sigmund Freud, Sherry Turkle, and journalism about technology and contemporary society. **Professor Handler** M, W; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS, ANTH 123-10 Anthropology of Gender (SS) *4 credits*

Comparative study of the meanings and social roles associated with gender. Psychological, symbolic, and cultural approaches. **Professor Tannenbaum** M, W, F; 10:10 - 11:00 a.m.

WGSS, AAS, HIST 195-10 How Black Women Made Modern America (SS) *CBE Diversity 4 credits*

This course focuses on African American women's sociopolitical activism in the United States from 1890 to the present. Considering the Black freedom struggle as a series of interconnected but distinct "waves," we will examine the critical role of Black women in building, sustaining, and leading movements across spatial and temporal boundaries in the United States. **Professor Duncan** M, W; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS, THTR, AAS 196-10 Black Queer Performance (HU) *CBE Diversity 4 credits*

This course explores the creativity and vitality of black cultural experiences shaped by gender and sexuality. Highlighted through theatre, literature, media, film, music, dance, art and television, students will use black performance theory and black queer studies to examine black diaspora queer performance as witnessed in the work of Jussie Smollett (*Empire*) Laverne Cox (*Orange is The New Black*), Alex Newell (*Glee*), Big Freedia (*New Orleans Bounce*), Andy Cohen/Nene Leakes (*Real Housewives of Atlanta*) Derek J. and Miss Lawrence (*Fashion Queens*), Rupaul (RuPaul's *Dragrace*), Frank Ocean, Michael Sam, Jomama Jones, Sharon Bridgforth, Tarell Alvin McCraney, E. Patrick Johnson, Tori Fixx, Nicki Minaj and others. **Professor Williams** T, R; 2:35 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS, ART, THTR, GS, LAS 197-11 Mobilizing Memory: Contemporary Art and Performance in the Politics of Remembrance (HU) *CBE Global 4 credits*

This course will consider multiple ways in which visual and performance art, as well as different sites of memory throughout the Americas, offer reflections about the politics of memory and the practice of remembrance. This course will ask: What can a body do to affect other bodies' understanding of their past, present, and future contexts? How do objects perform and how do their performances ignite political memory? How do the design, distribution, and location of memory sites follow or counteract political interests, and how can they be thought of as performative? And how might the analytic of bodies, objects, and spaces equip us to identify and enact political memory strategies for everyday practice? We will explore these questions through engagement with cultural productions from across the Americas, including the memorialization and documentation of war through photography; Memory of mass atrocity sites in Chile, Peru, and Argentina; memorials in their monumental form such as 9/11; through "acciones de memoria" in the case of the feminicidios in Ciudad Juárez and beyond and in more ephemeral and intimate forms such as shrines offered to suddenly dead arts and entertainment figures; and art installations dedicated to mobilize personal and collective memory.

Professor Robles-Moreno M, W; 2:10 - 4:00 p.m.

ARTS 250-10 Communication, Cultures, Behaviors and Attitudes (ND) AAS, WGSS 4 credits

Writing-intensive experiential focus on communications, development of social roles and life skills required for effective functioning in a changing society in America and globally. Models of group processes; small group projects; communications; critical thinking and its application to course content; cognitive processes in handling individual differences in race, gender, class, religion, disabilities, sexual harassment, religions of the world, sexual orientation, and culture; synthesis of class experiences with readings and discussions; and social role implications on choices. The application of lessons learned in the course to real life situations such as structured fieldwork will be required in addition to in class work. As part of the "hands-on" experience, students will be required to provide regular written and oral reports of activity and then write a detailed analysis/assessment report of particular issues and lessons learned. Students may not receive credit for both Arts 250 and Comm 65. **Professor Odi** R, 1:10 - 4:00 p.m.

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

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. Prerequisite: consent of the WGSS program director. **Professor Miller**

WGSS 296-10 Internship in Pride Center (SS) 1-4 credits

Supervised work in the Pride Center allow WGSS students to bring critical perspectives on gender into the campus community. Students who wish to fulfill the internship requirement of the WGSS minor must take the Pride Center internship for a minimum of 3 credits. Prerequisite: WGSS 001. **Professor Fullerton**

WGSS, AAS 297-10 Histories of Black Queer Resistance (ND) 4 credits

What are the possibilities and limitations for black liberation that can only be seen through studying the work of the queer and trans activists in its community? This course investigates the work of queer black activists, artists, and intellectuals, studying the ways they carved a space for themselves in the face of racism in white LGBT spaces and ongoing homophobia in communities of color. We will study written texts, music, art, and film foundational to black feminist and queer social formation and intellectual production. Our focus is on the ways in which questions of race, gender, and sexuality figure into the grassroots work of changing global, economic, and cultural structures. **Professor Phillips** M, W 11:10 – 12:25 p.m.

WGSS, MLL, GERM 303-10/WGSS, MLL 403-10 Grimms' Fairy Tales: Folklore, Feminism, Film (HU) 4 credits, 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, ENG 304 Special Topics in Gender Studies II: Jane Austen (HU) Section 10 4 credits, Section 11 3 credits

This course offers a focused study of Austen's six complete novels as well as a consideration of her juvenilia and incomplete works. We will examine the cultural context of Austen's work, relevant contemporary writers, and her own development as a novelist. **Professor Kramp** T, R; 9:20 - 10:45

WGSS, ENG 304-12 Special Topics in Gender Studies II: Queer Couples in Modernism (HU) Section 10 4 credits, Section 11 3 credits

How do contemporary authors depict various forms of sexual encounter and how do their fictional representations invite readers to engage with cultural understandings of normative and non-normative sexuality, desire, and activity? How do contemporary authors engage with hegemonic discourses that promote marital reproductive heterosexual coupling? Further, how do authors of the post-1945 period navigate McCarthy era demonization of homosexuality as well as medical discourses that deploy the "psychiatrization of perverse pleasure" (Foucault) and legal discourses that criminalize "perverse" sexual activity? From the late 1940s to our present moment, discussions of sex and sexuality have taken place in political, medical, and legal spheres about normal and abnormal sexual behavior as well as the ways that communities "should" promote "normal" sexualities, regulate and prosecute "deviance," and/or medically treat those who fail to conform to cultural norms. Conservative discourses of sexuality have been countered and challenged by the "sexual revolution" of the 1960s, the second wave of the feminist movement, and the LGBTQ movement as activists and theorists incited public discussion of cultural norms. So, too, literary authors have been inspired by the aforementioned discourses and movements to write about sex, to engage with sexual identities, and to critique hegemonic understandings of normativity. This course will follow authors through literary engagement with sexuality, including novelistic depiction of normative relationships in the form of heterosexual union as well as non-normative portrayals of heterosexual encounter, fictional accounts of coming out and into queer identities, as well as texts that eschew sexual identity. Fictional texts addressed may include works by James Baldwin, John Updike, Toni Morrison, John Rechy, Samuel Delany, Joanna Russ, Ursula Le Guin, Monique Wittig, and Audre Lorde. Although we primarily will focus on novels, students should be prepared to read some theoretical texts during the semester.

Professor Singh T, R; 10:45 - 12:00 p.m.

WGSS, HIST, SOC 325-11 History of Sexuality and the Family in the U.S. (SS) *CBE Diversity* Section 10 4 credits, Section 11 3 credits

Changing conceptions of sexuality and the role of women, men, and children in the family and society from the colonial to the post-World War II era. Emphasis on the significance of socioeconomic class and cultural background. Topics include family structure, birth control, legal constraints, marriage, divorce, and prostitution.

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

WGSS, FREN 327-10 Women Writing in French (HU) 4 credits

Reading and discussion of works written by women in French. The emphasis is on 19th and 20th Century writers, such as G. Sand, Colette S. de Beauvoir, M. Duras, Andrée Chédid. **Professor Chabut** M, W; 11:10 - 12:25 p.m.

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

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 and consent of the WGSS program director. **Professor Miller**

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

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** M, 7:10 - 10:00 p.m.

WGSS 350-10 Seminar in Feminist Theory (ND) 4 credits

An upper-level seminar serving as a capstone experience that challenges students to systematize insights gained from introductory and elective courses through the more deeply analytical lens of feminist theory. Prerequisite: WGSS 001 or WGSS 101 or consent of the WGSS program director. **Professor Krasas** T, R, 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

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

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 and consent of the Women's Center director.

WGSS, COMM, AAS 376-10 New Media, Race and Gender (SS) 4 credits

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** T, R; 10:45 - 12:00 p.m.

WGSS 395-10 Gender Violence in Pop Culture (SS) CBE Diversity 4 credits

During this course we will consume various forms of popular culture including film, television, music, news media, and literature that reference various forms of gender violence, such as sexual assault, intimate partner abuse and stalking. We will use a feminist lens and theory to explore how incidents of gender violence are portrayed and how these pop culture portrayals speak to, influence and are influenced by gender violence advocacy, legislation and research. We will ultimately try to understand how pop culture shapes today's notion of gender violence. **Professor DeSipio** T, R; 1:10 - 2:25 p.m.

WGSS, POLS 397-10 American Social Policy: Class, Race, Gender, and Sexuality (SS) CBE Diversity 4 credits

This course examines criminal justice, housing, health, education, and welfare policies across U.S. states through the lenses of class, race, sex, and sexuality. Students will learn how social regulations structure opportunities and assess the implications of those opportunity structures. **Professor Ochs** M; 4:10 - 7:00 p.m.

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

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. **Professor Miller**

WGSS 430-10 Internship in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (ND) 1-3 credits

Internship related to women, gender, and sexuality studies. Supervised by WGSS faculty. Prerequisite: consent of the WGSS program director. **Professor Miller**

WGSS 450-10 Seminar in Feminist Theory (ND) 3 credits

An upper-level seminar serving as a capstone experience that challenges students to systematize insights gained from introductory and elective courses through the more deeply analytical lens of feminist theory. Prerequisite: WGSS 001 or WGSS 101 or consent of the WGSS program director. **Professor Krasas** T, R, 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS 491-10 Independent Study (ND) 3 credits

Individually supervised course in area of women, gender, and sexuality studies not ordinarily covered in regularly listed courses. Prerequisite: consent of the WGSS program director. **Professor Miller**