

2014 Summer & Fall Course Offerings
Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Associate Professor, Jackie Krasas, Director



Fall Course Offerings

WGSS 001-10 Women & Men in Society (SS) 4 credits CRN 48770

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, R / 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS, ENG 104-10 Special Topics in Gender Studies : Love Factually (HU) 4 credits CRN 49538

What is this thing we call love? Does it exist? What does it look like? How have our fantasies about love transformed over the past century? This course will consider love through a range of past and present films, novels, short stories, and essays. We will discuss various kinds of love that we value—romantic, philanthropic, familial—and that we reject: narcissistic, melancholic. Among other questions, the class will consider: Is love selfish or selfless? Does our culture persuade us to love in certain ways as opposed to others? Texts for the class will include films such as *Closer* (2004) and *Twilight* (2008); and novels such as Stephen Chbosky's *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (1999) and F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* (1925). *Professor Nagy*

T, R / 1:10 2:25 p.m.

WGSS, ENG 104-11 Special Topics in Gender Studies : Viewing Mad Men: Window, Mirror and Screen (HU) 4 credits CRN 49540

Mad Men, a television drama about a 1960s advertising agency, has been acclaimed for its complex characters, sophisticated storytelling and meticulous recreation of the world of the early 60s. However, critics have debated the accuracy of *Mad Men's* representation of the 60s, and argued over the show's viewpoint on the world it portrays. The course will focus in particular on the cultural significance of advertising, and the social position of women in the early 60s.

Professor Handler

M, W / 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS, HIST 124-10 Women in America (SS) 4 credits CRN 48771

Roles of women in American society from colonial to present times : attitudes toward women, female sexuality, women's work, and feminism. *Professor Cooper*

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

PHIL 146-10 Philosophy and Gender (HU) 4 credits WGSS Attribute CRN 49277

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*

T, R / 9:20 - 10:35 a.m.

WGSS, HMS 197-10 Breast-Feeding and Public Health (HU) 4 credits CRN 49500

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*

T, R / 1:10 - 2:25 p.m.

WGSS and HMS majors and minors may register without permission

REL, AAS, WGSS 198-10 Identity Wars and the Battle for Authenticity (HU) 4 credits CRN 49339

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*

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

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

Section 10 - **CRN 49481**; W / 1:10 - 4:00 p.m.

Section 11 - **CRN 49482**; R / 1:10 - 4:00 p.m.

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*

WGSS 271-10 Independent Reading and Research (SS/HU) 1-4 credits **CRN 48773**

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. *Professor Krasas*

WGSS, ENG 304 Special Topics in Gender Studies II: Sex and Sexuality in Contemporary American Fiction (HU)

Section 10 – **CRN 49542**; 4 credits

Section 11 – **CRN 49544**; 3 credits (graduate students only)

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 Foltz*

T, R / 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

WGSS 330-10 Internship in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (SS) 1-4 credits **CRN 48774**

WGSS 430-10 Internship in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (SS) 1-3 credits **CRN 48781**

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. *Professor Krasas*

WGSS,SSP 331-10 Gendered Experience of Globalization (SS) 4 credits GS Attribute **CRN 48775**

Women and men experience globalization differently and globalization affects women in different cultural and national contexts. Gender stratification has been intensified by the transnational flow of goods and people. Course provides students with a survey of new development in feminist theories on globalization and on gender stratification and development, and links these theoretical frameworks to empirical research about gender issues that have become more prominent with globalization. *Professor Zhang*

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

WGSS, SSP, HMS 341-10 Women and Health (SS) 4 credits **CRN 48641**

WGSS, SSP 441-10 Women and Health (SS) 3 credits **CRN 48993**

Relationships of women to the medical system. Influence of medicine on women's lives and the impact of the women's movement on health care.

Professor Hicks; Open to WGSS, HMS and SSP declared majors/minors only

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

WGSS 350-10 Seminar in Feminist Theory (ND) 4 credits **CRN 49518**

WGSS 450-10 Seminar in Feminist Theory (ND) 3 credits **CRN 49519**

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 Martell*

M, W / 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

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

Section 10 - **CRN 48777**; *Professor Jones*

Section 11 - **CRN 48778**; *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.

HMS, WGSS 398-10 Cultural Contexts of Pregnancy and Childbirth (HU) 4 credits **CRN 49502**

In this course, we will explore primarily American conceptions of pregnancy and childbirth, beginning with a brief history of both. We will look at current laws, medical research, and grassroots activism surrounding pregnancy and childbirth and understand how intersections of race, class, and gender impact our understandings of these acts. Texts will include film and literature. *Professor Jones*

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

WGSS 399-10 Senior Thesis (ND) 2-4 credits CRN 48780

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 Krasas*

SSP, WGSS 418-10 Gendered Experience of Globalization (SS) 3 credits CRN 48776

Women and men experience globalization differently and globalization affects women in different cultural and national contexts. Gender stratification has been intensified by the transnational flow of goods and people. Course provides students with a survey of new development in feminist theories on globalization and on gender stratification and development, and links these theoretical frameworks to empirical research about gender issues that have become more prominent with globalization. *Professor Zhang*

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

ENG 433-10 Sex, Gender, and Sexuality in the Middle Ages (ND) 3 credits WGSS CRN 48542

This course examines the strategies that a diverse group of medieval texts use to construct normative ideals of sex, gender, and sexuality and to imagine (and, often, simultaneously refuse) alternative possibilities. This inquiry aims, to borrow Joan W. Scott's words, "to disrupt the notion of fixity, to discover the nature of the debate or repression that leads to the appearance of timeless permanence" of binary categories like masculinity and femininity, heterosexuality and homosexuality, and male and female. We will pay particular attention to how these representations of marriage, virginity, romantic love, sexual transgression, erotic pleasure, and the body reflect philosophical, economic, and theological conflicts about community belonging, social hierarchy, national identity, and faith. Because debates about gender and sexuality take place across a range of social and political institutions, course readings include legal statutes and cases, penitential manuals, and medical treatises, alongside literary texts in order to offer a nuanced account of the ways that gender and sexuality signified power relations in the Middle Ages. Readings include Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Cleanthes, Alain de Lille's Complaint of Nature, the Katherine Group, selections from Gower's *Confessio Amantis*, and selections from Aquinas, Augustine, and St. Paul, among others. To sharpen our understanding of what is at stake in any analysis of this historical archive, readings in feminist theory and queer theory will inform our inquiry. Texts will be in Middle English and in translation. Prior experience with Middle English is helpful, but not required. *Professor Edwards*

M, W / 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

English department permission required

Summer Course Offerings

WGSS, HIST 124-10 Women in America (SS) 4 credits CRN 21968

Roles of women in American society from colonial to present times : attitudes toward women, female sexuality, women's work, and feminism. *Professor Cooper*
Summer Session 1 – M, T, W, R / 1:00 - 2:35 p.m.

WGSS, THTR, DES, WGSS 129 History of Fashion and Style (HU) 4 credits

Dress and culture in the Western Hemisphere from prehistory to today. The evolution of silhouette, garment forms and technology. The relationship of fashion to politics, art and behavior. Cultural and environmental influences on human adornment. *Professor Hoelscher*

Section 10 - Summer Session 1 - on-line - **CRN 21774**

Section 11 - Summer Session 1 - on-line - **CRN 21775**

ENG 187-10 Reading Showtime's Dexter (HU) 4 credits WGSS Attribute CRN 20237

This course will examine crucial episodes from the 8-season run of Showtime's *Dexter*, looking at its recurrent visual and narrative motifs (blood, monsters, animals), to help us explore the central questions the series raises: What is evil? Is killing ever justified? Is representing repeated scenes of graphic violence on TV ever justified? Are people born bad or made bad? We will also explore *Dexter's* literary antecedents (the gothic, naturalism), and its cultural and political significance (including its politics of race and gender). *Professor Keetley*

Summer Session 1 – on-line

ENG 195-12 Made to Kill: Female Violence in Popular Cinema (HU) 4 credits WGSS Attribute CRN 21966

This course will examine how mainstream and independent movies have portrayed female killers and consider how these films can be read as responses to American feminism since the 1970s. We will consider the different kinds of female characters who kill, whom they kill, and why, in films that have become cultural landmarks in the ongoing debate about the relation of violence to female identity and gender roles. Films include *The Hunger Games*, *Black Swan*, *Carrie*, *The Silence of the Lambs* and *Thelma and Louise*. Readings will include critical essays, contemporary reviews, and feminist theory. *Professor Handler*

Summer Session 2 - T, R / 4:00 – 7:0 p.m.

WGSS, HMS 196-10 Breast-Feeding and Public Health (HU) 4 credits CRN 21982

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*

Summer Session 1 – on-line

ENG 196-10 The Modern American Horror Film (HU) 4 credits WGSS Attribute CRN 21343

This course examines the changing shape of the American horror film from its inception in 1932 with *Dracula*. We will move from the classic horror of the 30s to the emergence of the slasher film in the 70s, the self-reflexive horror of the 90s, the faux-documentary horror at the end of the century, to the virulent renaissance of the genre in our post 9/11 world, including so-called "torture porn" and the "possession" film—the return of the angry dead. *Professor Keetley*

Summer Session 1 - on-line

WGSS 271-11 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. May be repeated for elective credit. Prerequisite: consent of the WGSS program director. *Professor Krasas*

Section 10 – Summer Session 1 - **CRN 21715**

Section 11 - Summer Session 2 - **CRN 21712**

Section 12 – Summer Session full - **CRN 21859**

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

Section 10 – Summer Session 1 - **CRN 21716**

Section 11 - Summer Session 2 - **CRN 21714**

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

Section 10 – Summer Session 1 - **CRN 21719**

Section 11 - Summer Session 2 - **CRN 21723**

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. *Professor Krasas*

WGSS, PSYC, HMS 334-10 The Psychology of Body Image and Eating Disorders (SS) 4 credits CRN 21793

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*

Summer Session 2 - T, R / 6:00 – 8:50 p.m.

WGSS, SSP, HMS 341-10 Women and Health (SS) 4 credits CRN 21740

WGSS, SSP 441-10 Women and Health (SS) 3 credits CRN TBD

Relationships of women to the medical system. Influence of medicine on women's lives and the impact of the women's movement on health care.

Professor Hicks Summer Session 1 - M, W / 12:45 - 2:00 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 or WGSS 101 and consent of the Women's Center director.

Section 10 - Summer Session 1 - **CRN 21717**; *Professor Jones*

Section 11 - Summer Session 1 - **CRN 21718**; *Professor DeSipio*

WGSS 491 Independent Study: Theories of Gender and Feminism (SS) 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 Krasas*

Section 10 – Summer Session 1 - **CRN 21720**

Section 11 - Summer Session 2 - **CRN 21724**