

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES
College of Arts and Science
Women and Gender Studies 1000 (3)
Fall 2018

Instructor: Katherine Patterson

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If you need to reach me call (248-683-2721) and I will call you back. Please do not leave just a phone number, leave a detailed verbal message. My E-mail address: patters2@oakland.edu

Catalog Copy: Interdisciplinary and comparative overview of fundamental women and gender studies concepts and topics as they relate to history, culture, literature, economics, class, ethnocentrism, race, theories and methods. Satisfies the university general education requirement in the social science knowledge exploration area, or may be used in lieu of one of the college of Arts and science distribution categories not both. Satisfies the university general education requirement in U. S. diversity.

Course Prerequisites: None

Learning Objectives:

The student will demonstrate:

1. an understanding of societal assumptions and biases about women that exist today
2. see how gender affects access to opportunity, power and resources
3. learn how to communicate effectively about gender issues in both writing and speech

Cross-Cutting Capacities:

1. critical thinking
2. social awareness
3. information literacy

Overall Description: The purpose of the course is to involve the student in an ongoing dialogue of women's issues and examine gendered experiences in both the public and private realms of society, in popular culture, and in institutions such as the workplace, the family, and the state. An understanding of the social construction of gender, race, class and sexual identity and how these forms of oppression work together.

Textbooks and Class Materials:

Women's Voices Feminist Visions Lee/Shaw, 2015 Sixth Edition McGraw Hill

The Creation of Patriarchy, Gerda Lerner, Oxford University Press

Sluts, Debra Tanenbaum, Seven Stories Press

There will be articles on E-reserve

Academic Conduct Policy: Cheating on examination, plagiarism, falsifying reports/records, and unauthorized collaboration, access, or modifying of computer programs are considered serious breaches of academic conduct. The Oakland University policy on academic conduct will be strictly followed with no exceptions. See catalog under Academic Policies and Procedures for description of policy. Students in violation of the policy will be reported to the Office of Dean of Students or the Academic Conduct Committee.

Add/Drops: The University add/drop policy will be explicitly followed. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the University deadline dates for dropping the course.

Special Considerations: Students with disabilities who may require special considerations should make an appointment with campus Disability Support Services. Students should also bring their needs to the attention of the instructor as soon as possible.

Grade Determination: Students are expected to attend class regularly, be active and informed participants in class discussion and complete designated readings and outside assignments. Three reflection papers (6-12 pages each) will be required. All papers must be typed, double spaced with one inch margins, numbered pages and stapled. Each Student will also be expected to summarize and discuss one of the reading assignment and present a biography. The student presenting the readings for the day will be required to have three or four questions pertaining to the readings.

Total course requirements:

Paper 1	25 points
Paper 2	25 points
Paper 3	25 points
Bio/Presentation	10 points
Attendance	5 points

100 points

Paper. 1 – Development of Patriarchy

How did patriarchy develop? Why has it continued? Have women always been in a subordinate position to men? Discuss Gerda Lerner's views, especially the material in Chapter 11. Also, use examples from classroom discussions. You must use examples from the assigned readings. (6-8 pages) Due October 4

Paper 2 – Gender Socialization

Write a paper describing how growing up female or male can effect an individual, you may use personal examples. Look at strengths and weaknesses, the ways you can be benefited or have been hurt by being a female or male. Please include a discussion of sex role socialization (look at family, school, peers, and religion) and the social functions of ideas of feminine or masculine beauty and the impact these ideals have on self-image. You may make this as personal as you feel comfortable. (6-8 pages) Due November 13

Paper 3 – Integration of Ideas Paper (25 points)

Critical thinking paper. Choose 6 articles from the assigned readings. One chapter from Sluts or Creation Of Patriarchy is considered an article. Two of them must be from articles on E-reserve. Discuss and summarize each article, then analyze the article. Examine the author's main points. Has your point of view changed as a result of reading the article? Has your thinking, behavior or plans been effected by the article? Describe what you learned for the article. (10-12 pages) Due December 6

Feminist Biography Presentation - (10 points)

Each student will be responsible for a biography of a feminist that she/he will share in class a short presentation. The presentation will cover this women's life and achievements, describing why she/he chose this particular woman and why this women is a feminist.

Presentation - (10 points)

Each student will be expected to summarize, discuss and prepare 3-4 question on a reading assignment. Presentations will be assigned early in January.

Grading Scale: Listed below are the points that will be earned for each assignment and number of points needed for a particular grade.

A	4.0	C+	2.3	F	0.0
A-	3.7	C	2.0		
B+	3.3	C-	1.7		
B	3.0	D+	1.3		
B-	2.7	D	1.0		

September 11 READINGS: WVFV
 p. 1 – Women’s Studies: Perspective and Practices
 p. 30 – Forty Years of Women’s Studies
 E-Reserve
 Whether Woman Should Have Been Made...
 Myth of Male Orgasm
 27 Reasons why a beer is better than a Woman

September 13 READINGS: WVFV
 p. 28 – Claiming an Education
 p. 34 – A Day Without Feminism
 p. 37 – Feminist Politics
 p. 39 – The Power and the Gloria
 p. 46 – Still Needing the F Word

September 18 READINGS: WVFV
 p. 49 – 71
 p. 95 – Opening Pandora’s Box...
 p. 108 – Report from the Bahamas
 E-Reserve
 Disappearing Tricks
 Women Which Includes Men

- September 20 READINGS: WVFV
 p. 86 – There is No Hierarchy of Oppression
 p. 72 – Toward a New Vision
 p. 112 – Our Grandmothers
 p. 86 – White Privilege and Male Privilege
 p. 100 – Don’t Laugh Its Serious
- September 25 READINGS: Gerda Lerner – The Creation of Patriarchy
 Pages 3 – 100
- September 27 READINGS: Gerda Lerner – The Creation of Patriarchy
 Pages 101- 179
- October 2 READINGS: Gerda Lerner – The Creation of Patriarchy
 Pages 180 – 222
- October 4 READINGS: E-Reserve – Starhawk, “The Burning Times”
 FILM
 PAPER DUE
- October 9 READINGS: WVFV
 p. 806 - Constitutional Argument
 p. 717 - Fear of Feminism
 p. 715 – Feminist men
 p. 607 – The Feminist Factor
 p. 720 - Fracking is a Feminist Issue
 p. 724 – We Are the Ones We’ve Been Waiting For
- October 11 READINGS: WVFV
 p. 116 – 135
 p. 141 – The Social Construction of Gender
 p. 159 – When I was Growing Up
 p. 245 – Bodies and Bathrooms
 p. 144 – Unraveling Hardwiring
 p. 160 – Through the Lens of Race
- October 16 Film
- October 18 -
 E-Reserve – The Myth Girls Grow Up With
 Film
- October 23 READINGS: WVFV
 p. 188 – 199 The Beauty Ideal
 p. 211 – Beating Anorexia and Gaining Feminism
 p. 205 - Breast Buds and the Training Bra
 p. 247 – If the Clothes Fit: A Feminist..
 p. 231 - Hold That Nose
 p. 233 – Is Fat a Feminist Issue?
 p. 214 – Ethnicity and Body Consciousness

- October 25 READINGS: WVFV
 p. 313 – 333
 p. 339 – Gate C22
 p. 348 – New Orientations: Asexuality
 p. 339 – A World of Difference
 p. 346 – Some Like Indians Endure
 p. 354 – Dismantling Hierarchy, Queering Society
 p. 334 – The Cult of Virginity
- October 30 READINGS: WVFV
 p. 635 – 649
 p. 655 – Women’s Rights & Religion
 p. 651 God Says Yes to Me
 p. 651 – Fundamentalism and the Control of Women
 p. 660 – Decolonizing religious Beliefs
 p. 666 – The Prophet’s Daughter
 p. 670 – Standing Again in Sinai
 p. 682 – The Non-Religious Patriarchy: Why Losing Religion..
 p. 673 – Feminist Questions of Christianity
- November 1 Sluts!
 Chapters 1 – 3
 FILM
- November 6 Sluts!
 Chapter 4 – 6
- November 8 READINGS: WVFV
 p. 450 – 464
 p. 468 – 472 LITERATURE AND THE ARTS
 p. 276 - Thinking About Shakespeare’s Sister
 p. 281 – Poetry is Not A Luxury
 p. 283 – Enlightened Sexism
 p. 288 – Vampires and Vixens
 p. 278 – Rush Limbaugh and....
 p. 296 – Beyoncé: Feminist Icon?
 p. 293 – Don’t Act Crazy, Mindy.
- November 13 READING: WVFV
 p. 464 – 468 PRINT MEDIA
 PAPER DUE
- November 15 READINGS: WVFV
 p. 503 – A Brief History of Working Women
- November 20 READINGS: WVFV
 p. 525 - Power Plays

p. 470 – 499
p. 517 - Maid to Order
p. 500 – Will Marriage Equality Lead..
p. 522 – Color me Nontoxic
p. 515 – The Triumph of the Working Mother
p. 524 – Virtuous Valentine? Think Again
p. 528 – The Sexist Truth About Office Romances
p. 530 – Sex Work as a Test Case for African Feminism

November 22

THANKSGIVING

November 27

READINGS: WVFV
p. 372 – 384 REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE
p. 384 -394 Abortion
p. 424 – Freedom to Choose? Three Essays
p. 577 – Lisa’s Ritual, Age 10
p. 574 – How Some Men Harass Women
p. 571 - Betrayed by the Angel
p. 568 – Sex Trafficking in the U.S.
p. 568 – She Said

November 29

READINGS: WVFV
p. 362 – 372
p. 400 – A Global Health Imperative
p. 565 – Beyond the Politics of Inclusion
p. 407 – Rethinking Radical Politics In The...
p. 395 – The Gender Gap in Pain
p. 396 – Southern Discomfort
E-Reserve - Carol Tavris “The 70-kilogram man

December 5

READINGS: WVFV
p. 582 – 600
p. 617 – Too Poor to Parent
p. 620 – Looking Beyond the Wall
p. 624 – Delinquent Girl
p. 630 – Struggling to Find a Home
E- Reserve – NOW

December 6

READING: WVFV
p. 693 – 707 Activism, Change
p. 707 – 714 Future Visions
PAPER DUE

Bibliography of E-reserve articles:

"Disappearing Tricks" by Dale Spender, from Learning to Lose, Women's Press Ltd, 1980

"Woman-Which Includes Man, of Course, by Theodora Wells Copyright 1972

"Get Out of the Kitchen" (pp. 57 – 58) Ms Magazine 1996

"The Burning Times" (pp. 183-219), *The Spiral Dance*, Harper & Row, 1979.

"The Myth of the Male Orgasm", by Bette-Jane Raphael, Harold Ober Associates, Inc., 1979

"Whether Woman Should Have Been Made in the First Production of Things" in *St Thomas Aquinas Summa Theologica*. Part I Q. 92, Art I in *Basic Writings of St Thomas Aquinas*, ed. Anton C Pegis (NY: Random House 1945)

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If you would like more information on becoming a major or minor in Women and Gender Studies please contact Valerie Palmer-Mehta at vpalmer@oakland.edu. See the WGS website for more information: <http://www.2.ouwsoakland.edu/ouw/>