

Women's and Gender Studies

Spring 2012

Course Catalog



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**UNIVERSITY
OF MIAMI**



Women's and Gender Studies

University of Miami

Women's and Gender Studies

MAJOR

A major in Women's and Gender Studies consists of at least 30 credits in Women's and Gender Studies courses (core, co-listed, and cross-listed) with a grade of C-or better in each course, with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 in WGS courses. These credits must include at least 18 at the 300 level or above. All majors must complete WGS 201: *Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies*, WGS 301: *Feminist Inquiries*, and at least two other WGS core courses.

All majors must complete WGS 501: *Senior Research Project*, which will take the form of an individual research project with a faculty member of the student's choice; the student is responsible for finding an appropriate faculty member who is available to supervise the project and then must seek formal approval from the program director before proceeding with the project. The student must produce a substantial written report or research paper, the format of which will vary according to the nature of the project.

Women's and Gender Studies majors with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5 in WGS courses and an overall GPA of at least 3.0 may earn departmental honors by completing WGS 505: *Honors Thesis* instead of the senior research project. Candidates for departmental honors are responsible for finding a faculty member who is willing to serve as thesis adviser and then must complete a thesis proposal of approximately 400 words which must be approved by the thesis adviser and then the program director. The format and length of the thesis will vary according to the nature of the project. Most students writing an honors thesis as part of their WGS major will take WGS 505 twice (for a total of 6 credits).

MINOR

A minor in Women's and Gender Studies consists of at least 15 credits in Women's and Gender Studies courses (core, co-listed, and cross-listed) with a grade of C-or better in each course, with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 in WGS courses. These credits must include at least 9 at the 300 level or above. All minors must complete WGS 201: *Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies*, WGS 301: *Feminist Inquiries*, and at least one other WGS core course.

Women's and Gender Studies
NEW COURSE
Spring 2012



WGS 202 :Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Studies
Introduction to LGBTQ Studies

Instructor: Steve Butterman

Section T: T-R 5:00 pm-6:15 pm

Introduction to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Studies minor. The LGBTQ Studies program is designed to allow students to explore sexuality and sexual minorities from a variety of perspectives. The course will provide students with an introduction to a broad array of LGBTQ issues including visual and performing arts, literature, languages, history, social science, various theories, public policy and the law, families and other types of intimate relationships, crime, popular culture, and LGBTQ identities and communities. It will be a core to the LGBTQ minor. The history of LGBTQ Studies extends to the beginnings of the LGBTQ movements of the last third of the previous century. Today, the field addresses work in a broad range of scholarly disciplines including biological and cultural studies, in literature and anthropology, in the health sciences, history, and the visual arts. It ranges from archival research to the elaboration of queer theory, from the analysis of constitutional law to questions of public health, from the study of popular culture to investigations into the development and social construction of sexual identity. Students are usually only exposed to these studies at the upper division levels of the curriculum in disparate departments. An introductory course will make these upper division courses more accessible and meaningful, as well as serve as the basic core to the minor in LGBTQ studies.

Women's and Gender Studies

CORE COURSES

Spring 2012

WGS 201: INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

Instructor: Katharine Westaway

Section S: T-R 3:30 PM-4:45 P.M.

Conceptions of masculinity and femininity; gender relations; gender inequalities; the intersections of gender with other categories of identity such as class, race, sexuality, and stages in the life cycle; and the broad impact of gender on society.

WGS 201: INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

Instructor: Belkys Torres

Section Q: T-R 12:30-1:45 P.M.

Conceptions of masculinity and femininity; gender relations; gender inequalities; the intersections of gender with other categories of identity such as class, race, sexuality, and stages in the life cycle; and the broad impact of gender on society.

WGS 301 FEMINIST INQUIRIES

Instructor: Sumita Dutt Chatterjee

Section R: T-R 2:00PM-3:15PM

The history of feminist thought and the ways in which feminist inquiry transforms our understanding of key issues across the curriculum. Focusing on transnational trends will enable us to understand the historical intersections between different forms of feminist movements, and how political, social, and economic structures of race, sexuality, gender and class shape the rich and complex fabric of feminist inquiries. This course will critically study the relationship between woman and nation, between gender and globalization and between feminist theory and practice. Drawing on interdisciplinary feminist texts in history, anthropology, literary theory and literature, films, visuals, primary documents such as speeches and manifestos the course will enable us to appreciate the diversity of feminist scholarship and activism that animate feminist inquiries. This is a writing credit course.

WGS 305: QUEER STUDIES

Instructor: Steven Butterman

Section J: M-W 5:00PM-6:15PM

Queer Studies examines cultural representations of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, and queer identities as they shape daily lives and experiences; the construction of alternative family structures; and queer theories. In particular, it will explore how queer theories can articulate our understanding of key issues across a range of disciplines and how it intervenes in current debates over the meaning and validity of sexuality as a way of understanding human sexual desire, emotions, and behaviors. In addition to reading selections from canonical texts of queer theory, we will analyze a range of 20th and 21st century queer cultural products (fiction, poetry, autobiography, films, and other materials). Course assignments will be both analytical and creative in nature.

WGS 344: GENDER AND POLITICS

Instructor: Marsha Matson

Section E: M-W-F 12:20-1:10 P.M.

While the political systems of countries across the contemporary world differ in many respects, they all have one thing in common: women are under-represented in national government and men dominate politics. Over the past century, however, this entrenched disparity has begun to shift –considerably in some countries but only slightly, or not at all, in others. This course examines the different roles played by men and women in political systems around the world and examines public policy outcomes with significant gender-based effects. We will begin by introducing some key theoretical concepts for the study of gender and politics, including the concept of gender itself, the notion of gender inequality, and the intersection of gender with other relevant social divisions such as class, race or ethnicity, partisanship, and sexual orientation. The course will then trace the rise of feminist movements around the globe before going on to assess their political impact. The second part of the class will examine the two sexes' political participation overall and in the various branches of government. The remainder of the semester will be devoted to comparing public policy outcomes in three areas including gender-based violence, sexuality and reproductive health, and access to education and the paid labor force.

Course Requirements: This class requires regular and punctual class attendance as well as constructive participation in class discussions. There will be two take-home mid-term exams in essay format and a take-home essay final exam. Cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off and stowed for the duration of the class.

Note: This course is co-listed with POL344

WGS 405: Gender and Sexuality in Cultural Context

Telenovelas in/as Latina Literature

Instructor: Belkys Torres

Section O: T-R. 9:30-10:45AM

When might one of the most denigrated forms of cultural production, the Latin American telenovela, become a catalyst for female empowerment and solidarity? Under what conditions can the —dirty discourse of gossip, as Robert C. Allen has termed it, forge a common ground or bridge amongst women on both sides of the North and South American border? These are some of the queries that will guide our analysis of Latina/o fiction and visual culture this semester. Focusing particularly on theories of melodrama as a feminine discursive space, we will analyze several works of Latina/o literature which underscore women's active interpretation and reappropriation of radio and televisual family melodramas. While this is a literature-based course, students will also examine how hybrid cultural products, such as telenovelas, produce a transnational imaginary that connects U.S. Latinas/os with Latin America and the Caribbean. We will read *Bitter Grounds* by Sandra Benitez, *Loving Pedro Infante* by Denise Chávez, *Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories* by Sandra Cisneros and *Tomorrow They Will Kiss* by Eduardo Santiago as the literary frameworks that will guide our discussions and literary analysis.

WGS 450: Special Topics in Women's and Gender Studies

War and Peace: A Gendered Perspective

Instructor: Sumita Dutt Chatterjee

Section O: T-R. 9:30AM-10:45AM

War has traditionally been viewed as an exclusively masculine enterprise. War, conflict, militarized and genocidal violence have profound effects on women. This course questions popular myths of “militarist men and pacifist women,” by exploring the notion that women experience war in a multitude of ways. In this course we study the impact war, conflict, and violence have on women’s lives and the varying roles they play from participating in active duty to leading the forefront of pacifist enterprise. From combat soldiers, revolutionaries, terrorists, to peace and human rights activists, to civilians working within a war economy, to victims of rape and abuse, women’s stories weave a complex narrative of war, violence, poverty, human degradation and valor, as well as struggles for peaceful and just societies.

In the post 9/11 world, with the “global war on terror” an ongoing reality of our times, this course reflects on the nature of war and peace through the eyes of women actors – millions of whom have lived through war, conflict and violence in past centuries. Providing a global historical perspective we study violent events (wars, internal civil strife, ethnic cleansing and genocide) in global history to understand women’s experience in them. We study the varying faces of women in war - warrior, soldier, revolutionary comrade, terrorist, correspondent, economic provider, nurse, caretaker, sex worker, refugee, rape victim, survivor, revolutionary mother and peace activist.

The readings and visual materials for the course are drawn from multidisciplinary scholarship, drawing on philosophical studies of violence, war and peace, feminist and historical scholarship, fiction, memoirs and films, to testimonies of activists and ordinary women with firsthand experience as survivors, refugees, rape victims, nurses and soldiers.

WGS 499: INDEPENDENT STUDY

Section 01, arranged

By arrangement with instructor; content varies.

WGS 501: Senior Research Project

Section 01, arranged

WGS Major or Minor, Senior Status, and WGS 201 and 301

WGS 505: Senior Thesis

Section 01, arranged

WGS Major or Minor, Senior Status, WGS 201 and 301, and approval of the program director.

Women's and Gender Studies
CROSS-LISTED COURSES
Spring 2012

English

ENG 215: English American Literature by Women

Instructor: Kathryn Freeman

Section P: T R 11:00-12:15 pm

A survey of women writers from the Middle Ages to the present; explores the female literary tradition and women's relationship to culture and society.

ENG 323: English American Literature by Women

Instructor: Catherine Anne Judd

Section P: T R 11:00-12:15 pm

Works by selected British novelists.

ENG 495: English American Literature by Women

Instructor: Tassie K Gwilliam

Section R: T R 2:00-3:15 pm

Content varies by semester and is indicated parenthetically following the title in the class schedule.

French

FRE 501: Le diable au corps, ou les passions fatales

Instructor: Ralph Heyndels

Section O: T R 9:30-10:45 am

Course with a broad-based topic designed to integrate high-level linguistic, critical and analytical skills with the body of knowledge acquired during the course of study toward the major. Topics vary. Open only to undergraduates in the last semester of their French major. Course is writing intensive; fulfills writing credit requirement.

FRE 616: Desiring Arabs: (Ex) Colonialities of Gay Desire

Instructor: Ralph Heyndels

Section 1S: T 3:30-6:00 pm

In this seminar we will address the variable <(ex) colonialities> of homosexual desire and pleasure in their relation to the phantasm / site of the Arabic male body as they are depicted, represented, imagined, (re) invented, dreamed and hoped for through rhetorical, poetical and narrative processes and strategies, in French literature from the early XXth century to nowadays post-modernism. Our attention will be specifically focused on the framing of homoerotic longing for / gazing on / incorporation of / the Arabic male body within (and / or the displacement of) practices, logics and semantics of homosexual / textual coloniality. Theoretical references related to that concept will include Walter Mignolo, Sara Ahmed, Anibal Quijano, Richard Watts, Ahmed Boubeker, Azzedine Haddour, Paul Amar, Alfonso de Toro, Joseph Massad, et al. In a first time, we will read excerpts from Montherlant, Gide, Augieras, Senac, Guerin, Genet and Barthes, and discuss the dialectics of homoeroticism and anti-colonial politics. Thereafter, we will move toward close readings of selected passages (of variable amplitude) from works by Guy Hocquenghem, Dominique Fernandez, Michel Tournier, Tony Duvert, Cyril Collard, Gregory Bastien, David Dumortier, Michel Giliberti, Francois-Olivier Rousseau and Renaud Camus, and study the narrative, rhetorical and performative “mises en scène” of the Arabic male body at the intersection of homosexual / textual literary crafting and (mostly) implied variables of (ex) coloniality discursive occurrences. Finally, we will consider the reverse / inverse / converse / echoing of such problematic in works by Rachid O., Abdellah Taïa, Malik Kuzman, and Farid Tali.

While in depth study of cinematographic representations will not be possible within the limits of the seminar proper (another course will be dedicated to that topic at a later forthcoming time), films will be screened (off class) in a kind of interactive “margin” of the course (including movies by Cyril Collard, Gaël Morel, Claire Denis, Sébastien Lishitz, Philippe Valois, et al.). The course will be taught in French, unless non French track students enroll in it. In that instance it could be taught in English. Reading knowledge of French is recommended but not required, as special reading arrangements / assignments would be made for non French track doctoral students (from M.LL or other departments) in the eventuality of (an) English (or Spanish) translation(s) not being available. Permission of the instructor applies for non French track students interested in taking the course (heyndelsralph@gmail.com). Final papers for non French track students can be written in English or Spanish.

History

HIS 375: GENDER, SEX AND SEXUALITY

Instructor: Richard Godbeer

Section O: T-R 9:30-10:45am

This course will explore gender relations and sexual culture in the North American colonies that became the United States. It will address the ways in which the specific circumstances of colonial settlement in the seventeenth century effected gender relations and family life; attitudes toward sex and the regulation of sexual behavior in colonial society; changes in family life, gender relations, and sexual culture during the eighteenth century; and the impact of the American Revolution on conceptions of masculinity and femininity.

The twice-weekly meetings will be devoted partly to lecture and partly to discussion of the reading assignments, all of which are primary documents from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Students are required to attend class, to read the assignments carefully and thoughtfully, to participate in discussion, and to write two papers.

Please check myUM for room assignments

HIS 396: GENDER AND SEX IN INDIAN HISTORY

Instructor: Sumita Dutt

Section G: M-W-F 2:30pm-3:20pm

This course will be a thematic rather than chronological study of issues relating to gender and sex and the ways in which they have shaped the history of women and men's lived experiences in India. We will focus on relations between women and men, constructions of the feminine and the masculine, sexual politics in the divergent narratives and contested histories of Indian womanhood as imagined and lived – the “Devi” (Goddess) or the “Dasi” (slave), the changing and dynamic nature of the roles and statuses of women and men in the spheres of politics, law, society, economy, and culture. We will weave a narrative of women and men's lives by looking at both formal structures (inscribed in religious and legal texts) as well the customary lived experiences that often did not conform closely to formal dictates. To understand both formal social structure as well as experience and lived customs we will read a variety of multidisciplinary texts – primary historical documents written by both women and men, religious texts (Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist), selections from legal treatises, folktales, fiction, plays, autobiographies, memoirs, visuals, and films. Themes will be selected from ancient, medieval and modern periods of Indian history, with primary focus on modern and contemporary developments.

Italian

ITA 321: Special Topics in Italian Literature

Women at court, Women at home, women courtesans: Poetry Writers in early modern Italy (Principesse, Donne di corte, cortigiane)

Instructor: Maria Galli Stampino

Section Q: T-R. 12:30PM-1:45PM

Intensive study of an author, a period, or a literary movement. May be repeated for credit when the topic varies.

Writing credit.

Musicology

MCY 328: Music and Gender

Instructor: Melissa de Graaf

Section P: T R 11:00pm-12:15pm

An exploration of music from around the world from the perspective of women. We will examine the roles women have played, and still play, as creators and performers in art music and popular music traditions. Representations of women and gender ideologies will also be discussed.

Portuguese

POR 322: Topics in Luso-Brazilian Cultures

Citizenship and Subalternity in Latin America

Instructor: Tracy L Devine Guzman

Section F: M-W-F 1:25-2:15pm

Cultural issues in the Portuguese-speaking world. Topics include media, religion, language in society, popular and mass culture, the arts, immigration, social movements, race, ethnicity, and gender. Writing credit. May be repeated for credit if topics vary.

POR 591: Directed Reading in Portuguese

Citizenship and Subalternity in Latin America

Instructor: Tracy L Devine Guzman

Section F: M-W-F 1:25-2:15pm

Permission of the Instructor

Religion

REL 343: Catholicism and Human Sexuality

Instructor: TBA

Section 6H: W 3:35-6:15pm

Though all Catholics regard human sexuality as a special gift from God, a great debate is currently taking place in the Church about this complex reality. This course will examine the Church's official teaching on sexuality as well as contemporary critiques of that teaching. Among the principal topics to be explored are (1) the Bible and sexuality, (2) salvation and sexuality, and (3) sexual morality. Special attention will be given to current discussions about marriage, reproduction, and homosexuality.

REL 371: Constructions of Masculinities, Femininities & the Body

Islam and Gender

Instructor: Amanullah De Sondy

Section R: T R 2:00-3:15pm

Gender issues such as homosexuality, masculinity, femininity, modesty, virginity, sexuality and its control, and veiling in Islam

REL 405: Women of the Ancient World (Inter-session)

Instructor: John T. Fitzgerald

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Section 81: MT W R F 5:30-9:45pm

Women played a crucial role in the cultures, politics, and religions of the ancient Mediterranean world. This course will examine some of the most prominent women of ancient Israel, ancient Egypt, ancient Rome, ancient Greece, and early Christianity, through lectures, discussions, films, and readings of selected texts.

Spanish

SPA 355: 20th Century Latin America

Cinema/Literature, Literature/Cinema

Instructor: Fiorella Cotrina

This course will explore the mutual influence Latin American literature and cinema has had on one another through a selection of 20th and 21st century novels and their adaptations, including *La ciudad y los perros*, *No se lo digas a nadie*, *El beso de la mujer araña*, and *La hora de la estrella*. The aim of this course will be to rigorously compare the properties that each artistic medium has utilized to both portray and frame key cultural anxieties from the 1930s to the present. Thus our exploration of each novel and cinematic adaptation will include a two-pronged approach in which we will look at both the techniques particular to each medium, and analyze how these techniques contribute to the representations of gendered desire, political trauma, and marginalized peoples portrayed in each of these two works. To inform our analysis, we will be reading key secondary sources on the theories surrounding the concepts of "adaptation", "intertextuality," and "contamination". We will conclude with a selection of Latin American literary texts which have influenced international filmmakers to adapt and radically modify the "original text" in terms of place, space, and narratorial framework--such as Julio Cortazar's short story "Las babas del diablo" and Michaelangelo Antonioni's adaptation *Blowup*--and discuss the potential meanings these reconceptualizations have in terms of

SPA 322: Topics in Spanish Culture

Citizenship and Subalternity in Latin America

Instructor: Devine Guzman

Section F: M W F 1:25-2:15pm

Cultural issues in the Spanish– Speaking world. Topics include film, journalism, religion, language in society, popular and mass culture, visual arts, immigration, slavery, metizaje. Writing credit. May be repeated for credit if topics vary.