

**WOMEN, GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES Graduate Certificate Elective Guide,
Fall 2009**

Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies CORE and Cross-listed courses:

- WGSS 510. History of American Women: Colonial-1870
WGSS 549. History of Feminist Theory
WGSS 650. Service Learning in Women's Studies
WGSS 662. Gender and Politics in Africa
WGSS 696. Studies in: Transnational Feminist Theory
WGSS 797. Directed Readings
WGSS 801. Women & Gender Studies: Theory & Methods
WGSS 836. Colloquium in Women's History

Cross Referenced Courses for Fall 2009:

- AAAS 545 Unveiling the Veil
COMS 552 The Rhetoric of Women's Rights
HWC 570 Men and Masculinities)
HWC 770 Research in Men and Masculinities
REL 602 Topics in Religion: Masculine Pleasure and Power in Western Christianity
SOC 623 Women and Work
SOC 722 Sociology of Gender
Film & Media 620 Undergrad./Graduate seminar in: International Women Filmmakers

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

I. Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

510. History of American Women: Colonial-1870 (3.0)

Instructor: staff

WGSS Class # 31665 Time: 11:00-12:15 TR Place: 4051 Wescoe

A survey of women's history in the United States which will consider women's roles as housewives, mothers, consumers, workers, and citizens in pre-industrial, commercial and early industrial America.

549. History of Feminist Theory (3.0)

Instructor: Marta Vicente

WGSS Class # 40275 Time: 11:00-1:30 R Place: 213A Bailey

This course aims to examine the origins of modern feminism from the medieval period to the present. The course will focus on analyzing those works that had the greatest impact on the development of feminism throughout modern history. It will examine issues such as motherhood, education, morality, work and sexuality in feminist thought. The course will make special emphasis on analyzing the author's ideas within their historical context and in relation to other authors' ideas within their historical context and in relation to other authors studied in class.

650. Service Learning in Women's Studies (3.0)

WGSS Class # 42709 **Instructor:** John Younger, *Director*, by permission only

WGSS Class # 35785 **Instructor:** Charlene Muehlenhard, by permission only

Service Learning allows students to apply theories and information gained in Women's Studies and related courses in community work settings. It should not duplicate any other regularly available courses. It should include both an academic and a service component. Before the semester starts: The interested student identifies an agency at which to work. KU's Career & Employment Services (864-3624), Center for Community Outreach (864-4073), or the Service

Learning Office (check with Student Organizations at 864-4861) can provide information about agencies needing volunteers. The student identifies two supervisors: an agency supervisor (who will supervise and evaluate the student's work at the agency) and a WS faculty supervisor (who will supervise the academic portion of the student's work and assign a grade). The agency supervisor writes a brief statement outlining the student's responsibilities at the agency. The faculty supervisor should receive a copy of this statement. The student and the faculty supervisor write and sign a contract specifying what the student will do at the agency, what scholarly work the student will do (e.g., reading and written work relevant to the student's service), how often the student and faculty supervisor will meet, and how the student will be graded. Generally students should expect to work approximately 9 hours a week (including both service and academic work) for 3 credit hours. There is more information on this course in the WGSS office.

662. Gender and Politics in Africa (3.0)

Instructor: Hannah Britton

WGSS Class # 44140

Time: 11:00-12:15 TR

Place: 207 Blake

This course is designed to explore the field of gender and African politics. We will begin by paying particular attention to African women's political roles during the pre-colonial and colonial society. We will investigate how the institutions of patriarchy and colonialism affected African women's political power and altered gender relations. We will also examine the impetus, methods, and path of liberation struggles and how gender roles were shaped, shifted, and changed during these struggles. We will discuss how African men and women resisted colonial governments through active involvement in independence movements, women's groups, and labor unions. The majority of the class will focus on current issues in African politics, including roles in political institutions, civil society organizations, and transnational movements. We will also examine contemporary constructions of masculinity and femininity, race and ethnicity, rural and urban locations, and socio-economic status in Africa and explore how these constructions affect social policy and national political agendas. We will be interested in how the changing nature gender identities are shaped by racial, ethnic, and class self-perceptions, as well as how conditions of national transformation, democratization, and development influence those identities. We will be using a combination of films, documentaries, personal narratives, on-line media sources, and scholarly articles throughout the class.

696. Studies in: Transnational Feminist Theory (3.0)

Instructor: Ayu Saraswati

WGSS Class # 44156

Time: 1:00-2:15 TR

Place: 4040 Wescoe

This interdisciplinary course focuses on the effects of transnational circulations of people, ideas, and objects on: (1) the formation of gendered, racialized, sexualized, and nation-based subjects, (2) the pattern of gender-based consumption and production in global economy, (3) the construction of gendered urban space, (4) the gendered construction of "affects" (emotions), and (5) the creation of various transnational feminist movements. Novels, films, and key texts in globalization and transnational studies will be incorporated in the class. Throughout the semester, students will work toward writing a scholarly journal article or a conference paper.

696. Studies in: Social Construction of the Self (3.0)

Instructors: Akiko Takeyama and Allan Hanson (Anth Dept.)

WGSS Class # 44667

Time: 5:15-6:30 MW

Place: 633 Fraser

Drawing from anthropological and feminist theories, this team-taught course explores self as a sociohistorically constructed being that is enmeshed with political ideology, socioeconomic systems, knowledge production, and race, gender, and class relations. Professor Allan Hanson's unique contribution will be exploration of recent theories holding that, instead of assuming that selves are limited to bounded and autonomous human individuals, they are extended agencies

film, and advertisements. We seek to flesh out major themes, tensions, arguments, and strategies within women's rights rhetoric, understanding that women's rights movements in the US are multiple, complex and ever-changing.

IV. Humanities and Western Civilization

570. Men and Masculinities (3.0) #44299

770. Research in Men and Masculinities (3.0) #44300

Instructor: Dr. Christopher Forth Time: 3:00-4:15 MW Place: 201 JRP

An intensive examination of the history and theory of masculinities in the Western world since the sixteenth century. Students will become acquainted with some of the key theories of men and masculinities, examine in depth the interplay between manhood and modernity, and develop research projects on a topic negotiated with the instructor. May be repeated if content varies sufficiently.

V. Religious Studies

602. Topics in Religion: Masculine Pleasure and Power in Western Christianity (3.0)

Instructor: Paul Zimdars-Swartz Time: 7:00-9:30 pm R Place: 206 Smith

In this special topics course we'll be exploring how the patriarchal structures of several major Western Christian churches may have been supported and maintained by some often-disguised deployments of homoerotic pleasure. After an introduction to some of the ideas and emphases of modern theorists such as Daly, Foucault, Sedgwick, and Kristeva, we'll be reading and discussing some extensive descriptions, by Mark Jordan and J. Michael Quinn, of relationships of masculine pleasure and power in two very different modern Christian institutions. Then, guided by the studies of Boswell, Kuefler, and some other gender-sensitive historians, we'll focus on some important persons, events, and ideas of earlier centuries that seem to have set the stage for the development of these institutions—with special attention being given to the life and thought of Augustine. In the course of our readings and discussions we'll be seeking answers to some current gender-related questions such as: 1) Why do these churches continue to oppose the ordination of women; 2) How, as suggested by Ellis Hanson in his study of the works of some 19th century Roman Catholic authors, might one of these churches be *both* the world's most homophobic institution *and* its largest employer of lesbians and gay men; and 3) How might some of the recent policies and pronouncements of this church have contributed to the sexual abuse of boys by priests which in recent years has attracted so much attention and threatened the credibility of this church in a number of Western countries?

VI. Sociology

623. Women and Work (3.0) #44076

Instructor: Sandra Albrecht Time: 9:30-10:45 TR Place: 107 Fraser

Sociological investigation of women's changing relationship to paid and unpaid labor in the economy and the family. Several theories are compared in these contexts: characteristics of employed women, including occupational distribution and pay; women's experiences in "traditional" and "nontraditional" occupations, including professions and management; socialization and education for employment; integration of marriage, housework, and child care; anti-discriminatory laws and policies. Prerequisite: A principal course in Sociology, plus junior-senior or graduate standing. (*Social Science*)

722. Sociology of Gender (3.0) #44748

Instructor: Kelly Chong Time: 3:00-5:00 W Place: 730 Fraser

This seminar is an introduction to the contemporary research and debate in the sociology of gender. "Gender" refers to all the ways in which societies organize people into female and male categories and attach meanings to those categories. In sociology, gender has become a key

category of analysis because gender not only shapes the most basic identities and experiences of men and women but is one of the central organizing principles of society and power relations. Because gender research is guided by insights provided by feminist theory, we will begin the course with a brief survey of some of its core principles regarding the construction of gender and gender inequality. In the rest of the semester, we will critically engage key literature in the several fields within sociology of gender with a view toward investigating how these theories are used to analyze social life. In this class, special attention will be paid to the intersectionality of gender with other axes of social organization and inequality, including race, class, and nation.

VII. Film & Media Studies

620. Undergraduate Seminar: International Women Filmmakers (3.0) #44416

Instructor: Catherine Preston

Time: 4:00-7:00 M

Place: 120 Oldfather

How are vision, knowledge, and power interrelated? The course will move toward answering this question through an examination of films made by women around the world. Both mainstream and independent films, as well as a mix of fiction, documentary, and experimental works will be screened and discussed. The objectives of the course are 1) to learn the variety of kinds of films made by women and the conditions through which films by women get made and distributed. 2) To interrogate the idea of women's films as counter-cinema. We will acquire tools for analyzing films in different economic, cultural, and political contexts and compare and critique films by women of different countries, classes, races, ethnicities, genders, and sexual preferences.