Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies can be defined as the study of how gender is constructed, how it is inflected by differences of race, ethnicity, sexuality, class, and so on, how gender affects the experiences and situations of men and women, and how assumptions about gender influence the construction of knowledge and experience. Scholarship in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies has brought neglected material into established fields and raised important methodological questions that cross disciplinary boundaries and challenge established intellectual frameworks. The program in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies thus includes courses from a wide variety of disciplines that focus in a coherent way on gender issues and/or sexuality issues, as well as core courses that acquaint students with the interdisciplinarity of the field.

THE MAJOR

The Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies major encourages students' exposure to the interdisciplinary character of feminist and sexuality-focused scholarship. In addition, majors are required to gain some knowledge of methods within a field or discipline (3 courses in one of the categories listed below), to appreciate the importance of diversity (racial, sexual, class, ethnic, national, etc.) in scholarship on gender and sexuality, to gain exposure to feminist and/or queer theory, and to pursue work at an advanced level (3 courses at the 300-level).

In order to ensure that students reflect about the paths that they choose through the major, each major will be assigned to an advisor in the spring of the sophomore year. With the advisor, the student will establish a revisable course of study for the following two years. Students interested in declaring a major should contact the Chair of the Program.

Required Courses

The major consists of at least 9 courses. The following are required:

- WGSS 101 Introduction to Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies
- WGSS 202 Foundations in Sexuality Studies
- WGSS 400-level Junior/Senior Seminar in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies. The seminar explores topics in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and varies from year to year. Majors may take more than one seminar, space permitting.

In addition to these three required courses, students are required to take six electives. In consultation with their major advisor and with approval from the chair, these six elective courses should include:

- Courses from at least 3 different disciplinary traditions.
- At least 3 courses at the 300-level.
- At least 1 course that emphasizes feminist/queer theories and/or methodologies.
- At least 1 course that emphasizes a diversity of racial, sexual, religious, and/or cultural identities and practices.

In the final semester of their senior year, all majors will be required to write a reflective intellectual autobiography of their WGSS major, in which they explain how their courses meet the goals of the major, and analyze the relationship among the courses they have taken, the papers they have written, and the research projects undertaken.
THE DEGREE WITH HONORS

Honors in Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies may be granted to majors after an approved candidate completes an honors project, delivers a public presentation of the work, and is awarded honors by the Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Committee. The honors project may be fall semester (plus winter study) or a year-long project. It may consist of a conventional research thesis of 40-70 pages or of other modes of presentation (e.g., art, music, poetry, theater, fiction). Proposals for non-thesis projects should include evidence of experience and competence in the chosen mode.

A student may become a candidate for honors in Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies after the following criteria are met:

In April of the junior year, submission and Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Committee approval of a 4- to 6-page project proposal, in which the ideas, aim, general methodology, and preliminary bibliography for the project are outlined and a faculty advisor is named; prior to submission of this proposal, students must consult with a reference librarian.

At the end of the junior year, cumulative grade point average of 3.5 from courses taken in the major;

In the first week of classes of the senior year, submission and approval by the faculty advisor and second reader of a 5- to 10-page “Plan of Action” (an overview of what has already been completed and a schedule of what needs to be accomplished to finish the project). Where appropriate, students pursuing honors will continue to consult with the second reader over the course of the semester(s).

All honors work, including the public presentation, will be evaluated by the Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Committee. It will decide on the awarding of honors; the advisor will award the grade(s).

STUDY ABROAD

The Williams College Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program encourages potential majors to study abroad in order to enhance their education and gain international perspectives on gender and women’s issues and feminism. There are many excellent study abroad opportunities offering students a variety of possible experiences: among them cultural immersion, field work, intensive language learning, independent study, participation in another educational system. There are several semester-long programs with a specific focus on women and/or gender administered by other U.S. Colleges that would especially enrich the educational experience of our majors:

- Antioch College: Comparative Women’s Studies in Europe fall semester
- Augsburg College, Center for Global Education: Crossing Borders: Gender and Social Change in Mesoamerica fall semester; and Social and Environmental Justice in Latin America spring semester
- School for International Training: The Balkans: Women and Democratization, fall or spring semester
- Jamaica: Gender and Development, fall or spring semester
- Mali: Gender and Development, fall or spring semester
- The Netherlands: Identity, Gender and Sexuality, fall or spring semester

FAQ

Students MUST contact departments/programs BEFORE assuming study away credit will be granted toward the major or concentration.

Can your department or program typically pre-approve courses for major/concentration credit?

Yes, in some cases, if appropriate course information is available in advance (e.g. syllabi and/or course descriptions), though students should be sure to contact the department.

What criteria will typically be used/required to determine whether a student may receive major/concentration credit for a course taken while on study away?

Course title and description, complete syllabus, including readings/assignments, and exams or other written work. Depends on the level for which the student is seeking major credit (200- vs 300-).

Does your department/program place restrictions on the number of major/concentration credits that a student might earn through study away?

No.

Does your department/program place restrictions on the types of courses that can be awarded credit towards your major?

No.
Are there specific major requirements that cannot be fulfilled while on study away?
Yes. 101 and 402 cannot be fulfilled abroad.

Are there specific major requirements in your department/program that students should be particularly aware of when weighing study away options? (Some examples might include a required course that is always taught in one semester, laboratory requirements.)

No.

Give examples in which students thought or assumed that courses taken away would count toward the major or concentration and then learned they wouldn’t:

None to date.

WGSS 101  (F)(S)  Introduction to Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies  (DPE)  (WS)
This course is designed to initiate you into the pleasures, pains and perplexities of critical thinking about gender and the situations of women across the globe. We will survey a wide variety of writers and issues--historical and contemporary, theoretical and practical. Above all, the course is intended as an exploration of the tremendous diversity of thought contained under the general rubrics of feminist and gender studies and a vehicle for developing skills in writing and research as well as analytical tools for further work in the field. The goal is not to bring about a specific point of view, but rather to learn to analyze issues critically using the methods and frameworks that feminist theory and queer theory have developed as academic disciplines.

Class Format: remote only, mixture of synchronous online discussions and mini-lectures, etc.
Requirements/Evaluation: Participation during class and in online forums, weekly reading responses, two short essays with revisions, and a final research paper
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 12
Enrollment Preferences: WGSS majors and potential WGSS majors
Expected Class Size: 12
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Unit Notes: required course for the Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies major
Distributions: (D2)  (DPE)  (WS)
Writing Skills Notes: This course requires significant attention to the craft of writing. Essential to this craft is the process of editing and rewriting materials with feedback from peers and professors. Students are expected to focus on improving analytical skills, critical thinking, and argumentation through attention to the writing process. They are also expected to give meaningful critical feedback on the writing of their peers.
Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course meets the DPE requirement because it asks students to reflect critically on issues of gender and sexuality around the world in a comparative contextual framework. Students will be asked in seminar space to discuss the operation of difference and power within as well as across different gender, class, racial, and sexual identities while learning in lecture meetings about feminist and queer studies' history, activism, and theory.

Fall 2020
SEM Section: R1    MW 6:45 pm - 8:00 pm   Alison A. Case
SEM Section: R2    MW 11:45 am - 1:00 pm   Emily Mitchell-Eaton

Spring 2021
SEM Section: R1    MR 3:15 pm - 4:30 pm   Kelly I Chung
SEM Section: R2    MW 10:00 am - 11:15 am   Greta F. Snyder

WGSS 105  (S)  American Girlhoods  (DPE)  (WS)
Cross-listings: AMST 105  WGSS 105  ENGL 105
Secondary Cross-listing
The image of the girl has captivated North American writers, commentators, artists, and creators of popular culture for at least the last two centuries. What metaphors, styles of writing, ideas of "manners and morals" does literature about girls explore? What larger cultural and aesthetic concerns are girls made to represent? And how is girlhood articulated alongside and/or intertwined with other identities and identifications, such as race, ethnicity, class, and sexuality? These are some of the issues we will explore in this course.

Requirements/Evaluation: at least 20 pages of writing; short, more informal writing assignments; GLOW posts; class participation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: first-year students who do not have a 5 on the AP and/or have not previously taken a 100-level English class

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
AMST 105 (D1) WGSS 105 (D1) ENGL 105 (D1)

Writing Skills Notes: Students do at least 20 pages of writing (4-5 papers) and are required to revise several papers. We also devote significant class time to talking about successful academic writing. Students will receive from the instructor timely comments on their writing skills, with suggestions for improvement.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course considers the construction of girlhood in the United States along the axes of race, gender, sexuality, class and more, and the literary history of who, in various moments in America, has even been allowed to claim the privileges of and/or be burdened with the idea of being a girl. It examines how girlhood is represented in relation to (in)equity and power and what kinds of literary and cultural forms writers utilize to illuminate these differences.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 110 (S) The Veil: History and Interpretations (DPE) (WS)

Cross-listings: HIST 110 WGSS 110 ARAB 215

Secondary Cross-listing

This tutorial will consider the history and the changing meanings of the veil (hijab) and its many manifestations (e.g. burqa, chador, niqab), starting with the earliest religious traditions and the status of women in Islamic law. We will then proceed to examine imperialist and orientalist representations of gender in the Middle East, the rise of Islamic feminism and finally consider the emergence and return of the veil in recent years in the Middle East, North America, Asia and Europe.

Requirements/Evaluation: each week each student will either write a 5- to 7-page essay on assigned readings or offer a 2-page critique of their partner's paper; by semester's end each student will have written a minimum of 40 pages

Prerequisites: first-year or sophomore standing; juniors or seniors with permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: first-years, and then sophomores who have not previously taken a 100-level seminar and those with demonstrated interest in the Middle East

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
HIST 110 (D2) WGSS 110 (D2) ARAB 215 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Students will receive from the instructor timely comments on their writing skills, with suggestions for improvement.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This tutorial considers the veil in many different cultural contexts and time periods and how it has multiple and complex meanings. What does the veil mean and how do people interpret it? Is it empowering or is it subjugation?

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 113 (F) The Feminist Poetry Movement (DPE) (WS)
Cross-listings: WGSS 113 ENGL 113 AMST 113

Secondary Cross-listing

Feminist poetry and feminist politics were so integrated in the 1960s and 1970s in America that critical essays on poets, such as Adrienne Rich and Audre Lorde, appeared in the same handbook that listed such resources for women as rape crisis centers and health clinics. This course will map the crucial alliance between feminist politics (and its major cultural and political gains) and the feminist poetry movement that became a major "tool" for building, organizing, and theorizing second-wave feminism. In order to track this political and poetic revolution, we will take an interdisciplinary approach that brings together historical, critical, and literary documents (including archival ones) and visual products (through the Object Lab of the Williams College Art Museum) that recreate the rich context of the period and help us consider the important social nature of aesthetic production. At the center of the course will be writings of major poets of the period, as well as anthologies and feminist periodicals that published their work and created a significant forum and shared space for women to articulate the politics and poetics of change. These periodicals and anthologies will also help us track the diversity of the feminist poetry movement and its intersection with issues of race, class, ethnicity, and sexuality. Ultimately, we will want to consider how poetry serves as an important tool for thinking through questions of power and injustice and what role it plays in creating necessary imaginative space in the world for expression, critique, and change.

Class Format: discussion, some lecture, project work in archives and art gallery

Requirements/Evaluation: three analysis papers (4-5 pages), creative (1-2 pages), discussion posts (5 pages), curated final project (archival exhibit with 7-page paper), presentations

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D1) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 113 (D1) ENGL 113 (D1) AMST 113 (D1)

Writing Skills Notes: Writing skills taught through a series of assignments evenly spaced throughout the semester: weekly p/f discussion posts, three four-to-five-page graded papers, one creative assignment, and a final digital research project (10-page equivalent; peer reviewed). Students receive critical feedback on written assignments a week prior to due date through conferences and Google Docs and on final graded assignments within one week with sufficient time between assignments to improve the next assignment.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: The course examines the effects of class, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality on both poetry and the movement and how women negotiated their differences within the movement, as well as in response to the dominant patriarchal culture. This course employs critical tools (feminist theory, archival research, poetics, close reading, comparative approaches) to help students question and articulate the social injustices that led to the poetry and poetics of the Women's Liberation Movement.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 119 (S) Asian American Femininities (DPE)

Cross-listings: WGSS 119 COMP 119

Primary Cross-listing

This tutorial will introduce students to the intersections of feminist studies and Asian American studies by reading Asian and Asian American literature (read in English) that centers female-identified characters. This course will consider the historical and persistent structures of patriarchy, heterosexism, nationalism, imperialism, war, and globalization through the framework of gender and sexuality studies. Students will read short excerpts of feminist theoretical works, selected with the idea of making scholarly texts more approachable to first- and second-year students. No previous experience with feminist theory or Asian American studies is presumed or required.

Requirements/Evaluation: weekly papers or peer responses

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: first-year students

Expected Class Size: 8
**Grading:**  no pass/fail option,  no fifth course option

**Distributions:**  (D2)  (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 119 (D2)  COMP 119 (D2)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** The course studies and historicizes the social, cultural, and political forces that shape gender, race, sexuality, and migration for Asian/American womxn.

Not offered current academic year

**WGSS 127 (S) Spring Grass: A Peek into Inequality in China**  (DPE)  (WS)

**Cross-listings:**  WGSS 127  CHIN 427  ASST 127

**Secondary Cross-listing**

Spring Grass (Chuncao) is a Chinese novel written by award-winning author Qiu Shanshan (1958-). Using the literary techniques of social realism, the novel chronicles the life of a young rural woman from 1961 to 2001. Spring Grass, the protagonist of the novel, was born in a rural village to a mother who preferred sons over daughters. At a young age, Spring Grass was deprived of the opportunity to attend school. Against all odds, she managed to marry for love, venture into the city, and become an enterprising migrant worker. This novel not only reflects the struggles of women in contemporary China but also captures the economic transformation of modern China since 1978 when the Reform and Open-Door Policy (gaige kaifang) was initiated. The novel was adapted into a television drama series and became an instant hit in 2008. This course takes an interdisciplinary, cultural studies and humanistic approach to studying a literary text, using literature as a means to help students better understand social and cultural issues.

Through close readings of the novel, the eponymous TV drama series, documentaries, films, and short stories depicting rural life and women's roles in China, as well as in-depth discussions of both primary and secondary sources that deal with the cultural, historical, and socioeconomic background of the unfolding story of Spring Grass, this course aims to provide a window for students to examine the issues of inequality in the Chinese village and society at large. Why would mothers be harsh to their own daughters and bar girls' right to education? Why would young people leave their village and migrate to the city? Why would migrant workers leave their children behind in the village? Why would economic developments in China exacerbate the problem of gender inequality in society? Why would the ideology and cultural logic behind Mao Zedong's proclamation "women can hold up half of the sky" add more burden to women rather than truly liberate them? Why would city people discriminate against country folks? After taking this course, students will gain a deeper understanding of the issues related to gender inequality (nannü bu pingdeng) and the urban/rural-gap (chengxiang chabie) in China. Throughout the course, they are also encouraged to critically think about how to achieve equity in different societies. This tutorial is conducted in either Chinese or English. Students wishing to take the course in English should register under ASST or WGSS and language learners wishing to take the course in Chinese should register under CHIN.

**Class Format:** remote instruction

**Requirements/Evaluation:** active participation in tutorial meetings, five 4-5 page tutorial papers, five 2-page critiques, online writing portfolio as the final project.

**Prerequisites:** For students registering under CHIN, the prerequisite is CHIN 402 or a language proficiency interview conducted by the instructor. For students registering under ASST or WGSS, there is no prerequisite.

**Enrollment Limit:** 10

**Enrollment Preferences:** Enrollment priorities will be given to freshmen and sophomores who register under ASST or WGSS, and to Chinese language learners who register under CHIN.

**Expected Class Size:** 10

**Grading:**  no pass/fail option,  no fifth course option

**Materials/Lab Fee:** books and course packet.

**Distributions:**  (D2)  (DPE)  (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 127 (D2)  CHIN 427 (D1)  ASST 127 (D1)

**Writing Skills Notes:** Writing is taught using the writing-as-process pedagogical approach. The writing process consists of invention, composition, and revision. Detailed writing prompts will be provided to students to generate and organize ideas for each essay. The instructor gives detailed feedback to students' first drafts and students are required to turn in a revised version. At the end of the semester, students will compile an online writing portfolio to include their best works.

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** The issue of "inequality," including both gender inequality and regional inequality is the driving force behind
the readings and discussions of this tutorial. Students are guided to develop an empathetic way of interpreting a literary work that features a rural woman/migrant worker. They will critically analyze the sources of inequality in the Chinese cultural context and explore ways to address such inequality.

Spring 2021

TUT Section: RT1    TBA    Li Yu

WGSS 132  (F)  Black Writing To/From/About Prison  (DPE)  (WS)

Cross-listings:  WGSS 132  ENGL 132

Secondary Cross-listing

This introductory course considers the disproportionate incarceration of African Americans as it is represented on the page. Keywords for meditation and analysis include blackness, gender, prison, justice, freedom, and abolition. Each reading and class discussion will aid students in developing rigorous and nuanced understandings of these terms. The primary project in this course is the development of open letter writing skills. This epistolary form allows both for the intimate engagement of individual, familiar contact and the deft inclusion of targeted eavesdroppers in order to raise the consciousness of listeners and affirm the value of personal relationships. Course texts will include letters to and from prison; documentaries; selections from anthologies like If They Come in the Morning and Captive Genders: Trans Embodiment and the Prison Industrial Complex; autobiographies like that by Malcolm X, Walidah Imarisha, and Assata Shakur; poetry by Ericka Huggins, Huey Newton, and Terrance Hayes; and critical interventions by scholars like Nikki Jones, Victor Rios, Michelle Alexander, and Angela Davis. We will also look at contemporary groups organizing around abolition and prisoner support including Critical Resistance, Photos From Solitary, and TGIJP (Transgender Gender Variant Intersex Justice Project).

Class Format: discussion, engagement with guest speakers, engagement with Special Collections

Requirements/Evaluation: four open letters developed with critical feedback (4-5 pages), a twice weekly question diary, an organization report and presentation, a collectively decided project

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: first-year students who have not taken or placed out of a 100-level ENGL course

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions:  (D1)  (DPE)  (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 132  (D1)  ENGL 132  (D1)

Writing Skills Notes: Open letters are a mainstay of black literature allowing for intimate engagement of the individual and the deft inclusion of targeted eavesdroppers to raise the consciousness of listeners and affirm the value of personal relationships. Students will learn to write letters with purpose to facilitate a felt relationship to the topic; enhance writing skills including achieving clarity and aesthetic value; practice curation of references. Four 5-page letters with rigorous feedback to sharpen form.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This class studies the historical development of mass incarceration of black folk from its roots in American slavery and white supremacist policy. This class also studies the impact of the prison industrial complex on transgender and queer folk in reproducing gender binaries and sexual abuse in and outside prison walls. The politics of prison abolition and gender self determination present critical interventions into the hegemonic structures of normalized racial dominance and gender oppression.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 138  (F)  Spectacular Sex  (DPE)  (WS)

Cross-listings:  WGSS 138  ANTH 138

Primary Cross-listing

From Beyoncé’s Coachella performance to Donald Trump’s social media antics, spectacles captivate us. Spectacles may be live shows, media events, or even everyday performances ranging from interactive advertisements to viral video sensations. But what are the uses of spectacle? Why are some compelling while others fall flat? How do spectacles control society or maintain social norms? And, importantly for our purposes, how does spectacle shape gender in society? Or from another angle, how does sexuality infuse spectacle? This tutorial introduces students to theories of spectacle ranging from the ancient Greeks to Marxist-inspired thinkers in the 20th century. In particular, we will examine how feminist thinkers have contributed to this literature and how theories of spectacle relate to questions of gender and sexuality. Our weekly readings focus on pairings of
theoretical readings with writing on popular cultural examples and case studies. Some possible topics include sporting events, charity ad campaigns, music videos, political events, and social media.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** weekly response papers; students will also select past papers to develop and rewrite as more formal essays

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 10

**Enrollment Preferences:** first- and second-year students; a statement of interest will be solicited from pre-registrants

**Expected Class Size:** 10

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE) (WS)

**This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:**

WGSS 138 (D2) ANTH 138 (D2)

**Writing Skills Notes:** This course requires significant attention to the craft of writing. Essential to this craft is the process of editing and rewriting materials with feedback from peers and professors. Students are expected to focus on improving analytical skills, critical thinking, and argumentation through attention to the writing process. They are also expected to give meaningful critical feedback on the writing of their peers. Students will select past response papers for development and rewriting.

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course deals substantively with questions about privilege and power as they interact along the intersections of race, gender, sexuality, class, ability, and other axes of difference.

Fall 2020

**TUT Section:** RT1    TBA     Gregory C. Mitchell

WGSS 139  (S)  Living a Feminist Life  (DPE) (WS)

**Cross-listings:** COMP 139  ENGL 139  WGSS 139

**Secondary Cross-listing**

The course invites students to consider the range of ways in which "knowledge" about women's, femme's and non-binary lives has been constructed in text, and how this knowledge determines and impacts the we have and make. The first half of the course is organized around a deep reading of Sara Ahmed’s recent theoretical book, Living a Feminist Life, while the second half of the course will examine a spectrum of women's life writing-poetry, music, journalism, theory, and memoir-to discover how text continues to shape feminist lives, and how femmes’ lived experience in turn shapes feminist discourse. Course materials for the second half of the semester will be generated in part through discussion and students' suggestions. Key texts will include Jamaica Kincaid’s A Small Place, Audre Lorde’s Sister Outsider, Djamila Boupacha’s memoir, Ana Lily Amirpour’s film A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night, Sara Ahmed’s Living a Feminist Life, Valerie Solanas’s SCUM Manifesto, and bell hooks’s Teaching to Transgress. In their writing for this course, students will consider how their own intimate relationships-with parents, partners, children, neighbors, or friends-can become sites of feminist activism, and sources of strength and knowledge to be carried into the broader world of public engagement and intervention. In the final weeks of the course, we will collectively interrogate the (false) boundary between writing and living as modes of feminist praxis.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** five short written assignments and one final research project

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 19

**Expected Class Size:** 19

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D1) (DPE) (WS)

**This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:**

COMP 139 (D1) ENGL 139 (D1) WGSS 139 (D2)

**Writing Skills Notes:** This course will center writing and research skills with at least one session per week devoted to ladder development and revision. Five short papers (3-4 pages) with one revision (5-6 pages) as well as a bibliography and final research paper (12-15 pages).

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course will examine the generative intersectional site of feminism, antiracism, and anticapitalism to provide an alternative introduction to feminist thought, writing, and practice. The syllabus centers women and femme writers of color.

Not offered current academic year
WGSS 152  (S)  The Fourteenth Amendment and the Meanings of Equality  (DPE)  (WS)

Cross-listings:  HIST 152  WGSS 152

Secondary Cross-listing

For more than 150 years, the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution has served as the principal touchstone for legal debates over the meaning of equality and freedom in the United States. This course explores the origins of the 14th Amendment in the years immediately following the Civil War, and examines the evolution of that amendment's meaning in the century that followed. Central themes in this course include the contested interpretations of "birthright citizenship," "due process," "privileges and immunities," "equal protection," and "life, liberty or property"; the rise, fall, and rebirth of substantive due process; battles over incorporating the Bill of Rights into the 14th Amendment; and the changing promise and experience of citizenship. We will pay particular attention to how arguments about the 14th Amendment have shaped and been shaped by the changing meanings of racial and gender equality.

Requirements/Evaluation:  a series of short (2-page) response papers; a midterm exam; and a final 12-15 page research paper

Prerequisites:  first-year or sophomore standing; juniors or seniors with permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit:  19

Enrollment Preferences:  given first to those who have been dropped from this class previously, then to first-years, then to sophomores

Expected Class Size:  15-19

Grading:  no pass/fail option,  yes fifth course option

Distributions:  (D2)  (DPE)  (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
HIST 152 (D2)  WGSS 152 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes:  Students will write three short (3-page) response papers to the readings in the first part of the semester, and will also write a substantial (10- to 12-page) research paper. In preparation for the research paper, students will write proposals, develop bibliographies, write outlines and drafts, and do peer critiques. Students will receive from the instructor timely comments on their writing skills, with suggestions for improvement.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:  This course satisfies the DPE requirement because it examines the legal, social, and political constructions and theorizations of difference, power, and equity. It examines the ways that individuals and groups have organized across various axes of difference to fight for legal equality, and explores how those individuals and groups have experienced legal equality and legal inequality in varied ways.

WGSS 177  (S)  Gender and Sexuality in Music  (DPE)

Cross-listings:  MUS 177  WGSS 177

Secondary Cross-listing

This course explores key themes in the expression of gender and sexuality through music. It draws from primarily 21st century examples, across cultures and genres, ranging from pop boy bands to Indian bhangra dance to the musical avant-garde. Themes will include: communicating gendered ideals, dance and embodiment, transgressive performances, biography and subjectivity, intersectionality, music and sexual violence, and marketing. We will explore the ways in which ideas and identities related to sex and gender are formulated and mobilized in music's performance and consumption. Inevitably, issues of sound and stagecraft intersect with factors such as race, age, and class, further informing these experiences. Students will consider their own processes of identifying and interpreting expressions of gender and sexuality in sound and movement, and contemplate the role of culture and society in informing these interpretations.

Requirements/Evaluation:  attendance/participation, intermittent GLOW posts and short assignments (2 pgs or less), midterm project, and either a 12-page final paper or a project with supplementary paper (length to be determined in consultation with the instructor).

Prerequisites:  open to all students; familiarity with musical terminology is helpful but not required

Enrollment Limit:  15

Enrollment Preferences:  WGSS and MUSC majors/prospective majors

Expected Class Size:  15

Grading:  yes pass/fail option,  yes fifth course option

Unit Notes:  This is a hybrid course, with the majority of the classes taking place remotely. The character and frequency of in-person class sessions will depend on the size of the class and the number of students taking part in the in-person option.
This course critically examines the ways in which music constructs and reflects gendered and sexual identities in intersectional space. We discuss how normative viewpoints come to be accepted and interpreted as 'natural,' and how musicians and audiences have maneuvered within and against those socio-political expectations. Music and readings span a wide range of sources--elite, popular, counter-cultural; from Euro-American sources to genres hailing from Brazil, Korea, and India.

Spring 2021
SEM Section: H1    TR 11:30 am - 12:45 pm     Corinna S. Campbell

WGSS 200 (S) Nordic Lights: Literary and Cultural Diversity in Modern Scandinavia  (DPE)

Cross-listings:  WGSS 200  COMP 232

Mythologized as the land of the aurora borealis and the midnight sun, Scandinavia's five distinct nations--Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Finland--are often mistakenly associated with blond-haired and blue-eyed uniformity. Modern Scandinavia, however, is a place of great social and cultural diversity. From medieval Viking sagas to contemporary Nordic rap, the Scandinavian literary tradition is rich in tales of global exploration, childhood imagination, sexual revolution, and multicultural confrontation. Through readings of nineteenth-century drama, twentieth-century novels, and twenty-first century cinema, we will investigate a wide range of issues on class, ethnicity, and identity, including the indigenous reindeer-herding Sámi people, Danish colonialism and the Greenlandic Inuit, Norwegian collaboration and resistance during World War II, and Nordic emigration (to North America) and immigration (from Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East). Discussion will also focus on Scandinavia's leadership in gender equality and sexual liberation, Scandinavian political isolation and integration (into both the UN and the EU), and the global effects of Nordic pop (ABBA to Björk), glamour (Greta Garbo to Alicia Vikander), technology (Volvo to Nokia), and activism (Alfred Nobel to Greta Thunberg). Readings to include works by Henrik Ibsen, August Strindberg, Hans Christian Andersen, Karen Blixen, Astrid Lindgren, Halldór Laxness, Reidar Jónsson, and Peter Høeg. Films to include works by Ingmar Bergman, Lasse Hallström, Bille August, Colin Nutley, Lukas Moodysson, Josef Fares, Tomas Alfredson, and Tomas Vinterberg. All readings and discussions in English.

Class Format: This will be a remote course for all students, whether they are on campus or not. We will convene synchronously via web-conferencing, with an emphasis on group discussion. There will also be opportunities for students to engage with online activities both during and between our synchronous sessions. Remote office hours will provide even more opportunities for follow-up, questions, and further discussion.

Requirements/Evaluation: active participation, two shorter papers, a midterm, and a longer final paper
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 12
Enrollment Preferences: Comparative Literature and Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies majors, and those with compelling justification for admission
Expected Class Size: 12
Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)  (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 200 (D2) COMP 232 (D1)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: As the course description explains, this course centers on a critical examination of difference, power, and equity in modern Scandinavia. The content examines the effects of class, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality on social (in)equalities among citizens, institutions, communities, and identities. The course also employs critical tools to teach students how to interrogate Scandinavian diversity and modernity, through reading, film analysis, discussion, and writing.
WGSS 201 (F) War and Resistance: Two Centuries of War Literature in France (1804-2016)

Cross-listings: RLFR 202 WGSS 201

Secondary Cross-listing

In 1883, Maupassant called on his fellow war veterans and writers to join him in speaking out against warfare and violence, crying “Let us dishonor war!” From the Gallic Wars against Caesar (during the first century BC) to the recent terrorist attacks in France (at the opening of the twenty-first century), the French literary tradition is rich in texts that bear witness to war and speak out against its monstrous inhumanity. While war literature in France can be traced back to ancient and medieval texts on Vercingétorix, Charlemagne, William the Conqueror, and Joan of Arc, this course will focus specifically on literary representations of war during the nineteenth- and twentieth-centuries, from the Napoleonic Wars, to the First and Second World Wars, to the Algerian and Cold Wars, and the “War on Terror.” Discussions will examine the impact of war on soldiers and civilians, patriotism and pacifism, history and memory; the implications of war as invasion and conquest, occupation and resistance, victory and defeat; the relationship of war to gender, sexuality, and ethnicity; and the role of war in colonialism and genocide. Readings to include novels, short stories, and poems by Balzac, Stendhal, Hugo, Rimbaud, Daudet, Maupassant, Zola, Cocteau, Wiesel, Duras, Camus, and Fanon. Films to include works by Resnais, Renoir, Carion, Jeunet, Malle, Angelo, Pontecorvo, and Duras. Conducted in French.

Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, midterm exam, and two to three papers

Prerequisites: exceptional performance in RLFR 105; successful performance in RLFR 106 or 107; or by French placement exam; or by permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: French majors and certificate students; Comparative Literature majors; Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors; and those with compelling justification for admission

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
RLFR 202 (D1) WGSS 201 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 202 (F)(S) Foundations in Sexuality Studies (DPE)

This course will offer an introduction to the burgeoning interdisciplinary field of sexuality studies in part through examining historical, legal, literary, filmic, cultural studies, sociological, and popular texts, as well as work done under the umbrella of queer theory. It explores the role of race, class, religion, science, region, and nation in the construction of modern gender and sexual identities and in the lived experiences of dissident genders and sexualities. We will examine a range of issues, including histories and strategies of resistance; transgender and intersex theory and activism; critiques of the white racial hegemony of lesbian and gay studies; the consequences of gay marriage; the politics of AIDS and its theoretical implications; globalization and sexuality; the rise of queer visibility and its relation to commodity culture; and recent conceptualizations of homonormativity. The goal of the course is not to achieve any kind of political or intellectual consensus, but to have rigorous debate over some of the key issues in queer studies.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: Short quizzes, participation, mid-term essay exam, online discussion forum. (No final exam or final paper this semester.)

Prerequisites: None. WGSS 101 may be helpful as background knowledge, but is not required.

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Women's Gender & Sexuality Studies majors, short statement of interest in case of over-enrollment

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course examines sexual diversity in various forms and asks students to interrogate questions of privilege and positionality, including the intersectional contemplation of sexuality's relationship to race, ethnicity, ability, class, religion, and other axes of identity. It investigates not only sexual difference, but the history of sexual identity and progressive narratives of “gay rights” that have developed over time.
WGSS 203 (S) Chicana/o/x Film and Video

Cross-listings: AMST 205 WGSS 203 LATS 203 ARTH 203

Secondary Cross-listing
Hollywood cinema has long been fascinated with the border between the United States and Mexico. This course will examine representations of the U.S.-Mexico border, Mexican Americans, and Chicanxs in both Hollywood film and independent media. We will consider how positions on nationalism, race, gender, identity, migration, and history are represented and negotiated through film. We will begin by analyzing Hollywood "border" and gang films before approaching Chicana/o/x-produced features, independent narratives, and experimental work. This course will explore issues of film and ideology, genre and representation, nationalist resistance and feminist critiques, queer theory and the performative aspects of identity. Through a focus on Chicana/o/x representation, the course explores a wide spectrum of film history (from the silent era to the present) and considers numerous genres.

Class Format: Remote. Discussion-oriented lecture class. The course will feature synchronous online class meetings. In addition to class meetings and readings, students will be expected to watch 3-5 hours of film per week on GLOW or in the library.

Requirements/Evaluation: one short paper, mid-term exam, final exam and take home essays

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 16

Enrollment Preferences: Art majors; LATS concentrators

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
AMST 205 (D2) WGSS 203 (D2) LATS 203 (D2) ARTH 203 (D1)
The practice of colorism, or skin color discrimination, is very familiar to people of color globally. Often described as intra-racial racism, colorism within the Black American context is part of the colonial legacy of institutionalized slavery where the vestiges of white supremacy have created color castes among Blacks that still, to this day, have serious consequences for those on the darkest end of the color spectrum. The impact of this practice is far-reaching, influencing everything from romantic partnering, economic and educational attainment, and perceptions of beauty, attractiveness, and criminality. Although the vast majority of colorism scholarship is empirically based, there is much that we can glean from a literary investigation of this practice by analyzing the works of renowned writer, theorist, and folklorist Toni Morrison. Her work is particularly useful in examining issues of skin color, as this topic has been persistent yet underexplored in Morrison’s writings. Employing the methods of literary and rhetorical criticism, this tutorial will investigate five Morrison novels, The Bluest Eye (1970), Sula (1973), Song of Solomon (1977), Love (2003) and God Help the Child (2015), and some of her non-fiction writings. In our discussions of each text, we will examine the problem of the “color complex” at the intersections of race, gender, sexuality, class and sexual violence, and how the characters manage these overlapping issues. We will bring the novels into conversation with social science articles on the practices of colorism in daily life. Because the tutorial blends different kinds of investigations into colorism, it will equip first year students with tools to critically engage and interrogate fictional literature; help them identify the real and nuanced ways that color discrimination affects Black communities; and consider how Morrison, one of our foremost writers, bridges literary creativity with ethnographic observation.

Class Format: Remote
Requirements/Evaluation: six 2-page papers, two 5- to 7-page papers, 10 minute vlog, annotated bibliography
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 10
Enrollment Preferences: this course is specifically for first-year students and they will receive preference in this class
Expected Class Size: 10
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
AFR 205 (D2) WGSS 207 (D2)
Class Format: In spring 2021, this course will be taught remotely.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, two or three short papers, and a final paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science, Political Economy, and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors and concentrators in Public Health

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 209 (D2) PSCI 209 (D2)

Spring 2021

SEM Section: R1  WF 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm  Cathy M. Johnson

WGSS 211  (F)  Gender in the Global Economy

Cross-listings: WGSS 211  ECON 105

Primary Cross-listing

This course will present a feminist economic analysis of the global economy, and some of the urgent issues facing women in poor countries. The course will start by developing theoretical resources: these will include feminist critiques of economic theory, work on care labor and the shifting boundaries between markets, governments and households, and discussions of intersectionality and difference. Then we will discuss a series of interlinked issues which may include the contradictory effects of structural adjustment and its successors; the informal sector and global value chains; the economics of sex work and global sex trafficking; and migration. We will finish by looking at community-based activism, non-governmental organizations, and the possibilities for North/South alliances.

Class Format: lecture/discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: reaction papers, research paper; participation in class discussion will count for part of the grade

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Unit Notes: This course cannot count toward the ECON major.

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 211 (D2) ECON 105 (D2)

Fall 2020

SEM Section: R1  MWF 11:45 am - 1:00 pm  Kiaran Honderich

WGSS 212  (S)  Ethics and Reproductive Technologies

Cross-listings: WGSS 212  PHIL 212  STS 212  SCST 212

Secondary Cross-listing

In her groundbreaking book, *The Tentative Pregnancy*, Barbara Katz Rothman writes that "[t]he technological revolution in reproduction is forcing us to confront the very meaning of motherhood, to examine the nature and origins of the mother-child bond, and to replace--or to let us think we can replace--chance with choice." Taking this as our starting point, in this course we will examine a number of conceptual and ethical issues in the use and development of technologies related to human reproduction, drawing out their implications for such core concepts as "motherhood" and "parenthood,"


family and genetic relatedness, exploitation and commodification, and reproductive rights and society's interests in reproductive activities. Topics will range from consideration of "mundane" technologies such as in vitro fertilization (IVF), prenatal genetic screening and testing, and surrogacy, to the more extraordinary, possibly including pre-implantation genetic diagnosis (PGD), post-menopausal reproduction, and post-mortem gamete procurement. Background readings include sources rooted in traditional modes of bioethical analysis as well as those incorporating feminist approaches.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: active participation in class discussions, three or four short reflection papers, and two longer papers (5-7 and 7-10 pages)

Prerequisites: none, but introductory-level course in PHIL and/or WGSS recommended

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: WGSS and PHIL majors or prospective majors

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Unit Notes: meets Contemporary Value Theory requirement only if registration is under PHIL

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
WGSS 212 (D2) PHIL 212 (D2) STS 212 (D2) SCST 212 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 213 (S) Race, Gender, and the Alien Body: Octavia Butler's Science Fiction

Cross-listings: STS 213 WGSS 213 AFR 213 SCST 213

Secondary Cross-listing

Science fiction is a genre well known for its ability to envision new realities, and Octavia E. Butler (1947-2006) is among the most highly regarded science fiction writers. Butler's uncanny ability to imagine the future anew and to merge those ruminations with her experiences as an African American woman provide powerful commentary on—and often disrupt—modern understandings of race, gender, and human embodiment. We will explore questions such as: What role does 'gender' play in Butler's fiction? How does Butler's treatment of the 'alien' cause us to reconsider what it means to be human? How does Butler incorporate 'race' and the concept of 'other' into her fiction, and how do these techniques help us situate contemporary discussions of a post-race society? We will examine the relationship between Butler's visions for the future and what her narratives of future worlds invariably suggest about the present. We will read key texts including the best-selling text Kindred (1979), the haunting dystopian novel Parable of the Sower (1994), the popular vampire text Fledgling (2005), and the collection Bloodchild and Other Stories (1996). We will also explore contemporary engagement with Butler's work including the relationship between the main character from her book Dawn (1987), and Henrietta Lacks, the African American woman from whom the immortal cell line (HeLa) used for medical research derives. This tutorial will engage Octavia Butler's work broadly, and with particular attention to how the concepts 'race,' 'gender', 'alien' and 'body' are interrogated in her writings.

Requirements/Evaluation: attendance, paired weekly reflection/response papers, a 5- to 7-page creative writing assignment, and a final essay of 10 pages

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: students with interests and/or prior coursework in Africana Studies and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
STS 213 (D2) WGSS 213 (D2) AFR 213 (D2) SCST 213 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 214 (F) Why do Pussies Riot and What is "Homosexual" Propaganda? Gender and Sexuality in Putin's Russia (DPE)

Cross-listings: COMP 257 GBST 213 WGSS 214 RUSS 213

Secondary Cross-listing
Since Vladimir Putin's rise to power, the media has highlighted events in Russia that at first glance resemble oddly sexualized jokes. At the same time that the Kremlin has reinstated authoritarian policy reminiscent of the Soviet Union, the Western press has chronicled Putin's topless vacations in Siberia, protests by the feminist collectives Pussy Riot and Femen, a 2011 ban on women's lacy underwear, federal legislation from 2013 prohibiting "homosexual" propaganda, and a 2017 court decision that outlawed a meme of Putin as a "gay clown." This course examines the Putin regime's ongoing attempts to police gender expression and private sexual behavior, as well as how Russian citizens' performance of gender and sexuality has changed in the past twenty years. We will consider gender and sexuality as distinctive features of Putinism, which have contributed to a biopolitical turn in official policy and inspired resistance and protest among Russian feminists and queers. All readings will be in English, and all films will have English subtitles.

Requirements/Evaluation: active participation in class discussions, several response papers, two short papers (3-5 pages each), and a final project
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 25
Enrollment Preferences: Those majoring in Russian and/or WGSS, as well as Global Studies concentrators.
Expected Class Size: 15
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D1) (DPE) This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
COMP 257 (D1) GBST 213 (D1) WGSS 214 (D2) RUSS 213 (D1)
Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: The course engages in cultural comparison, explores how power and privilege are allocated differently in post-Soviet Russia than in the West, and critically theorizes contemporary Russian culture and discourse.

WGSS 215 (F) Ways of Knowing: Music, Movement, Memory
Cross-listings: DANC 215 THEA 202 WGSS 215 AFR 215
Secondary Cross-listing
This interdisciplinary seminar proceeds from the premise that the body knows. Ongoing colonial modernity is rooted in a racialized hierarchy: the "civilized" life of the mind vs. the "primitive" instincts of the flesh. According to this binary, the body is marked as irrational, sinful, outside of the archive. The body cannot know because the happenings of the body are ephemeral: unlike documents, they don't last. In this course, we will subject this logic to close scrutiny. As performance scholar Diana Taylor asks, "Whose memories, traditions, and claims to history disappear if performance practices lack the staying power to transmit vital knowledge?" In this course, we look to music, movement, and other repertoires as ways of knowing, remembering, and world-making. How does embodied knowledge travel across time and space? How have performance practices served as modes of what Ashinaabe cultural theorist Gerald Vizenor calls "survivance" (survival + resistance) for indigenous, nomadic, queer, and colored communities. Case studies include: the Middle Passage and the syncretic birth of the Blues in the Americas; nomadism, the nation-state, and the migration of Romani music; and the evolution of queer ball culture. Students will engage with a variety of texts (verbal, sonic, visual, kinesthetic) and respond to them critically not only through writing and discussion, but also through their own performance practices.
Requirements/Evaluation: in-class participation, creative/critical responses to texts, final paper
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 14
Enrollment Preferences: Theater majors
Expected Class Size: 14
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D1) This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
DANC 215 (D1) THEA 202 (D1) WGSS 215 (D2) AFR 215 (D2)
Not offered current academic year

WGSS 217 (S) Extreme Persuasions: The Far Right in the United States and Russia (DPE) (WS)
Cross-listings: AMST 219 RUSS 218 WGSS 217

Secondary Cross-listing

The purpose of this course is to explore the unexpected recent confluence of the American and Russian far-right movements, among advocates for authoritarianism in both countries who have traditionally understood the ‘other’ superpower to be an implacable enemy. How have nationalist movements in the United States come to see the Russian Federation as a vanguard for ‘whiteness’ and traditional masculinity in European identity, overturning the perception of Russia as a racial ‘Other’ that was prevalent among American conservatives during the Cold War? What are the affinities between the imperial and openly patriarchal aspirations of Putinism and the goals of American religious Reconstructionism, with its interpretation of the Confederacy as a God-given model for racial separatism and gender complementarianism? We will discuss repressive historical legacies and homophobia in both countries, devoting particular attention to debates about protest art and the removal of monuments, and to movements that situate themselves in opposition to neoliberal forms of ethno-nationalism.

Requirements/Evaluation: On average, there will be 100 pages of reading per week. Over the course of the semester, students will be required to view three films, which will be discussed in class. Class participation counts for 25% of the course grade; each of the first three response papers, 15%; the term paper, 25%; the in-class presentation of the term paper, 5%.

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Majors and concentrators in AMST, Russian, and Women's and Gender Studies.

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
AMST 219 (D2) RUSS 218 (D1) WGSS 217 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: The written work is comprised of three response papers (5-7 pages each), a rough draft of the term paper (8-10 pages) that will be ungraded but extensively commented upon, and the term paper itself (10-15 pages). Each student to discuss their writing strategies prior to the deadlines for the essay assignments. For the essays, students may choose from among a range of prompts, or design a topic of their own.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Students will use the assigned readings as points of departure for analyzing and responding to traditionalist configurations of gender and ethno-nationalism in the United States and the Russian Federation. Particular attention will be devoted to the proliferation of different conceptions of power and privilege in both countries, and to ways in which a parsing of them may facilitate an engagement with the arguments of far right movements while retaining the concept of social justice.

Spring 2021

SEM Section: H1 TR 11:30 am - 12:45 pm Alexandar Mihailovic

WGSS 218 (S) Gender and Sexuality in the Neo-slave Narrative (DPE) (WS)

Cross-listings: AMST 218 ENGL 218 AFR 218 WGSS 218

Secondary Cross-listing

Hortense Spillers has noted that ex-slave Harriet Jacobs, "between the lines of her narrative, demarcates a sexuality that is neuterbound" and we live with the aftermath of her observation. "Ungendering," one of the transformations undergone by bodies subjected to the Middle Passage, is one of the keywords that forms the foundation for a conversation about slavery, blackness, gender, sexuality, and archive. Throughout this course we will wrestle with the questions: How does the designation "slave" rupture, reify, or expand our understandings of sexuality and gender? What conditions have necessitated the neo-slave narrative form? Texts include: slave narratives and neo-slave narratives in the forms of novels, visual art, and film. Course texts include: Octavia E. Butler's Kindred, Jewelle Gomez's Gilda Stories, Glenn Ligon's "Runaways", and Jordan Peele's Get Out. Critical theories of blackness, gender, and sexuality are also central texts in this course including that by Darieck Scott, Saidiya Hartman, Hortense Spillers, Matt Richardson, and others. Given that neo-slave narratives intervene in the sexual and gendered silences of slave narratives and the power relations that produced them, students who are hesitant to study sexual violence might consider taking another course.

Requirements/Evaluation: mandatory participation in discussion, four papers including one critical revision (total 20 pages), keyword glossary

Prerequisites: a 100-level ENGL course, or a score of 5 on the AP English Literature exam, or a score of 6 or 7 on the Higher Level IB English exam

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: sophomores
Expected Class Size: 19
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D1) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
AMST 218 (D2) ENGL 218 (D1) AFR 218 (D1) WGSS 218 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Three thesis papers at 5 pages each (each receiving critical feedback from professor); one thesis paper revision with critical feedback from professor and peers including one letter of revision explaining the student's revision process; one keyword glossary where students develop rigorous definitions of course key terms; one roundtable discussion based on the final paper. Students will receive from the instructor timely comments on their writing skills, with suggestions for improvement.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course examines the work of black writers and artists engaged with the archival silences imposed by the power dynamics of racial hierarchy which constrained the birth of African American literature (the slave narrative). In particular, we examine the meaningful/willful/and censorial omissions that shape the treatment of gender and sexuality in these texts including and especially the silences around sexual abuse and sexual assault practiced by beneficiaries of white supremacy.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 219 (F) Women and Girls in (Inter)National Politics (DPE)
Cross-listings: INTR 219 PSCI 219 AFR 217 WGSS 219 LEAD 219
Secondary Cross-listing
This tutorial focuses on the writings and autobiographies of women who have shaped national politics through social justice movements in the 20th-21st centuries. Women and girls studied include: Fannie Lou Hamer, Shirley Chisholm, Safiya Bukhari, Erica Garner, Greta Thunberg, Malala Yousafzai, Marielle Franco, Winnie Mandela.
Requirements/Evaluation: Weekly 5-page primary analytical papers and 2-page response papers.
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 10
Enrollment Preferences: Juniors and seniors, sophomores.
Expected Class Size: 10
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
INTR 219 (D2) PSCI 219 (D2) AFR 217 (D2) WGSS 219 (D2) LEAD 219 (D2)
Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This tutorial examines how girls and women confront capitalism, imperialism, climate devastation, patriarchy and poverty. The national and international movements that they participated in or led were based on shifting the balance of powers towards the impoverished, colonized, and imprisoned.

Fall 2020
TUT Section: RT1 TBA Joy A. James

WGSS 222 (S) Women on the Verge
Cross-listings: RLS 220 WGSS 222
Secondary Cross-listing
From the early twentieth century to the present day, the radical changes in the lives of Spanish women have clearly reflected the tug of war between progress and tradition in recent Spanish history. The dramatic upheavals in Spanish politics have marked and transformed the lives of women to such a great extent that one can often gauge the political and social climate of any given historical moment by considering how the role of women was defined by the law, the Catholic church, education, and other social and political institutions. Using literary and historical texts as well as films and graphic materials, this course will look at the transformations in the public and private lives of Spanish women during the following periods: the turn of the century, the Second Republic, the Spanish Civil War, the Franco years, and the transition to democracy.
Prerequisites: RLS 105, or RLS 200, or results of Williams College Placement Exam, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: Spanish and Comparative Literature majors

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

RLSP 220 (D1) WGSS 222 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 224 (S) Sexuality and Seduction in Nineteenth and Twentieth-Century France (DPE)

Cross-listings: RLFR 224  WGSS 224

Secondary Cross-listing

In 1857, both Flaubert's Madame Bovary and Baudelaire's Les Fleurs du mal were put on trial for sexual indecency and "crimes against public morality." In 1868, Le Figaro attacked Zola's novel Thérèse Raquin as "putrid literature" for its depiction of adultery, murder, and scandalous sexuality in nineteenth-century Paris. A century later, Gide, Proust, Colette, and Duras continued to shock French readers with their extraordinary novels on male and female homosexuality, intergenerational lovers, and biracial relationships. In this course, we will examine a broad range of issues on sexuality and seduction in nineteenth- and twentieth-century French literature, including eroticism and desire, love and betrayal, marriage and adultery, prostitution and fetisism, gay and lesbian identities, cross-dressing and gender representation, exoticism and colonial (s)exploitation. Readings to include novels, shorts stories, and poems by Chateaubriand, Constant, Duras, Balzac, Flaubert, Baudelaire, Zola, Maupassant, Barbey d'Aurevilly, Gide, Proust, Colette, Duras, and Guibert.

Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, two shorter papers, a midterm, and a longer final paper

Prerequisites: exceptional performance in RLFR 105, successful performance in RLFR 106 or 107, or by French placement exam, or by permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 18

Enrollment Preferences: French majors and certificate students, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors, and those with compelling justification for admission; if the course is overenrolled, students will submit an online form

Expected Class Size: 18

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

RLFR 224 (D1) WGSS 224 (D1)

Writing Skills Notes: As the course description explains, this course centers on a critical examination of difference, power, and equity in a broad range of debates on sexuality in France, from 1800-2000. The content examines the effects of class, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality on social inequality; and the course employs critical tools to teach students how to articulate and interrogate the complexities of gender and sexuality, from reading and discussion, to critical analysis and writing.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: As the course description explains, this course centers on a critical examination of difference, power, and equity in a broad range of debates on sexuality in France, from 1800-2000. The content examines the effects of class, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality on social inequality; and the course employs critical tools to teach students how to articulate and interrogate the complexities of gender and sexuality, from reading and discussion, to critical analysis and writing.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 225 (F) Gender and Sexuality in Asian American Theater

Cross-listings: COMP 218  THEA 225  WGSS 225

Primary Cross-listing

This class begins with the premise that intersectional and interdisciplinary studies of gender and sexuality need to be, and in significant ways already are, in conversation with Asian American studies and theater. How might contemporary Western discourses of masculinity and heterosexuality, for example, depend upon theatrical constructions of Eastern sexual alterity? How have Asian American artists managed and critiqued historically
gendered and sexualized stereotypes (e.g., hypersexual Dragon Lady, virginal Lotus Blossom, asexual Charlie Chan) through theatrical intervention? This seminar will closely read dramatic literature written by Asian American artists, as well as engage scholarship in Asian American gender and sexuality studies and performance studies. We will read the work of playwrights including Ayad Akhtar, Ping Chong, Frances Ya-Chu Cowhig, Velina Hasu Houston, David Henry Hwang, Young Jean Lee, Diana Son, Lauren Yee, and Chay Yew.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** in-class participation, weekly reading responses, midterm reflection, in-class reading, short essay, final essay

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Enrollment Preferences:** declared WGSS majors

**Expected Class Size:** 16

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

COMP 218 (D1) THEA 225 (D1) WGSS 225 (D2)

**WGSS 226 (S) Gender and the Dancing Body** (DPE)

**Cross-listings:** WGSS 226  THEA 226  AMST 226  DANC 226

**Secondary Cross-listing**

This course posits that the dancing body is a particularly rich site for examining the history of gender and sexuality in America and beyond. The aim of the course is to explore ideas related to gender and sexuality as prescribed by dominant cultural, social, and religious institutions, and how dance has been used to challenge those normative ideologies. We will examine a wide range of dance genres, from stage performances to popular forms to dance on television, with particular attention to the intersections of race and class with gender. This is primarily a discussion-based seminar course and will also include film screenings, discussions with guest artists, and opportunities for creative projects. No previous dance experience required.

**Class Format:** This course will be taught in a virtual format and will be remote.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** class participation, reading responses, essays, in-class writing assignments, and group presentations

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 15

**Enrollment Preferences:** first years and sophomores

**Expected Class Size:** 10-15

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 226 (D2) THEA 226 (D1) AMST 226 (D2) DANC 226 (D1)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** In the course, students will explore the concept of gender as a social construction and how the body's historical associations to markers of gender and sexuality lead to differences in socio-political power. The assigned texts and viewings provide examples of how bodies and their movements make meaning in a network of power relationships, and how artists use dance to address social inequalities such as sexism, racism, and transmisogyny, to imagine a more just world.

Spring 2021

SEM Section: R1    TF 3:15 pm - 4:30 pm     Munjulika Tarah

**WGSS 228 (F) Feminist Bioethics** (WS)

**Cross-listings:** PHIL 228  STS 228  WGSS 228

**Secondary Cross-listing**

In this course we will explore the ways in which feminist approaches to moral thinking have influenced both the methodology and the content of contemporary bioethics. The first portion of the course will address the emergence of the "Ethics of Care," critically assessing its origins in feminist
theory, its development within the context of the caring professions, and its potential as a general approach to bioethical reasoning. The second portion of the course will use feminist philosophy to inform our understanding of the ways in which gender structures the individual's interactions with the health care system. To do this we will explore topics that might traditionally be considered "women's issues" in healthcare, such as medicine and body image (e.g., cosmetic surgery, eating disorders), reproductive and genetic technologies, and research on women and their health care needs. In addition we'll also look at feminist analyses of topics that traditionally have not been regarded as "gendered," such as resource allocation and end of life issues.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: active participation in class discussions; periodic short papers (2-3 pages); midterm and final paper (5-7 and 7-10 pages, respectively); and one oral presentation

Prerequisites: none, although previous coursework in WGSS is desirable

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: prospective and declared majors or concentrators in PHIL, WGSS, STS, and PHLH, especially those who need the course to satisfy major or concentration requirements

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Unit Notes: meets Contemporary Value Theory requirement only if registration is under PHIL

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PHIL 228 (D2) STS 228 (D2) WGSS 228 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Students will write periodic short papers (2-3 pages each), a midterm paper (5-7 pages) and a final paper (7-10 pages). Short papers focus on concepts, arguments, and writing skills needed in the midterm and final papers, in which students are expected to describe and evaluate arguments from assigned readings, and to present clear and effective arguments in support of their own ethical positions. Students receive feedback on all papers and have the opportunity to revise midterm and final papers.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 230  (F)  Gender, Sexuality, and Global HIV/AIDS

Cross-listings: AFR 230  WGSS 230

Primary Cross-listing

The global pandemic of HIV/AIDS is now entering into its fourth decade. Throughout this history sexuality, gender and race and inequality have played a central role in the spread of the virus, and its apparent entrenchment in certain communities. This class will use a gendered, interdisciplinary perspective to investigate the pandemic's social, economic and political causes, impact, and conundrums--the problems it poses for scholarship, activism, public policy, and public health. Issues discussed will include the role of transaction sex and economic structures in both susceptibility to HIV and vulnerability to its impact; stigma and its challenges for HIV prevention, testing and treatment uptake; the role of positive youth in the next stages of the pandemic; and the evolving expressions of biopower in the global AIDS response. The class will look at examples of successful policies and activism as well as the failures, corruption and complacency that have characterized the global pandemic. There will be a particular geographical focus on experiences in the U.S. and sub-Saharan Africa.

Requirements/Evaluation: two short papers and a research paper; class participation will form part of the grade

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors, Public Health concentrators

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

AFR 230 (D2) WGSS 230 (D2)

Not offered current academic year
WGSS 231  (S)  Art, Life, and Death: Locating Women in Italian Renaissance Art  (WS)

Cross-listings:  ARTH 231  WGSS 231

Secondary Cross-listing

Renaissance art is the stuff of blockbuster museum exhibitions, mass tourist pilgrimage, and record auction prices. From our modern vantage point, the cultural accomplishment of the 15th and 16th centuries in Italy clearly has the ability to astound. Calling to mind the inimitable imagination of Botticelli, the scientific genius of Leonardo, or the superhuman creativity of Michelangelo brings into focus an inspiring narrative of individual accomplishment, innovation, and progress (ideals we easily understand and may well share). This is an important story we still tell of human achievement. This tutorial explores a critical question: where are the women in this narrative? Women were not typically artists, so how might we bring their roles, force, and power into focus? To do this, we will turn away from the grand historical narrative we so easily recognize and enter a more foreign world: a realm of everyday experience in which art—never created for its own sake—was powerful, and mattered to people. Art shaped realities and mediated the fundamental questions and of life and death, from power, sexuality, love, desire, and self-definition, to mortality and communion with divinity. When we approach Renaissance art on its own terms, our picture expands to include women, their lives, and what they themselves wanted to see. In addition to secondary scholarship, we will pay close attention to primary sources (including images themselves), giving students ample change to forge original arguments: one of the central goals of the tutorial.

Class Format: some tutorial meetings will be conducted at local museums

Requirements/Evaluation: engaged reading and conversation; five 5-page tutorial papers (with revisions to one of these as final project); five 1- to 2-page responses to partner's tutorial papers

Prerequisites: first-year and sophomore students (this class is open to students with no experience in art history)

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: a statement of interest will be requested in the event the course is over-enrolled

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions:  (D1)  (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ARTH 231 (D1) WGSS 231 (D1)

Writing Skills Notes: This course's fundamental goal is to support opportunity and skills to construct compelling and original written arguments. Tutorial partners will share standards and guidelines for strong writing with instructor: common concepts and language for critique, discussion, and applause. We will consider the power of argument inextricable from the quality of writing, and thus address writing issues, strategies, and successes in a deep way, organically and consistently, in every tutorial meeting.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 233  (F)  Chemical Intimacies  (DPE)

Cross-listings:  ARTH 243  ENGL 243  SCST 233  WGSS 233  STS 233

Primary Cross-listing

This is a research seminar that understands human-chemical entanglement in relationship to environment, sexuality, geography, ecology, and capacity. It doubles as a research class in which students choose a project of chemical intimacy to investigate as their own through the course of the semester. In the first half, we will together read and discuss forms of human-chemical entanglement, whether a matter of industrial pollution, pharmaceutical use, habitual intoxication, gendered self-care or enhancement, or built environment; the goal is to achieve a broad sensibility for the concept as well as a familiarity with thinking biochemically and biopolitically about living bodies, while consistently registering questions of race, gender, class, sexuality, disability, and more. In the second half, each participant will choose and research a historically and geopolitically specific scenario of chemical entanglement, while 1) considering the political, legal, cultural, and labor contexts of the case; 2) exploring relationships between "actual" and "represented" (protest slogans or visual productions in the case of environmental justice activism, for example); 3) examining other research questions germane to their site of interest and their chosen discipline of study. We will take one field trip to a local site.

Requirements/Evaluation: individual research project

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors, Art History majors, English majors, Environmental Studies majors

Expected Class Size: 10
**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ARTH 243 (D2) ENGL 243 (D1) SCST 233 (D2) WGSS 233 (D2) STS 233 (D2)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** The course gives special attention to forms of human-chemical entanglement that are related to environmental justice (pollution), and gender, racial, sexual, indigenous, and disability politics.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 235 (F) Innovation, Gender, and Sustainable Development (DPE)

**Cross-listings:** WGSS 235 STS 235 SCST 235

**Primary Cross-listing**

Technological innovation is vital for communities, businesses and nations seeking to adapt to a globalized, competitive world. But any innovation also has impacts on all three dimensions of sustainability: the ecological, the economic, and the social. For example, such impacts may either exacerbate or mitigate gender inequalities. This course uses a gender studies lens to study innovation in the development of sustainable practices in the present and for the future. We will look at the impact of gender stereotypes on innovation, including the co-construction of gender and technology. Since the course is taught by a visiting scholar from Sweden, a particular focus will be the EU's policy of "Gender Mainstreaming" which requires all proposed policies to be assessed for their impact on gender inequality. The course looks at technical development as necessary and valuable, while investigating power relations and taken-for-granted views embedded in the particular forms it takes. The course will rely largely on analysis of case studies, and students will be encouraged to apply the analytic tools of the course to develop US-based case studies of their own.

**Class Format:** combination of lecture and discussion

**Requirements/Evaluation:** reading journal, mid-term exam, and a final research project

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 15

**Enrollment Preferences:** Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors, Environmental Studies majors, students who have taken WGSS 101

**Expected Class Size:** 10

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 235 (D2) STS 235 (D2) SCST 235 (D2)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** The course focuses specifically on tools for analyzing the potential differential impacts of sustainable development projects along gender lines.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 237 (S) Queer Drama (DPE)

**Cross-listings:** WGSS 237 THEA 240

**Secondary Cross-listing**

This seminar course is a deep dive into the richly dissonant dialogue between queer lives and live performance. How have queer artists shaped and reshaped the field of theatre and performance over time? How has drama, in turn, shaped the landscape of queer life? What inventions and innovations might we attribute to the evolution of "queer"? We will look to the work of artists such as Tennessee Williams, Tarell McCraney, Taylor Mac, Reza Abdoh, Sharon Bridgforth, Virginia Grise, and many others as we seek to map the messy topography of queer performance.

**Class Format:** three hours per week

**Requirements/Evaluation:** two 5-page papers, participation in text-based seminars, and a final performance

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 14

**Enrollment Preferences:** if the class is overenrolled, students will submit a letter of interest in the class

**Expected Class Size:** 14
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
WGSS 237 (D2) THEA 240 (D1)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course takes "queer" as an analytical and methodological lens for approaching questions of power, performance, and self-making.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 239  (S)  History of Sexuality

Cross-listings: GBST 241  WGSS 239  REL 241  HIST 292

Secondary Cross-listing

Is sexuality an immutable aspect of who we are or is it socially constructed? How have people understood sex and sexuality throughout history? Why does religion have any say in the sexual lives of individuals and society? What are sexual transgressions and why are they punished? Is sex a commodity that can be exchanged for money? Is sex political? This course will explore these questions through a historical approach, focusing in particular on the shifting understanding of sex and sexuality across historical time and different geographical regions. In investigating the category of sexuality, this course will push us to consider three key questions: 1) Is sexuality a useful category for historical analysis, 2) how have our assumptions regarding sexuality and sexual ethics taken shape and changed over time and 3) how do social, cultural, political, and economic conditions affect changing meanings of sexuality. Historical studies will be read in conjunction with different theoretical frameworks about sexuality. Reading historical accounts of sexuality alongside theoretical pieces will allow us to consider how historians construct an argument and the influence of theoretical frameworks in shaping scholarship. Some of the theorists we will read in the course include: Michel Foucault, David Halperin, Afsaneh Najmabadi, Valerie Traub, and Carla Freccero.

Requirements/Evaluation: reading responses, two essays, and final research paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Religion, History, and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
GBST 241 (D2) WGSS 239 (D2) REL 241 (D2) HIST 292 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 240  (S)  Performing Masculinity in Global Popular Culture  (DPE)

Cross-listings: WGSS 240  THEA 241  SOC 240  AMST 241  LATS 241

Primary Cross-listing

This course examines popular cultural contexts, asking what it means to be a man in contemporary societies. We focus on the manufacture and marketing of masculinity in advertising, fashion, TV/film, theater, popular music, and the shifting contours of masculinity in everyday life, asking: how does political economy change the ideal shape, appearance, and performance of men? How have products - ranging from beer to deodorant to cigarettes -- had their use value articulated in gendered ways? Why must masculinity be the purview of "males" at all; how can we change discourses to better include performances of female masculinities, butch-identified women, and trans* men? We will pay particular attention to racialized, queer, and subaltern masculinities. Some of our case studies include: the short half-life of the boy band in the US and in Asia (e.g., J/K-Pop), hip hop masculinities, and the curious blend of chastity and homoeroticism that constitutes masculinity in the contemporary vampire genre. Through these and other examples, we learn to recognize masculinity as a performance shaped by the political economy of a given culture.

Requirements/Evaluation: masculinity journal, mid-term essay exam, visual rhetorical analyses of pop culture images

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: a short statement of interest will be solicited
Expected Class Size: 14
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
WGSS 240 (D2) THEA 241 (D1) SOC 240 (D2) AMST 241 (D2) LATS 241 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course examines the construction of masculinity as it relates to intersecting identities such as race, sexuality, class, and global political economic considerations. Key to understanding masculinity are questions about the diversity of experiences of masculinities, cultural variations of gender norms, privilege, agency, patriarchy, heteronormativity, and interlocking systems of oppression.

Spring 2021
SEM Section: R1 MW 6:45 pm - 8:00 pm Gregory C. Mitchell

WGSS 241 (S) Sex and Gender in Ancient Greece and Rome
Cross-listings: WGSS 241 COMP 241 CLAS 241

Secondary Cross-listing
From the household to the marketplace, from sacred spaces to the political arena, sexuality and gender shaped a broad range of attitudes and actions in the ancient Mediterranean world. This course investigates a variety of discourses and practices around sexuality and gender in ancient Greece and Rome with the aim of promoting students’ capacity to evaluate claims and dismantle false assumptions about the continuity of the “classical” past with contemporary norms and values. We will carefully analyze, contextualize, and compare a variety of texts, including selections from tragic and comic drama, epic and lyric poetry, handbooks, epitaphs, novels and biography in order to better understand how gender and sexuality were expressed, experienced, and regulated in Greece and Rome. Our emphasis will be on ancient texts, but selections from contemporary criticism and theory will enrich the methodological frameworks through which we approach the primary sources.

Requirements/Evaluation: five to six weekly tutorial papers, five to six responses, a midterm self-evaluation and conference with instructor, a mid-length final paper (approximately eight pages) consisting of a revision and expansion of a previously written paper
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 10
Enrollment Preferences: majors or intended majors in Classics, WGSS, and Comparative Literature
Expected Class Size: 10
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
WGSS 241 (D2) COMP 241 (D1) CLAS 241 (D1)
Not offered current academic year

WGSS 242 (S) Women, Gender, and Sexuality in Islam (DPE)
Cross-listings: REL 242 WGSS 242 ARAB 242

Secondary Cross-listing
The figure of the Muslim woman is an object of intense scrutiny in Western society. Claims that Muslim women are oppressed and the incompatibility of Islam and feminism abound. This course will consider women and gender roles in the Islamic tradition and how Muslim women have interpreted and negotiated these discourses. We will explore questions of masculinity, femininity, and sexuality across various historical periods as well as through contemporary Muslim feminist scholarship and literature (including film and novels). We will begin with insights into the politics of representing Muslim women, exploring how Muslim women are depicted in popular culture and media and ask the crucial question: do Muslim women need saving? We will then explore: how Muslim women have claimed religious authority through scriptural interpretation; how they have negotiated their position in Islamic law both historically and in contemporary Muslim societies; and the lives of pious women in Sufism—the mystical tradition of Islam. We will conclude with Muslim feminist scholarship and recent works on Islamic masculinities. Throughout the course, emphasis will be placed on the diversity of interpretations in Islam around women, gender, and sexuality and on Muslim women’s own articulations about their religious identity and experiences. Some of the topics covered in this course include: marriage and divorce, slavery, modesty and veiling, and homosexuality.
Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course explores the relationship between gender, authority, and civilizational discourse. To that end, the course will explore: 1) how assumptions about gender shaped the legal and Quranic exegetical tradition and Muslim feminist critiques. 2) The construction of the oppressed Muslim woman in justifying military invasion and nationalistic rhetoric. This course will introduce students to critical tools in decolonial feminism and the relationship between gender and power.

Spring 2021
SEM Section: R1 TR 9:45 am - 11:00 am Saadia Yacoob

WGSS 243 (F) Islamic Law: Past and Present

Cross-listings: ARAB 243 WGSS 243 REL 243 HIST 302

Secondary Cross-listing

From fear of the Shari'a to its implementation in so-called "Islamic countries," Islamic law is perhaps best associated with draconian punishments and the oppression of women. Islamic law is ever present in our public discourse today and yet little is known about it. This course is designed to give students a foundation in the substantive teachings of Islamic law. Islamic law stretches back over 1400 years and is grounded in the Quran, the life example of the Prophet Muhammad, and juridical discourse. Teetering between legal and ethical discourse, the Shari'a moves between what we normally consider law as well as ethics and etiquette. The course will explore four key aspects of the law: its historical development, its ethical and legal content, the law in practice, and the transformation of Islamic law through colonialism and into the contemporary. Specific areas we will cover include: ritual piety, family and personal status law, criminal law, and dietary rules.

Requirements/Evaluation: weekly responses, four 2- to 3-page essays

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: majors

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ARAB 243 (D2) WGSS 243 (D2) REL 243 (D2) HIST 302 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 244 (F) Actually Existing Alternative Economies (DPE)

Capitalism has a way of constricting our imaginations so that we come to believe the only possible form of economic institution is one based on profit seeking, competition and individualism. However, movements in countries including Brazil, France, Canada and Spain—and now parts of the U.S.—are demonstrating otherwise. Theorists, practitioners and social activists are adopting labels including 'Solidarity Economy' and 'New Economy' to group together economic activities based on ideals of human provisioning, social justice and environmental sustainability. They point out that many of these activities are already taking place and are often crucial to our lives, but are rendered invisible by economic theory. In the words of Brazilian popular educator and economist Marcos Arruda, 'a solidarity economy does not arise from thinkers or ideas; it is the outcome of the concrete historical struggle of the human being to live and to develop him/herself as an individual and a collective.’ Feminist geographers Julie Graham and Katherine Gibson developed practices of 'mapping' local economies with communities in Australia and Western Massachusetts in ways that bring to light the invisible
resources and practices of provisioning and solidarity, and challenge what they describe, drawing on the work of feminist theorist Sharon Marcus, as a "script" of local helplessness to resist the "rape" of their economies by the forces of global capitalism. Do these proposed discursive practices actually present realistic possibilities for producing sustained economic change? In this tutorial we will learn and debate about some of the activities being named and built under the label of solidarity economy, such as the networks of worker-owned cooperatives in Mondragon, Spain, the growth of local currencies and time exchanges, fair trade organizations and different ways of organizing care work. We will look at some of the history and debates around worker-owned cooperatives, ranging from Victorian England through African-American experiences throughout the 20th century and examples in post-Independence Africa, to the recent establishment of Cooperation Jackson in Jackson, Mississippi. The ILO has argued that co-ops are a particularly appropriate form to African development. Is this plausible, and what role might they play in AIDS-affected communities? Why has the recent U.S. growth of the solidarity economy been so concentrated in communities of color, and how is it gendered? We will visit some examples in New York or Boston.

Requirements/Evaluation: six papers of 5-7 pages, six written responses to partner's papers, participation in tutorial discussion

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: open to sophomores and above

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: The course fulfills the DPE requirement because of its central focus on the diversity of economic institutions within and across countries and the power imbalances that call them into being and challenge some of their survival. The course considers ways the hegemonic discourse of economics tends to render that diversity invisible, and tools, both analytical and activist, for bringing it out into view. It teaches tools to evaluate economic institutions in terms of equity and solidarity.

Fall 2020

TUT Section: RT1    TBA    Kiaran Honderich

WGSS 246  (S)  India's Identities: Nation, Community, & Individual  (DPE)  (WS)

Cross-listings: ASST 246  REL 246  ANTH 246  WGSS 246

Secondary Cross-listing

This tutorial considers India's legacy as a booming Asian democracy that is built upon deep and enduring divisions. Why is India's growing population so often described in terms of multiple identities or fragmenting oppositions—including religion, gender, caste, and class? What are the historic roots and recollections of key moments of structural violence in modern Indian history that produce ongoing social conflict as well as social fluidity? We pay particular attention to key historic moments such as Partition, and key communal riots in Gujarat, Hyderabad, and Delhi as well as regions of India such as Jammu & Kashmir in order to understand the struggle for individual subjectivity and identity within a landscape of stark social hierarchies. We will cover climate emergencies, resource scarcities, and ongoing struggles for power and status across very different parts of India. Our readings include ethnographic, sociological, historical analyses as well as fiction, oral history, and popular media sources that attempt to portray India's diverse and fragmented society.

Class Format: meetings weekly, weekly writing, and discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: weekly writing assignments and tutorial attendance every week

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: majors in Anthropology and Sociology, Religion, Asian Studies, or Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ASST 246 (D2) REL 246 (D2) ANTH 246 (D2) WGSS 246 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Weekly writing, writing chats, intensive feedback on writing grammar, style, argument every week.
**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course fulfills the Difference, Power, and Equity by theorizing the ways that social power and equity have been and continue to be a source of struggle and division within Indian society. It analyzes the ways that communities have used religion, gender, ethnicity, and caste to struggle for power and status within Indian society.

Not offered current academic year

**WGSS 248 (S) Carmen, 1845 to Now (DPE) (WS)**

**Cross-listings:** MUS 278  WGSS 248  

**Secondary Cross-listing**

The story of the gypsy *femme fatale* Carmen has endured for over 150 years. In Western culture and beyond, she exemplifies the seductive, exotic, independent, and dangerous woman who drives an upstanding man to a life of crime and finally murder. This course explores a broad array of treatments of this archetypal and problematic narrative, starting with Prosper Mérimée’s 1845 novella on which Bizet based his famous 1875 opera *Carmen*. We will consider various staged and film versions of the opera itself, including Francesco Rosi’s stunning 1984 movie, and discuss various other film transformations of the story, from DeMille’s 1915 silent film through Hammerstein’s 1954 all-black musical *Carmen Jones*, to the MTV version *A Hip Hopera* of 2004. Comic approaches will also be assessed, from Charlie Chaplin’s *Carmen Burlesque* of 1915 through Spike Jones’ 1952 *Carmen Murdered!* and *The Naked Carmen* of 1970. We will explore provocative dance interpretations ranging from Carlos Saura’s 1983 flamenco version through David Bourne’s choreography in his 2001 gay reading called *The Car Man*. Our journey concludes with a comparison of two post-colonial sub-Saharan African films—the Senegalese director Ramaka’s *Karmen Geï* (2001) and *U-Carmen eKhayelitsha* (2005) by the South African director Dornford-May—that push critical reaction to Bizet’s story and music beyond Western cultural boundaries.

**Class Format:** Remote format. After four initial 75-minute group meetings to discuss Mérimée’s novella and Bizet’s music, students will meet with the instructor in pairs for one hour each week. The scheduled class time is obligatory only for the first two weeks, after which weekly pair meetings will be individually scheduled.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** Each student will write a 5- to 6-page essay every other week (five in all), and provide 2-page written and oral peer reviews in alternate weeks; evaluation will be based on the quality of written work, discussions, and oral presentation.

**Prerequisites:** None; ability to read music useful but not necessary

**Enrollment Limit:** 10

**Enrollment Preferences:** Preference given to current or prospective Music and Women's Gender & Sexuality Studies majors, then seniors and juniors.

**Expected Class Size:** 8

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE) (WS)

**This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:**

MUS 278 (D1) WGSS 248 (D2)

**Writing Skills Notes:** Students will write five short essays of 5-6 pages each, and receive oral and written feedback addressing structure, argumentation, and style from their tutorial partner and the instructor on every essay.

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course satisfies the DPE requirement through a critical examination of the ways in which the Carmen story has served as a stage on which multifaceted textual and musical constructions and conflicts express the power dynamics between individual and group identities, encompassing gender and sexuality, nationality, race, ethnicity, and class.

Spring 2021

TUT Section: RT1  MW 11:45 am - 1:00 pm  M. Jennifer Bloxam

**WGSS 250 (S) Feminist Theatres: A Global Perspective (DPE) (WS)**

**Cross-listings:** ENGL 253  WGSS 250  THEA 250

**Secondary Cross-listing**

What makes a work of theatre feminist? How do plays, social practices, and performances engage with different models of feminism: liberal, radical, materialist, intersectional, reluctant? Why has feminism mattered to theatre makers of the past? Should it still matter to us now? If so, what forms might future feminist theatres and performance practices take? In this tutorial, students will work in pairs to examine the political relation of models of feminism to plays and performances by theatre artists, companies, and collaboratives from across the globe, from the late-twentieth century to today.
Interrogating feminism’s own legacies of exclusionary and biased tactics, we will focus on the racialized and class-based aspects of feminist performance practices and the history of radical and intersectional feminism in theatre. Artists, companies, and movements to be considered may include: Spiderwoman Theatre, The WOW Café, Hélène Cixous, Adrienne Kennedy, Caryl Churchill, Sphinx Theatre Company, Wendy Wasserstein, Ntozake Shange, Griselda Gambaro, Manjula Padmanabhan, Cherrie Moraga, Karen Finley, Suzan-Lori Parks, Young Jean Lee, Lisa Kron, Tori Sampson, Arethusa Speaks, Women’s Project and Productions, Sarah DeLappe, and others. Close reading and analysis of source material will occur alongside engagement with critical essays and writings by: Audre Lorde, Judith Butler, bell hooks, Gloria Anzaldúa, Kimberlé Crenshaw, Eve K. Sedgwick, Gayatri Spivak, Jill Dolan, Sue-Ellen Case, José E. Muñoz, and Donna Haraway. This course will follow a standard tutorial format, with students alternating the presentation and reading of a series of 5-page papers.

Class Format: For Spring 2021, the format for the course is to be determined. Ideally, we will meet weekly and in-person in groups of 3 (two students and professor). Should necessary social distancing measures be in place, we will conduct our tutorial meetings remotely in either Zoom or Google Meet.

Requirements/Evaluation: students will meet with instructor in pairs for an hour each week; they will write a 5-page paper every other week (five in all), and comment on their partner’s papers in alternate weeks; emphasis will be placed on developing skills in reading, interpretation, critical argumentation, and critical written and oral response

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Theatre majors; WGSS majors; ART majors; COMP majors. Students from all majors are welcome and invited to contact Prof. Holzapfel about their interest in the class: ash2@williams.edu

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
ENGL 253 (D1) WGSS 250 (D2) THEA 250 (D1)

Writing Skills Notes: As a tutorial, this course will require extensive practice in writing, editing, and revising. Emphasis be directed towards building and developing a compelling argument, providing thorough evidence for one’s interpretation, and fluidly integrating theory into one’s argumentation.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This tutorial examines intersections between gender, race, sexuality, class, and ethnicity in relation to theatre’s ongoing engagement with feminism. We will consider how articulations of difference, power, and equity arise and are, in fact, prioritized in quite different ways within the politics of feminism itself, leading to their variable expressions through art.

Spring 2021

TUT Section: HT1 TBA Amy S. Holzapfel

WGSS 255 (F) “Illness” in Modern and Contemporary Chinese Literature and Culture (DPE)

Cross-listings: CHIN 253 COMP 254 WGSS 255

Secondary Cross-listing

From early modern anxieties about China’s status as the “sick man of Asia” to contemporary concerns regarding the prospect of transnational pandemics, “illnesses” and their related stories have played a critical role in making and contesting individual psychologies and Chinese modernity in the 20th and 21st centuries. Actual illnesses, from tuberculosis to AIDS to the Novel Coronavirus, constitute not only social realities that trouble political and popular minds in their own right; but further provide powerful metaphors for exploring issues of human rights, national identity, and transnational circulation. This course examines how Chinese literature in the 20th and 21st centuries writes and visualizes “illness”—a universal human experience that is nevertheless heavily bounded by culture and history. Specifically, we examine the cultural and social meaning of “illness”; the relationship between illness on the one hand, and the politics of body, gender, and class on the other; we ask how infectious disease, and mental illness are defined, represented, and understood in both male and female writers’ analytical essays and fictional writings in the 20th century; we examine how metaphorical “illness” such as infectious cannibalism and fin-de-siècle “viruses,” are imagined and interpreted by key culture figures ranging from the founding father of modern literature (Lu Xun), to the winner of the 2012 Nobel Prize in Literature (Mo Yan). Throughout the course, we will focus on the interplay between literature canons (fictions, essays, and dramas) and popular media and genres: blockbuster cinemas and art house films, popular novels, photographs and posters, etc.

Class Format: All regular course meetings will be conducted ONLINE with mostly a synchronous mode of instruction. FIRST MEETING: for those who are on campus, we will have our FIRST meeting outdoors; those who remain remote can choose either “Zoom” in or attend a separate online FIRST
meeting. For full information, please contact the instructor.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** Evaluation will be based on 1) ACTIVE in-class discussion; 2) Pre-class quizzes based on reading and recorded lectures (Graded as Complete or Incomplete); 3) Post-class discussion in forms of paragraph writing and/or video clips (graded as Complete or Incomplete); 4) two short papers (3-5 pages); 5) the final project (including a presentation, and a paper or other form of project).

**Prerequisites:** None; no knowledge of Chinese language required, though students with Chinese language background are encouraged to work with Chinese sources if they wish; open to all

**Enrollment Limit:** 10

**Enrollment Preferences:** Chinese, Asian Studies, or Japanese majors; and then to first-year students

**Expected Class Size:** 10

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D1) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

CHIN 253 (D1) COMP 254 (D1) WGSS 255 (D1)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course provides students with the opportunity to analyze the shaping of social stigma as well as the dynamics of unequal power by means of closely reading "illness" in 20th and 21st century China. We will exam how "illness" is sometimes gendered and politicized; how "illness", in other times, empowers individuals and bonds underrepresented minorities. Illness, as a seemingly universal human experience, tells diverse stories of (in)difference, (dis)power, and (un)equity.

Fall 2020

LEC Section: R1    TF 3:15 pm - 4:30 pm    Man He

**WGSS 256 (F) Buddhism, Sex, & Gender: #MeToo Then and Now (DPE)**

**Cross-listings:** ANTH 256  WGSS 256  REL 256  ASST 256

**Secondary Cross-listing**

This course considers the feminist voices that have been part and parcel of Buddhist practices, texts, and institutions for most of its 2500-year history. We will conduct a historical genealogy of Buddhist voices that illustrate the fluid and disruptive role of sex, gender, caste, and class in relation to individual behavior and social relations. How did the Buddha's inner revolution produce a set of practices that both reject and reinforce existing binaries and social hierarchies of sex and gender, and with what effects? We will trace a feminist voice that decries harassment, assault, and systemic sexism within Buddhist communities from the first female disciples (Theri) of the Buddha to the current #MeToo era of embattled toxic masculinity. Along the way, we explore a literary canon that contains misogyny and 'she devils' alongside a rich tapestry of female divinities, transgender fluidity, and female liberation. We pursue and intersectional analysis of Buddhist traditions and texts by considering the multiple forms of social hierarchy--gender, sexuality, race, and class--that Buddhism has attempted to transcend. We begin by considering three women in the Buddha's life-his mother (Maya), his stepmother/aunt (Gotami), and his wife (Yashodhara)--as well as the tales of the first enlightened Buddhist women whose topics include prostitution, patriarchy, sexism, and pathetic husbands, as well as their own decaying bodies and beauty. Our next theme is the myriad ways that gender is both produced and deconstructed in Buddhist discourses on enlightenment and the human body. Our final theme considers a range of monastic memoirs, including a Buddhist black nun who left Harvard to take ordination in Thailand, and a Dutchman who studied Zen Japan. We close by examining the current debates in the U.S. and Asia that seek to combat systemic racism, sexism, and casteism in Buddhist traditions.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** class discussion, reading responses (3-4 pages), writing chat, final research paper (12 pages)

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 19

**Enrollment Preferences:** Anthropology, Religion, Asian Studies, Women's, Gender and Sexuality majors

**Expected Class Size:** 15

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 256 (D2) WGSS 256 (D2) REL 256 (D2) ASST 256 (D2)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** The course fulfills DPE because it seeks to theorize the role of difference (gender, sex, class, and race) and
intersectionality within Buddhist texts, practices, and institutions. It considers how Buddhist practices and institutions both deconstruct and reproduce social inequality.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 258 (F) Black Women in African American Literature and Culture

Cross-listings: AMST 248 ENGL 248 WGSS 258

Secondary Cross-listing

This course surveys constructions of black womanhood from the nineteenth century to the present through readings of texts by and about black women. In this course, students will trace how black womanhood became central to uplift ideology and the making and sustaining of black communities in the post-Reconstruction, Harlem Renaissance, and Black Power eras. We will read works across a broad historical spectrum to identify the ways different writers wrestle with race and gender using literary tropes, such as the "tragic mulatto," in different social contexts. We will also engage a range of forms, including an essay (Patricia Hill Collins's "Mammies, Matriarchs, and Other Controlling Images"), a choreopoem (Ntozake Shange's *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide when the Rainbow is Enuf*), and socio-political propaganda (the "Black is Beautiful" movement). This course will end with a consideration of the way writer and producer Issa Rae engages with contemporary ideologies of black womanhood in the HBO series *Insecure*.

Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, four short papers totaling about 20 pages; final project on the hashtag #blackgirlmagic

Prerequisites: a 100-level ENGL course, or a score of 5 on the AP English Literature exam, or a score of 6 or 7 on the Higher Level IB English exam

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: first- and second-year students, and English majors who have yet to take a Gateway course

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

AMST 248 (D2) ENGL 248 (D1) WGSS 258 (D1)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 259 (S) Adultery in the Nineteenth-Century Novel (WS)

Cross-listings: COMP 259 WGSS 259 ENGL 261

Secondary Cross-listing

In this tutorial, we will read four novels written between 1850 and 1900, all of which focus on the figure of the adulteress: Gustave Flaubert's *Madame Bovary* (1856), Lev Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina* (1873-77), Leopoldo Alas y Ureña's *La Regenta* (1884-85), and Theodor Fontane's *Effi Briest* (1894). For each week of class, students will read one of these primary texts, as well as a selection of secondary literature that will allow us to understand, over the course of the semester, how and why the adulteress played a key role in the cultural imagination of Europe during this time. *All works will be read in English translation.*

Class Format: This course will be taught remotely as a tutorial; students will meet with the professor in pairs, with one student from each pair writing a 5-page paper for each class session

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation will be based on completion of weekly reading and writing assignments, as well as active engagement during tutorial sessions

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: students who have already taken at least one course devoted to literature at Williams

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

COMP 259 (D1) WGSS 259 (D2) ENGL 261 (D1)
Writing Skills Notes: This course requires that students write a total of five 5-page essays in the course of the semester, and the professor pays attention to developing each student's writing skills. Students will work on crafting an argumentative essay about literature, as well as on their own writing style.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 260 (F) Power, Feminist-Style (DPE) (WS)
Cross-listings: WGSS 260 PSCI 260
Primary Cross-listing
This course examines one of the most important concepts in the analysis of sex and gender and efforts to envision sexual and gender justice—the concept of power—from multiple feminist perspectives. At the core of feminism lies the critique of inequitable power relations. Some feminists claim that power itself is the root of all evil and that a feminist world is one without power. Others portray the feminist agenda as one of taking power, or of reconstructing society by exercising a specifically feminist mode of power. In this course, we will look at feminist critiques of power, how feminists have employed notions of power developed outside of the arena of feminist thought, and efforts to develop specifically feminist ideas of power. Along the way, we will ask: Are some concepts of power more useful to feminism? Can certain forms of power be considered more feminist than others? How can feminist power be realized? Thinkers we will engage include Judith Butler, Audre Lorde, Catherine MacKinnon, Hannah Arendt, and Patricia Hill Collins.

Requirements/Evaluation: eight short writing assignments (ranging from 250 words to 750 words), drafting and revision of a 10 pg final essay
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 19
Enrollment Preferences: Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors
Expected Class Size: 19
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
WGSS 260 (D2) PSCI 260 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: This course aims to carefully unpack the writing process by focusing on particular elements of writing (summary, critical analysis) while also introducing students to tools they can use to improve their writing (freewriting). Short writing assignments like the proposal, outline, and abstract build on one another and culminate in a final essay that goes through the process of drafting and, after peer and teacher review, revision.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course requires students to focus on what power does and should look like from the perspective of difference, exploring the relationship between power and equity in the process. Students will reflect on and discuss the working of power in their own lives, why certain forms of power are more or less visible to particular groups, and how different ideas about power promote different interests in society at large.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 262 (F) Indigenous Feminisms (DPE)
Cross-listings: AMST 260 WGSS 262
Secondary Cross-listing
Indigenous women, Two Spirit and trans people have always stood on the frontlines of decolonization struggles in the Americas, from treaty negotiations to self defense against settler invasion, to the Standing Rock Sioux struggle against the Dakota Access Pipeline, to creating independent databases and mutual support networks amongst the loved ones of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Trans and Two Spirit people. This course maps out some of the intellectual and political interventions of Indigenous feminists in analyzing and struggling against genocide, heteropatriarchy, conquest and racial capitalism in settler states like the US and Canada. This course will focus on how Indigenous women, Two Spirit and trans people have analyzed and struggled against the imposition of colonial constructs of gender and sexuality that mark Indigenous lives and lands as sites of extraction. It will examine how carceral regimes of control produced by the intertwined histories of conquest and Transatlantic slavery have been imposed upon Indigenous lives through the child protection system and the prison industrial complex. Students will be invited to consider how Indigenous feminist practices ‘make a future’ (Brant 1981) against and beyond the settler state. This course aims to familiarize students with historical and contemporary Indigenous feminist works, as well as provide an overview of Indigenous feminist political formations, poetry, fiction, and
making practices. Pedagogically, this course will also facilitate the development and sharpening of skills in social analysis, writing and argumentation.

**Class Format:** Hybrid online/in-person

**Requirements/Evaluation:** Three one-page reading responses, 30%; one two-page critical peer response 10%; one final paper, 50%; course participation and attendance 10%

**Prerequisites:** None

**Enrollment Limit:** 19

**Enrollment Preferences:** American Studies majors or potential majors have first preference, WGSS majors have next priority.

**Expected Class Size:** 19

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

AMST 260 (D2) WGSS 262 (D2)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course has as its core mission -- both in subject matter and in pedagogical approaches -- the exploration of difference, power and equity.

Fall 2020

SEM Section: H1  TF 3:15 pm - 4:30 pm  Margaux L Kristjansson

WGSS 263  (S)  Transnational Activism: Practice, Problems, Ethics  (DPE)

**Cross-listings:** SOC 264  WGSS 263

**Primary Cross-listing**

The world's got problems. These problems don't respect national boundaries. This class looks at how activists have engaged across borders and with transnational institutions in order to address transnational problems like class inequality, sexism, homophobia, climate change, and more. It asks: what are the different forms that transnational activism takes and how have transnational activists advanced their goals? Why and how have transnational activists' efforts failed? What are the practical and ethical difficulties associated with transnational activism? What does ethical transnational activism look like, and can it also be effective? While focusing especially on the role of transnational activism in combating sex and gender-based inequities, we will also engage with activism that targets the other axes of oppression with which sex and gender-based oppressions are inextricably entwined.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** class attendance/participation; critical profile of transnational activist; essay or project proposal, final essay or project

**Prerequisites:** None

**Enrollment Limit:** None

**Enrollment Preferences:** Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors and Sociology majors

**Expected Class Size:** 15

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

SOC 264 (D2) WGSS 263 (D2)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course centers activism organized around various axes of difference, enabling students to learn about how various groups are defining and pursuing equity. It requires students to explicitly engage the question of ethical intervention in political movements, stressing attentiveness to the dynamics of privilege and marginalization internal to movements.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 264  (F)  Bodies, Genders, and Sexualities in the Early Christian World  (DPE)

**Cross-listings:** REL 264  WGSS 264

**Secondary Cross-listing**
What does it mean to be a woman or a man? To have body? A gender? A sexuality? In this course we will explore the ways in which bodies, genders, and sexualities were experienced and described in Mediterranean antiquity. Ancient experiences of and ideas about bodies, genders, and sexualities were often very different than those of the contemporary world. Nevertheless, because Greek and Roman antiquity and Christian beginnings often function as the imagined origins of "Western" (or European and American) "civilization," these ancient ideas about bodies, genders, and sexuality, maintain an out-sized presence in current debates about the "normal" body, gender practices, and the contour of sexuality. With a focus on early Christianity, the course seeks, on the one hand, to introduce students to the early history of Christianity through an inspection of its pluriform discourses on the meaning and regulation of bodies, genders, and sexuality, even as it keeps an eye toward the modern legacy of these ideas. On the other hand, the course gives students the opportunity to be introduced to key questions and theories in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies through the study of early Christianity and its environs.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** weekly response papers, 5- to 6-page paper, 8- to 10-page paper

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 19

**Enrollment Preferences:** majors, student seniority by class

**Expected Class Size:** 19

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

**This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:**

REL 264 (D2) WGSS 264 (D2)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** The course’s focus on the production and use of difference in terms of bodies, genders, and sexualities, and how those putative differences were used to authorize the social distribution of power, qualify this course as meeting the DPE distribution requirement.

Not offered current academic year

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**WGSS 267 (S) Performance Studies: An Introduction (DPE)**

**Cross-listings:** DANC 267 WGSS 267 COMP 267 THEA 267

**Secondary Cross-listing**

Since the 1980s, performance studies has emerged as an interdisciplinary field of inquiry, with origin tales in theater and anthropology, in communications and philosophy. What might theorizing "performance" as mode, analytic, and object of study have to offer scholarship in the interdisciplinary humanities? In this seminar, we will read texts formative of performance studies, paired with multimedia performance examples, where performance speaks to staged theatrics as well as the presentation of everyday life. We will ask, how are race, gender, sexuality, and nation produced as the effects of legal, political, historical, social, and cultural scripts? And--an important partner question--how do discourses and practices of race, gender, sexuality, and nation in fact produce legal, political, historical, social, and cultural effects? This seminar is an introduction to performance studies, an interdisciplinary field in conversation with theater studies, gender studies, anthropology, philosophy, literary theory, visual studies, dance studies, ethnic studies, queer theory, and postcolonial studies. Students will study and experiment with performance while reading theoretical texts to grapple with concepts including ritual, restored behavior, performativity, mimicry, liveness, the body, objecthood, archive, movement, matter, and affect.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** reflection papers, performance analysis, final paper or performance

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Enrollment Preferences:** Comparative Literature majors

**Expected Class Size:** 15

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D1) (DPE)

**This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:**

DANC 267 (D1) WGSS 267 (D1) COMP 267 (D1) THEA 267 (D1)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course tracks performance studies’ engagement with feminist, queer, post-colonial, and critical ethnic studies scholarship, equipping students with tools and concepts with which to analyze power, difference, and equity.

Not offered current academic year
Cross-listings: ENGL 254  WGSS 274

Secondary Cross-listing

This course explores the work of the internationally renowned author Jamaica Kincaid. We will wrestle with her commentary on concepts and conditions such as death; the afterlife of slavery and colonialism; family relations; love, romance, their absence and their entanglement with hatred; and illness. We will pay particular attention to character and author navigation of negative affects and the blurred boundaries between fiction and autobiography. Course texts include *Annie John* (1985), *Lucy* (1990), *The Autobiography of My Mother* (1996), *My Brother* (1997), *Mr. Potter* (2002), and *See Now Then* (2013). They will be examined through the lenses of race, gender, sexuality, class and citizenship and aided by supplemental readings. This course will explore the power that structures and determines or constrains labor and citizenship status; abortion, reproduction and mothering; memory, literacy and archival production; and more.

Class Format: meeting as a full group two to three times; meeting in tutorial pairs for most of the semester

Requirements/Evaluation: five 4- to 5-page essays and five 2-page critical responses, completed in tutorial pairs, keyword assignment, final roundtable

Prerequisites: a 100-level ENGL course, or a score of 5 on the AP English Literature exam, or a score of 6 or 7 on the Higher Level IB English exam

Enrollment Limit: 10

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1)  (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ENGL 254 (D1)  WGSS 274 (D1)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Students will center afro-caribbean women's subject formation on the terrain of the literary imagination and develop interpretive and analytical skills to examine the affective dimensions of the racialization and gendering of power, of intimacy, and of national belonging.

Not offered current academic year

Cross-listings: RLSP 274  COMP 286  WGSS 275

Secondary Cross-listing

In Latin America, women have been largely displaced as historical subjects and reduced, in many ways, to symbolic figures or icons whose trajectories have been depicted as essential to the construction of diverse social projects within the context of patriarchal nation-states. Each country has formed a specific idea of what a woman is, and can be, through its cultural production, and this constant erasure/objectification has led to a complex problematic when it comes to addressing women as cultural producers. Keeping this in mind, in this course we will explore the concept of "Woman" as a representation and women as cultural producers in contemporary Latin America. We will address intersections of race/ethnic positioning, sexual identity, and social class to explore their role in the reception and understanding of the work of these female artists. Through the analysis of varied cultural production, the syllabus will present an interdisciplinary approach to the contributions of female artists to the cultural representation of race/ethnicity, masculinity, femininity, violence, sexuality, gender identity, nationalism, citizenship, and social movements. We will explore the work of artists such as Sara Castrejón, Nahui Ollin, Citlali Fabián, Amparo Dávila, Alejandra Pizarnik, Rosario Castellanos, Reina Roffé, Ana Tijoux, Lucrecia Martel, Chavela Vargas, Graciela Ituribide, Celia Cruz, Lucia Puenzo, Cecilia Barriga, Cristina Rivera Garza, María Novaro, Cristina Peri Rossi, Maruch Sántiz Gómez, Leonora Carrington, and Maris Bustamante, among others. In addition, we will read theoretical texts on diverse subjects corresponding to each specific cultural product.

Requirements/Evaluation: essays (7-8 pages), weekly written reports, oral presentation, active and engaged class participation

Prerequisites: RLSP 105, placement exam results, permission of instructor or Department Chair

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Spanish majors and certificate students, current and potential; LATS concentrators

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
**Distributions:** (D1) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

- RLSP 274 (D1)
- COMP 286 (D1)
- WGSS 275 (D1)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** We will address issues of racial/ethnic positioning, sexuality, gender identity, and social class in light of diverse human experiences in contemporary cultural production in Latin America.

**Not offered current academic year**

**WGSS 283 (F) Black Queer Looks: Race, Gender and Sexuality in Contemporary African-American Film**

**Cross-listings:** WGSS 283, AMST 283, ENGL 286, AFR 283

**Primary Cross-listing**

In this course we will foreground questions around visibility and memory. We will explore representations of Black queer bodies in experimental, documentary and narrative film. This course will engage foundational texts from Black Queer Studies. We will pair texts with film in order to examine the various relationships between art and scholarship. You will also be asked to think about yourself as a filmmaker. We will screen films such as Looking for Langston (Isaac Julien, 1989), The Watermelon Woman (Cheryl Dunye, 1996), U People (Olive Demetrius and Hanifah Walidah, 2009), Tongues Untied (Marlon Riggs, 1989) and Litany for Survival (Ada Gay Griffin and Michelle Parkerson, 1995). Throughout the course we will evaluate the different ways filmmakers represent Black queerness on screen. The goal is to think about the possibilities and limitations of representation and visibility. Each of you will be asked to facilitate a class discussion. You also will be required to do weekly critical response papers. In lieu of a final paper you will create a detailed proposal for a short film that "represents" some segment of Black queer living.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** facilitate class discussion; weekly critical response papers; in lieu of a final paper you will create a detailed proposal for a short film

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Enrollment Preferences:** Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors, then Africana Studies concentrators

**Expected Class Size:** 20

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

- WGSS 283 (D2)
- AMST 283 (D2)
- ENGL 286 (D2)
- AFR 283 (D2)

**Not offered current academic year**

**WGSS 284 (S) From the Battlefield to the Hermit's Cell: Art and Experience in Norman Europe**

**Cross-listings:** REL 284, WGSS 284, ARTH 218

**Secondary Cross-listing**

This tutorial provides students with the chance to investigate in-depth three of the most astonishing works of art created during the entire Middle Ages: the Bayeux Tapestry (c.1077-1082), the Cappella Palatina (c.1130s-1166), and the Psalter of Christina of Markyate (1120s-1160s). Created within a hundred years of each other all within territories controlled by the Normans—a warrior dynasty that settled in northern France in the 10th century and then expanded north into England and south into Italy in the 11th and 12th centuries—each of these works is unprecedentedly ambitious in scale, dazzling in its material properties, and survives in its original wholeness, a rarity in the medieval world. Despite these similarities, however, each work is very different from the other two and so sheds light on very different aspects of Norman experience, across Europe. The Bayeux Tapestry, likely made by female embroiderers for a baronial hall, is a giant textile (over 70 meters long) that in gruesome and fascinating detail tells the story of the Norman invasion of England by William the Conqueror in 1066. The Cappella Palatina in Palermo, in turn, commissioned by King Roger II, is a royal chapel covered in sumptuous mosaics that reveals through its decoration and ritual the dynamic interaction of Islamic, Byzantine, and Latin Christian traditions in the multicultural Norman kingdom of Sicily in the 12th century. And the Psalter of Christina of Markyate, a large prayerbook made for the use of a female recluse in southern England, contains 40 full-page paintings and 215 decorated initials, a vast and inventive program of imagery that through its creative profundity helped reshape private devotional art and culture for centuries to come. Through their variety, then, these three objects—an embroidery, a building, and a book—give students insight into the rich array of concerns and aspirations, from the political to the spiritual and from the public to the private, that gave substance and meaning to 11th- and 12th-century European life, for women as well as men. What is more, these three remarkable works of art have been the focus of much interesting scholarship in recent years, so an exploration of some of that literature
provides a compelling introduction to the discipline of art history itself, past and present.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** Participation in discussion; five 5-7-page tutorial papers; five 1-2-page response papers.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Enrollment Limit:** 10

**Enrollment Preferences:** First years and sophomores, but open to all.

**Expected Class Size:** 10

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (WS)

**This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:**

REL 284 (D2) WGSS 284 (D2) ARTH 218 (D1)

**Writing Skills Notes:** In this tutorial, students will develop skills of critical reading and focus on how to craft clear and persuasive arguments of their own. To help them achieve these goals, they will receive timely comments on their written work, especially the five 5-7-page papers they will submit, with suggestions for improvement.

Spring 2021

TUT Section: RT1    TBA    Peter D. Low

**WGSS 300  (F)  Advanced Ballet--Technique, Repertoire, & Revolution: Women at the Barre, on Stage, at the Helm**

**Cross-listings:** DANC 300  WGSS 300

**Secondary Cross-listing**

To loosely paraphrase the feminist Emma Goldman, "If I can't dance, I don't want to be part of your revolution." Designed for intermediate/advanced ballet dancers, in this course students will explore different topics in past and current ballet history through the lens of famous ballets, dancers, choreographers, etc. In Fall 2019, we will focus on some of the notable female figures in the world of ballet: while ballet is often perceived as a primarily "female" art form-and indeed, there are many more females vying for positions in ballet companies than males-historically, women have held far fewer leadership positions than men, and have had fewer choreographic opportunities. In addition to technique classes, variations and/or ensemble sections from selected ballets will be taught and coached to students. This is primarily a studio course, although readings relevant to our coursework will be assigned. These assignments will offer historical context, as well as provide rigorous looks at some of the ways in which ballet hasn't always lived up to its potential as a dance form for all people regardless of class, race, and gender. We'll consider basic information-the plotlines of the ballets-as well as more subtle ideas-famous dancers' takes on these roles, the socio-political aspects of the works themselves and the times they were created in. Viewings will also be assigned to allow students to fully explore and grasp the ballets and to provide additional contextualization. Students will submit (informal) written responses to the assignments. The class may go on one or two field trips to attend performances and will write response papers when applicable. This course MAY BE REPEATED for general academic credit (but not for additional WGGS major credit). ANY student with adequate prior training is welcome to this class! Material will be introduced at an intermediate/advanced level, and individuals will be assessed on their own personal progress.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** quality of participation and progress (throughout the semester) in classes, rehearsals, presentations, and assignment responses

**Prerequisites:** a minimum of three years prior training in ballet, and a demonstrated ability to safely keep up with this level of instruction; permission of instructor required

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Enrollment Preferences:** students with demonstrated ability and desire to continue rigorous study

**Expected Class Size:** 5

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Materials/Lab Fee:** ballet class attire: leotard, tights/leggings, ballet slippers; and for those on pointe, pointe shoes

**Distributions:** (D1)

**This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:**

DANC 300 (D1) WGSS 300 (D1)

Not offered current academic year
WGSS 301 (S)  Sexual Economies (DPE)

Cross-listings: ANTH 301  WGSS 301  AMST 334

Primary Cross-listing

This course examines various forms of sexual labor around the world in order to better understand how gendered and sexual performances are used in a variety of cultures and contexts for material benefit. Our topics include "traditional" forms of sex work such as street prostitution, pornography, and escorting as well as other forms of sexualized performances for benefit such as stripping or camming. We also discuss current issues and debates about discourses of "sex trafficking." Course readings come from a range of fields, but focus most heavily on anthropology, sociology, American studies, and gender studies. The readings for this class will frequently foreground the lived experiences of sex workers from a variety of nations, races, classes, religions, and backgrounds in order to explore the broader social implications of our subject matter. The format is largely discussion-based, with short lectures supplementing the reading with summaries of current scholarly and activist debates. We have a variety of guest speakers to share their diverse lived experiences related to this topic.

Requirements/Evaluation: midterm essay exam, short quizzes, participation, Marco Polo video chat posts

Prerequisites: none, though WGSS 101 and/or 202 may be helpful, but not required

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: based on statement of interest

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)  (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 301 (D2) WGSS 301 (D2) AMST 334 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: We pay particular attention to the intersecting questions of race, sexuality, gender, and class as we explore the political economy of commercial sex. The course teaches students to examine the underlying political and economic structures that create systems of privilege and power, thereby complicating questions and assumptions about sexual consent, coercion, agency, and empowerment with particular attention to race and gender in comparative transnational contexts.

Spring 2021

SEM Section: R1    MW 8:30 pm - 9:45 pm    Gregory C. Mitchell

WGSS 302 (F)  Social Construction (DPE)

Cross-listings: COMP 315  WGSS 302  REL 301  SOC 301  STS 301  SCST 301

Secondary Cross-listing

"Social construction" can often seem like the great collegial insight. By now, you've all heard that categories such as race, gender, and sexuality are in some sense not part of nature, but instead are created and maintained socially or culturally. The idea of social construction has been vital to critical race theory and queer theory, and, in this course, we will push ourselves into philosophy of science to see whether or not these same insights apply to everything. If we know that "Whiteness," "heterosexuality," and "masculinity," for instance, are all socially constructed, will we ask if the same is true of "electrons," "money," "the solar system," and "climate change." Can it be that all of our reality is socially constructed? Or does social construction have limits? If so, what are they? We will also ask more fundamental questions, such as: What does it mean to say something is socially constructed? How does social construction relate to claims that an aspect of the world is "real" or "not real?" Is social construction a theory about language, power, culture, societies, human perceptions, or the limits of science? What kind of political, ethical, ontological, or epistemological work do theories of social construction do? We will begin with different accounts of the social construction of race, gender, and sexuality. In the second part of the course, we will dig deeper into philosophical debates about social construction as such. Then we will explore constructionism about natural science. In the last part of the course, we will change gears and explore look at cutting-edge work in the theory of social science aimed at explaining the construction and ontology of social worlds. The class will culminate in a project in which students will put their social construction theories into practice.

Requirements/Evaluation: regular attendance and participation, short weekly reflection papers, a 10-page research paper, and final project

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15
Enrollment Preferences: Religion majors, then majors from cross-listed departments

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

COMP 315 (D2) WGSS 302 (D2) REL 301 (D2) SOC 301 (D2) STS 301 (D2) SCST 301 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Central to REL 301 will be an analysis of the social construction of race, gender, and sexuality. It will show how power and difference are tied up in their construction and maintenance of these categories. Students will be taught how to critically analyze race, gender, and sexuality as well as social construction as such. Students will also learn sophisticated tools for studying systems of social power and difference.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 303 (F) Humans and Bodies: Theories of Embodiment

Cross-listings: WGSS 303 REL 313

Secondary Cross-listing

What is the body? Does the body precede culture, or is the body a product of society? How does the self relate to the body? How are sexual, racial, and gendered identities formed in and through the body? And how does the self sense its "own" body, or how does the body sense and make the self?

In this course, we'll query and theorize embodiment through examining classical approaches (e.g., Freud, Lacan, Merleau-Ponty) as well as more recent queer (e.g., Butler), trans (e.g., Salamon), and posthuman (Haraway) theories of embodiment.

Class Format: Remote synchronous learning

Requirements/Evaluation: Students will be required to take notes on course readings, write 1-2 page weekly response papers, and submit a final paper at the end of the course.

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Religion Majors, WGSS Majors

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 303 (D2) REL 313 (D2)

Fall 2020

SEM Section: R1 MW 6:45 pm - 8:00 pm Phillip J. Webster

WGSS 304 (S) Rebels and Conformists: Postwar Germany from The 'Economic Miracle' to the Fall of the Wall

Cross-listings: GERM 304 WGSS 304

Secondary Cross-listing

In postwar West Germany, a thorough examination of the Nazi past took a backseat to economic recovery and repairing the country's international standing, whereas to some extent the reverse was true for the East. An authoritarian democracy, an emphasis on consumerism and the qualitatively different experiences of younger generations led them to question whether the Federal Republic was a restoration or a new beginning? In the East, the cold war led to an increasingly Stalinist interpretation of communist principles, while communist ideals were upheld as an antidote to Nazism and the new materialism. This tutorial will cover a wide range of social protest as reflected in literature and film of the two Germanies: critical responses to the Holocaust in the two countries, the 1968 student revolution, anti-capitalist terrorism by the Baader-Meinhof gang, the feminist and gay rights movements, reformers and repression under Ulbricht and Honecker in the GDR, minority rights and environmental activists. Authors will include: Peter Weiss, Die Ermittlung, Heinrich Böll, Und sagte kein einziges Wort, Gisela Elsner, Riesenzwerge, Emine Sevgi Özdamar, Das Leben ist eine Karawanserei, Volker Braun, Unvollendete Geschichte, Alice Schwarzer, Der kleine Unterschied und seine großen Folgen, Christian Kracht, Faserland, Thomas Brussig, Wasserfarben. Films may include: Gerhard Klein, "Berlin-Ecke Schönhauser," Ulrich Plenzdorf, "Die Legende von Paul und Paula,"
Class Format: remote

Requirements/Evaluation: alternating 4-page tutorial papers in German, and 2-page critiques

Prerequisites: GERM 202 or permission of the instructor

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: German majors

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Materials/Lab Fee: $80 books

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

GERM 304 (D1) WGSS 304 (D2)

Spring 2021
TUT Section: RT1    TBA     Helga Druxes

WGSS 305  The Gay Menagerie: Gay Male Subcultures  (DPE)

Bears. Cubs. Otters. Pups. Twinks. Radical Fairies. Leathermen. Mollies. Drag queens. Dandies. Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. Gay men, including gay trans men, have organized themselves into various subcultures within their community for centuries. This seminar is devoted to exploring these subcultures in (a mostly US-context) in greater detail using ethnographic texts, anthropological studies, historical accounts (including oral histories), and media. Topics include cruising and flagging, the anthropological significance of gay bars, histories of bath house culture, rural vs urban queer experiences, the ball scene, drag, diva worship, the reclamation of "fabulousness and faggotry," the leadership roles of trans women and effeminate gay men in activist movements, gay gentrification, the growth of gay consumerism/ gay tourism/homonationalism, hierarchies of masculinity in the gay community (i.e., masc for masc culture), HIV/AIDS and the politics of PrEP, chemsex, the role of racialized dating "preferences," genealogies of BDSM and leather culture, sexual health and discourses of "risk," the politics of barebacking and other sexual practices, queering consent, and the effects of hookup apps on gay culture. In addition to lectures, and discussions, there will also be some low-key performance-studies based exercises in queer praxis (e.g., drag workshops, mock debates, animal improvisation, role playing, etc.)

Class Format: There will be some minor performance elements such as workshops during class.

Requirements/Evaluation: Quizzes, journaling assignment, short diva report, 10 page research paper on a gay subcultural group

Prerequisites: None; WGSS 202 (Foundations in Sexuality Studies) will be helpful but is not required

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: WGSS majors; in the event of over-enrollment there statements of interest will be solicited

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading:

Distributions: (D2)  (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course examines the how marginalized communities respond to their oppression through creative forms. It takes as central to its curriculum the role of sexual diversity and the relationship of the gay community to power through the central idiom of "difference."

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 308  (F) Thinking Diaspora: The Black Atlantic and Beyond

Cross-listings: WGSS 308  COMP 300  AMST 308  ENGL 309

Secondary Cross-listing

Water imagery has been central to black diasporic culture since its beginnings in the Middle Passage---suggesting imprisonment, isolation, escape, ancestral communion, and death, for example. This course wrestles with the significance of water in diasporic literature--how it endures, how it has
diminished, how it slips away from us. Black diaspora theory was revolutionized by Paul Gilroy's *The Black Atlantic*, which urged us to consider more deeply the role of the ship, the routes, and the roots entailed in the formation of diasporic consciousness. This course aims to expand students' theoretical skills as we discuss cornerstone and cutting edge texts of diaspora theory, with an emphasis on theories that work with the relationship to water, such as those by Jacqueline Nassy Brown, Omise'ke Tinsley, and Vanessa Agard-Jones. Primary texts will include *The Big Sea* by Langston Hughes, *Sugar and Slate* by Charlotte Williams, Barry Jenkins' *Moonlight*, and more.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** weekly reading responses, presentations, one 10-page paper, engaged feedback process, and thoughtful class participation

**Prerequisites:** a 100-level ENGL course, or a score of 5 on the AP English Literature exam, or a score of 6 or 7 on the Higher Level IB English exam

**Enrollment Limit:** 25

**Expected Class Size:** 20

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 308 (D2) COMP 300 (D1) AMST 308 (D2) ENGL 309 (D1)

Not offered current academic year

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**WGSS 309 (S) Feminist Disability Studies: Bodyminds in Place and Space** (DPE)

**Cross-listings:** WGSS 309 AMST 303

**Primary Cross-listing**

In this course we will engage anti-racist feminist theory, disability (or ‘crip’) theory, and human geography to think critically about disability. We will draw on critical geographies of disability to understand the built environment and institutional design; geographic scales of the body and the bodymind; spaces of the home and institutions; and im/mobility and spatial access. We will also consider how disability is shaped by (and shapes) practices of care and mutual aid; experiences of embodiment and impairment; and structures of vulnerability and agency. The course will trace, historically, how ableism has been produced through slavery, colonization, surveillance, and incarceration as well as through movements like eugenics and white liberal feminism. The course will also analyze disability's construction through medicalized notions of wellness, illness, pathology, and cure. Throughout the course, we will consider disability as intersecting with gender, race and ethnicity, queerness, trans*ness, fatness, class, nationality, and citizenship. Most centrally, we will ask: What is the spatiality of dis/ability, and how can space be occupied and reappropriated for radically inclusive uses? How can we understand both normality and deviance as socially constructed concepts that nonetheless have real, and uneven, implications for people's lives?

**Class Format:** This class will be taught online only.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** Student participation; two short (2-pg) reflection papers; two longer (4-5-pg) papers; and a final (12-15 pg) research paper

**Prerequisites:** None

**Enrollment Limit:** 15

**Enrollment Preferences:** WGSS and AMST majors; permission of instructor

**Expected Class Size:** 15

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 309 (D2) AMST 303 (D2)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course satisfies the DPE requirement because it examines the political, social, and ideological constructions and theorizations of difference, power, and equity. The course explores the ways in which disability is mutually constructed with other axes of identity and difference, and how different groups of people have defined (and redefined) disability to meet various political aims.

Spring 2021

SEM Section: R1 MW 10:00 am - 11:15 am Emily Mitchell-Eaton
WGSS 310  (F)  Womanist/Black Feminist Thought

Cross-listings:  WGSS 310  AFR 310  AMST 309  REL 310

Secondary Cross-listing

This course explores the genealogy and development of black feminist and womanist thought. We will investigate the expansion of womanist thought from a theologically dominated discourse to a broader category of critical reflection associated more commonly with black feminism, analyze the relationship between womanism and black feminism, and review the historical interventions of black feminism. As critical reflections upon western norms of patriarchy, heterosexism, and racism, womanism and black feminism begin with the assumption that the experiences of women of color—particularly black women—are significant standpoints in modern western society. Through the examination of interdisciplinary and methodological diversity within these fields, students will be introduced to key figures including Alice Walker, Zora Neale Hurston, and Katie Cannon, and will engage materials that draw from multiple fields, including, but not limited to, literature, history, anthropology, and religious studies.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation:  class participation, three short response papers, and the completion of an original research paper or project

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Africana Studies concentrators, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors, Religion majors

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 310 (D2) AFR 310 (D2) AMST 309 (D2) REL 310 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 311  (S)  Theorizing Shakespeare

Cross-listings:  COMP 310  WGSS 311  THEA 311  ENGL 311

Secondary Cross-listing

For complex reasons, Shakespeare has always revealed as much about those who speculate on him as the speculators have revealed about him. In this course, we will engage a few plays in considerable depth: The Merchant of Venice, Hamlet and Antony and Cleopatra. But we will also use these works as a means to engage some of the most compelling trends in recent critical thought, including cultural theory and post-Marxist analysis, political theology, deconstruction and rhetorical theory, psychoanalytic thought and theories of gender and sexuality. In some instances, we will look at applied criticism, in others we will simply place a theoretical work alongside a play and see what they have to say to each other, for instance, what would a Shakespearean reading of Jacques Lacan look like?

Requirements/Evaluation:  20 pages of writing in the form of two short and one longer paper

Prerequisites:  a 100-level ENGL course, or a score of 5 on the AP English Literature exam, or a score of 6 or 7 on the Higher Level IB English exam

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences:  English majors

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading:  yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

COMP 310 (D1) WGSS 311 (D2) THEA 311 (D1) ENGL 311 (D1)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 312  (S)  An American Family and "Reality" Television  (WS)

Cross-listings:  ARTH 310  WGSS 312  AMST 333

Secondary Cross-listing

An American Family was a popular documentary series that featured the Loud family from Santa Barbara, California, whose everyday lives were
broadcast on national television. The series generated an enormous amount of media attention, commentary, and controversy when it premiered on PBS in 1973. Today, it is regarded as the origin of so-called "Reality TV." In addition to challenging standard rules for television programming, the show challenged social conventions and asked viewers to think seriously about family relations, sexuality, domesticity, and the "American dream." Documenting the family's life over the course of eight months, the series chronicled the dissolution of the Louds' marriage and broadcast the "coming out" of eldest son Lance Loud, the first star of reality television. In this class, we will view the An American Family series in its entirety, research the program's historical reception, and analyze its influence on broadcast and film media, particularly on "reality" television. A final 14- to 18-page research paper will be prepared in stages, including a 6- to 8-page midterm essay that will be revised and expanded over the course of the semester.

**Class Format:** Remote seminar. The course will feature synchronous online class meetings.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** class presentations, research assignments and annotated bibliographies, and final 14- to 18-page research paper. Student presentations will be recorded offline and posted to GLOW.

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 14

**Enrollment Preferences:** junior Art majors, followed by senior majors

**Expected Class Size:** 12

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (WS)

**This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:**

- ARTH 310 (D1)
- WGSS 312 (D2)
- AMST 333 (D2)

**Writing Skills Notes:** There will be considerable focus on writing and peer-editing as a means of shaping critical thinking. We will treat writing as a process; revision is built into the syllabus. Students will receive from the instructor timely comments on their writing skills, with suggestions for improvement.

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**SEM Section: R1**  
**MW 6:45 pm - 8:00 pm**  
C. Ondine Chavoya

**WGSS 313 (S) Gender, Race, and the Power of Personal Aesthetics**

**Cross-listings:** WGSS 313  AFR 326  AMST 313  LATS 313

**Secondary Cross-listing**

This course focuses on the politics of personal style among women of color in an era of viral video clips, the 24-hour news cycle, and e-commerce sites dedicated to the dermatological concerns of "minority" females. With a comparative, transnational emphasis on the ways in which gender, sexuality, ethno-racial identity, and class inform standards of beauty, we will examine a variety of materials including commercial websites, histories, personal narratives, ethnographies, sociological case studies, and feminist theory. Departing from the assumption that personal aesthetics are intimately tied to issues of power and privilege, we will engage the following questions: What are the everyday functions of personal style among women of color? Is it feasible to assert that an easily identifiable "African American," "Latina/x," "Arab American" or "Asian American" female aesthetic exists? What role do transnational media play in the development and circulation of popular aesthetic forms? How might the belief in personal style as activist strategy challenge traditional understandings of feminist political activity?

**Class Format:** This remotely taught, synchronous course follows a discussion format.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** participation, one student-led discussion period, two written essays of 5-7 pages, final oral exam.

**Prerequisites:** LATS 105, AMST 201, AFR 200, WGSS 101 or permission of instructor; first year students are not permitted to take this course.

**Enrollment Limit:** 12

**Enrollment Preferences:** Latina/o Studies concentrators, American Studies majors, Africana Studies majors, and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors by seniority. If the class is overenrolled students may be asked to submit a brief writing sample.

**Expected Class Size:** 12

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2)

**This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:**

- WGSS 313 (D2)
- AFR 326 (D2)
- AMST 313 (D2)
- LATS 313 (D2)
Spring 2021  
SEM Section: R1  MW 10:00 am - 11:15 am  Maria Elena Cepeda

WGSS 314 (F)  The Social Ecology of Racial and Gender Inequity  (DPE)  
Cross-listings: SOC 314  WGSS 314

Primary Cross-listing

Why the political furor over monuments? What would a feminist city look like? Does racial justice require integration? This course trains your focus on space and place, asking you to take a socioecological perspective on race, gender, and other axes of privilege and marginalization. In it, we examine how ideas about race, gender and more shape space as well as how the design of space reinforces social constructs and power relations. After examining specific regions (the city, the suburb, the country) and their relation to one another, we examine specific sites (public transport, public toilets, libraries, houses). The course enables students to better understand the tenacity of inequity by drawing attention to its spatial dimension while at the same time introducing students to -- and providing students tools to engage in -- spatial interventions designed to disrupt vicious social-spatial cycles.

Requirements/Evaluation:  attendance, class facilitation, problem identification report, two presentations, reflection
Prerequisites:  WGSS/SOC Majors
Enrollment Limit:  none
Enrollment Preferences:  Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors
Expected Class Size:  19
Grading:  no pass/fail option,  no fifth course option
Distributions:  (D2)  (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
SOC 314 (D2)  WGSS 314 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:  This course introduces students to a socioecological approach, giving them a lens which can help them understand how important axes of difference--race and gender--are socially constructed as well as the stubborn persistence of racial and gender power differentials. Students in this course will be required to apply this lens to their own experience, as well as to discuss difficult questions about different obstacles and potential paths to greater equity in social relations.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 315  (S)  Paris on Fire: Incendiary Voices from the City of Light (1830-2015)
Cross-listings:  WGSS 315  RLFR 316

Secondary Cross-listing

During the 1830s, Balzac described Paris as a "surprising assemblage of movements, machines, and ideas, a city of one hundred thousand novels, the head of the world," but also characterized the French capital as a "land of contrasts," a "monstrous wonder," a "moral sewer." Similarly, writers from Hugo to Zola have simultaneously celebrated Parisian elegance and condemned the appalling misery of Paris's urban poor. Since 1889, Paris has been fêted as the "City of Light" for its Enlightenment legacy, its Eiffel Tower modernity, and its luminous urban energy, captured in countless paintings, photographs, and film. However, Paris is also the historical site of revolution, resistance, and riots. From revolutionary revolt (1830, 1848, 1871), to wartime resistance (1870, 1914-18, 1940-44), to reformist and race riots (1968 and 2005), Paris has repetitively sparked with incendiary passion and political protest. As fires raged during the riots in 2005, many heard the echo of Hitler's ominous 1944 question, "Is Paris burning?" and asked: why was Paris burning again at the dawn of the twenty-first century? And following the recent terrorist attacks in Paris in 2015, many wonder what lies ahead for the City of Light. To answer these questions, we will examine the social, political, and literary landscape of Paris during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, from urbanization and modernization, to occupation and liberation, to immigration and globalization. Readings to include poetry, short stories, and novels by Hugo, Balzac, Baudelaire, Maupassant, Verne, Zola, Apollinaire, Colette, Duras, Perec, Rochefort, and Charef. Films to include works by Clair, Truffaut, Godard, Minnelli, Clément, Lelouch, Luhrmann, Kassovitz, Besson, and Jeunet. Conducted in French.

Requirements/Evaluation:  active class participation, midterm exam, and two to three papers
Prerequisites:  strong performance in RLFR 106 or 107; a RLFR 200-level course; another RLFR 300-level course; or permission of instructor
Enrollment Limit:  20
Enrollment Preferences:  French majors and certificate students; Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors; and those with compelling
justification for admission

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
WGSS 315 (D1) RLFR 316 (D1)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 316 (F) Feeling Queer and Asian

Cross-listings: ASST 316 COMP 313 WGSS 316

Primary Cross-listing

This advanced undergraduate seminar focuses on concepts, queries, and methodologies at the intersections of Asian Americanist critique, queer theory, and affect theory. How might we come to understand Asian gender, sexuality, and racialization less through a language of being or meaning, as through feeling? How do Asian/American discourses rely upon languages of gender and sexuality, and how might queerness depend upon Asianness? How might these theories identify, complicate, and call forth more expansive or alternative practices of belonging? The class will read theories including national abjection, racial melancholia, disaffection, queer diaspora, and homonationalism, as well as engage Asian American literatures.

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: WGSS majors

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
ASST 316 (D2) COMP 313 (D2) WGSS 316 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 317 (F) The New Woman in Weimar Culture (WS)

Cross-listings: GERM 317 WGSS 317

Secondary Cross-listing

This course explores the figure of the New Woman, a professional, political, independent, and modern woman, that rises in Germany right at the end of World War I and thrives during the Weimar Republic. Acclaimed as the epitome of Weimar Modernity, the New Woman is nevertheless greeted with great ambivalence: whether a liberated and emancipated woman for some, or a dangerous and promiscuous woman loathed by others, she is perceived as threatening to the patriarchal order. A closer look at artworks by Otto Dix, Christian Schad, and Hannah Höch, films by Fritz Lang and Georg Wilhelm Pabst, poems by Gottfried Benn, Else Lasker-Schüler, and Kurt Tucholsky, novels by Erich Kästner, Vicky Baum, and Irmgard Keun, as well as plays by Frank Wedekind and Bertolt Brecht, will provide a more precise picture of the New Woman's various incarnations, ranging from actresses (Marlene Dietrich), singers (Margo Lion and Claire Waldorf), and dancers (Anita Berber) to prostitutes, and suggest that the New Woman serves as the vessel of male anxieties and represents the contradictions of modernity. Taught in German.

Class Format: taught seminar style in German for the German students and as a tutorial in English for non German speaking students

Requirements/Evaluation: papers and oral presentations

Prerequisites: for students taking it in German: GERM 201 or the equivalent; for students taking the course in English: one college-level literature course

Enrollment Limit: 19

Expected Class Size: 8

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D1) (WS)
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

GERM 317 (D1) WGSS 317 (D2)

**Writing Skills Notes:** Students will submit multiple drafts of their papers. Focus is on argument and thesis statement, introduction and conclusion as well as literary analysis and interpretation of primary and secondary literature. Students will receive from the instructor timely comments on their writing skills, with suggestions for improvement.

**Not offered current academic year**

WGSS 318 *(S)* **Black Masculinities** *(DPE)*

**Cross-listings:** AMST 350  ENGL 375  AFR 331  WGSS 318

**Primary Cross-listing**

In this seminar, we will study the evolution of Black masculinities through cultural, social, and political movements from 20th century to the present. This course engages Black feminist thought, Black masculinities studies, queer theory and performance studies. We will examine the relationship and constitutive nature of masculinity and femininity. By examining representations and presentations of Black masculinities, we will pursue questions such as: How is blackness always already gendered? How is gender always already racialized? What are the effects of these gendering and racializing practices on Black bodies, spaces, and places? How has dominant society attempted to define Black masculinity? In what ways have Black people undermined these narratives and redefined themselves? How do racial stereotypes about Black men’s sexuality inform representations of Black masculinities? What is the future of Black Gender? We will trouble the relationship between manhood and masculinity by examining the ways in which masculinity can move across various kinds of bodies. In addition to reading critical and creative texts, we will view films and engage other kinds of media. Students will be responsible for 2 short papers and a final project.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** students will be responsible for 2 short papers and a final project

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 19

**Enrollment Preferences:** WGSS Majors will get preference, then Juniors and Seniors

**Expected Class Size:** 14

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

AMST 350 (D2) ENGL 375 (D1) AFR 331 (D2) WGSS 318 (D2)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course engages content and materials that explore various forms of difference, power, and equity, along with facilitating the development of skills that will help students address the implications of said forms. This course considers current examples and historical examples of Black masculinity. This course fosters difficult conversations about how difference works and has worked, how identities and power relationships have been grounded in lived experience.

**Not offered current academic year**

WGSS 319 *(F)* **Gender and the Family in Chinese History** *(DPE)*

**Cross-listings:** WGSS 319  ASST 319  HIST 319

**Secondary Cross-listing**

Although sometimes claimed as part of a set of immutable "Asian values," the Chinese family has not remained fixed or stable over time. In this course, we will use the framework of "family" to gain insight into gender, generation, and sexuality in different historical periods. Beginning in the late imperial period (16th-18th Centuries), we will examine the religious, marital, sexual, and child-rearing practices associated with traditional ideals of family. We will also examine the wide variety of "heterodox" practices that existed alongside these ideals, debates over and critiques of gender, family, and sexuality in the twentieth century and in China today.

**Class Format:** Remote in Fall 2020. Emphasis will be on synchronos discussions and small group work via Zoom (or similar).

**Requirements/Evaluation:** active participation in discussions and group work, short skills-based writing assignments (2-4 pgs) and short essays (5-7 pgs) leading toward a final paper.

**Prerequisites:** none; open to first year-students with instructors permission

**Enrollment Limit:** 15
**Enrollment Preferences:** History, Asian Studies, and WGSS majors

**Expected Class Size:** 10

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 319 (D2) ASST 319 (D2) HIST 319 (D2)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course focuses on historical regimes of gender and sexuality in China and their transformations over time. Students will be asked to consider these regimes both on their own terms and in comparative perspective.

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**Fall 2020**

SEM Section: R1  TF 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm  Anne Reinhardt

**WGSS 321 (F) Feminist and Queer Performance at the Limit of Action (DPE)**

**Cross-listings:** AMST 326  THEA 322  WGSS 321  AFR 328

**Primary Cross-listing**

What counts as feminist and queer activism? This course challenges what we dominantly understand as activism—key to the emergence of ethnic studies and feminist and queer theory. Moving away from political actions centered in these fields, such as strikes, protests, and boycotts, this course will turn to visual and performance art works by artists of color, who consider other forms of action that are not overtly visible, resistant, oppositional, agentive, militant, loud, liberatory, and documentable. Each week, we will examine a performance at the limit of action, including silence, sexual abjection, concealment, melancholia, and waiting, alongside issues related to race, gender, sexuality, labor, and migration among others. How might we approach and reconcile with performances that once again rely notions of racialized and gendered bodies as apolitical, passive, submissive, and compliant? Drawing on scholarship within black and women of color feminist criticism, queer of color critique, critical ethnic studies, and performance studies, this course will attune students to the role of aesthetics to interrogate and expand what we typically conceive of as activism, resistance, power, and survival from racialized, feminized, and queer positions.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** In-class discussion, short weekly reading posts, class presentation, final paper/project

**Prerequisites:** None

**Enrollment Limit:** 12

**Enrollment Preferences:** WGSS majors and students with experience in American Studies or performance studies coursework

**Expected Class Size:** 12

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

AMST 326 (D2) THEA 322 (D1) WGSS 321 (D2) AFR 328 (D2)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course satisfies the DPE requirement as it explores difference, power, and equity by asking how racial, gendered, sexual, and class differences are produced, whose voices are centered and whose are excluded, and what forms of activism is valued over other forms.

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**Fall 2020**

SEM Section: R1  MR 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm  Kelly I Chung

**WGSS 322 (F) Introduction to Critical Theory (DPE) (WS)**

**Cross-listings:** PHIL 321  WGSS 322

**Secondary Cross-listing**

"Dare to know! Have courage to use your own reason—that is the motto of Enlightenment." Thus the 18th century German philosopher Immanuel Kant exhorts his contemporaries to muster the courage to cultivate their capacity for reason. Modern faith in the prospects of universal human dignity, rational autonomy, the rights of man, individual liberty, democracy, open scientific inquiry and social and political progress depend upon it. Yet from its
inception and continuing into the 19th and 20th centuries we find the promise of Enlightenment challenged by colonialist expansion, the rise of nationalism and the persistence of racism, sexism, genocide, terrorism, and religious extremism as well as the emergence of wars of mass destruction, environmental degradation, and the potential for manipulation of populations by consumerist mass media. Can the promise of Enlightenment be redeemed? Should it be? Among the possible topics addressed will be: criticizing capitalism, alienation and objectification, progress and freedom, the entanglements of power and reason, radical liberalism, the future of democracy as well as post-structuralist, post-colonial, feminist and anti-racist critiques of the Frankfurt School. Readings may include historical as well as contemporary figures such as: Kant, Freud, Horkheimer, Adorno, Marcuse, Habermas, McCarthy, Honneth, Fraser, Amy Allen, Foucault, Ranciere, Achilles Mbembe, Judith Butler, Wendy Brown, Spivak, and Charles Mills, among others.

Class Format: students will work in pairs and meet for 75 minutes each week with the professor

Requirements/Evaluation: each student will write and present five 5- to 6-page paper every other week and a commentary on their partner's essay on alternate weeks; evaluations are based on written work as well as level of preparation and intellectual engagement in tutorial meetings

Prerequisites: PHIL 202, Kant course, or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Philosophy majors and students with background in political theory, feminist theory, or post-colonial theory

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PHIL 321 (D2) WGSS 322 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Tutorial format requires significant writing (six 5-page papers), weekly commentary on writing, and instructor comments on papers.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: In this course power, differences, and overcoming injustice, inequality, and domination are central topics.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 323  (F)  Marxist Feminisms: Race, Performance, and Labor  (DPE)

Cross-listings: THEA 323  WGSS 323  AFR 329  AMST 329

Primary Cross-listing

Who is considered the dominant subject of labor? This course offers an overview of queer, women of color feminist, decolonial, and black and critical ethnic studies critiques of orthodox Marxism. Starting with core texts from the Marxist tradition, we will explore a range of social positions and forms of labor that complicate Marx's emphasis on the white male industrial worker. Each unit, we will study key scholarship that centers reproduction, slavery, care and domestic work, indentured servitude, sex work, and low wage flexible labor, to name a few, alongside queer and feminist modes of performance that respond to and/or provide strategies to live and survive under racial capitalism. We will discuss seminal works by theorists, including Karl Marx, Luce Irigaray, Cedric Robinson, Jennifer Morgan, Hortense Spillers, Lisa Lowe, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Dorothy Roberts, Angela Davis, José Esteban Muñoz, and Leo Bersani, in tandem with performances, such as paintings, performance art, poetry, protests, photography, prints, music, and sculptures. This course will equip students with a critical understanding of the ways racial capitalism has centrally relied upon the mass capture and recruitment of racialized and gendered labor in and beyond the U.S. and how, through performance, life under these conditions have been reimagined.

Requirements/Evaluation: In-class discussion, short weekly reading posts, class presentation, final paper

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: WGSS majors and students with experience in American Studies or performance studies coursework

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

THEA 323 (D1) WGSS 323 (D2) AFR 329 (D2) AMST 329 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course satisfies the DPE requirement as it explores difference, power, and equity by asking how racial,
gendered, sexual, and class differences are produced, whose voices are centered and whose are excluded, and what forms of labor is valued over other forms.

Fall 2020
SEM Section: R1    TF 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm     Kelly I Chung

WGSS 324  (S)  Indigenous Women's History  (DPE) (WS)
Cross-listings:  WGSS 324  AMST 324  HIST 362

Secondary Cross-listing
What would it mean to locate indigenous women and their stories at the heart of American history? This advanced junior seminar course answers this question by centering the lives of indigenous women from the pre-colonial period through the present. We will discuss both the historical importance of these women's lives, as well as the methodological and ethical concerns that arise through the historiographic recovery of their stories. We analyze both canonical figures--such as La Malinche, Pocahontas, and Sakakawea--as well as lesser known historical actors, political leaders, writers, and artists.

Requirements/Evaluation:  engaged class participation, weekly reading responses, extended research project (2-page proposal, 5-page annotated bibliography, 15-page final paper and presentation)
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 19
Enrollment Preferences: American Studies, History, and Women's Studies, Gender and Sexuality majors
Expected Class Size: 10
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)  (DPE) (WS)
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
WGSS 324 (D2) AMST 324 (D2) HIST 362 (D2)
Writing Skills Notes: With substantial focus on students' development of independent research papers, this course satisfies the Writing Skills requirement.
Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: We examine the lives of indigenous women in the Americas across a span of more than 500 years, asking how and why we come to know these stories through archival records, oral histories, popular culture, and autobiographies. By analyzing the interwoven forces of gender, indigeneity, race, and colonization through both primary documents and secondary scholarship, we will work together to cultivate skills of critical inquiry and better understand the role of power in shaping historical narratives.
Not offered current academic year

WGSS 325  (F)  Television, Social Media, and Black Women 'Unscripted'
Cross-listings:  AFR 325  WGSS 325

Secondary Cross-listing
Nene Leaks, Shonda Rhimes, Oprah Winfrey, Kerry Washington and now Lavern Cox and Melissa Harris-Perry have become common household names. Whether from the television shows they star in, the TV shows they have created, or the social media presence they have developed--these women continue to influence and shape popular culture. In this course we will situate Black women as creators and contributors to popular culture as a whole, but specifically through television (scripted and "unscripted") and social media. We will begin by covering the history of Black women in television. This historical approach will then lead us to examine selected TV episodes, and investigate social media pages of Black actresses, television producers, and the fans of these shows. The aim of this course is to analyze the ways in which Black women continually shift the popular culture paradigm and how they serve as key players determining what is indeed popular.
Requirements/Evaluation:  class participation, response papers, one 10 page paper, and a formal class presentation
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 15
Enrollment Preferences: juniors and seniors
Expected Class Size: 13
WGSS 327 (F) Foucault on Power and Knowledge (DPE) (WS)

Cross-listings: PHIL 327 WGSS 327

Secondary Cross-listing
This course begins with a brief introduction to some of Foucault's early writings but focuses on a close reading of a selection of middle and late texts that have become central to debates about the significance and value of his work such as: Discipline and Punish, The History of Sexuality (vols. 1-3), and selected interviews and course lectures. We will focus particularly on how subjects are positioned in relation to his writings on power and knowledge with particular attention to the later so-called ethical writings in the years before his untimely death in 1984.

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation will be based on written work (six 5- to 6-page papers, and six 2-3 page commentaries on their partner's papers) as well as the quality and level of preparation and intellectual engagement in our weekly meetings.

Prerequisites: at least two courses in PHIL or political or critical theory, or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: current or prospective Philosophy and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors

Expected Class Size: 8-10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: meets History requirement only if registration is under PHIL

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
PHIL 327 (D2) WGSS 327 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Students will write between 40-50 pages by the end of the semester and receive regular feedback on their written work from the instructor and their tutorial partner. They will write both expository, interpretive and critical essays and will regularly be asked to defend their interpretations and arguments.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This is a course about power and freedom. We read genealogical histories of disciplinary institutions that exclude and aim to correct "dangerous" or "abnormal" individuals, or attach them to identities and desires in order to manage them. We also address power at the level of population management, the emergence of the neoliberal idea of the self as enterprise, and the promise of resistance in the form of ethical practices of freedom.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 328 (F) Austen and Eliot

Cross-listings: WGSS 328 ENGL 328

Secondary Cross-listing
Austen and Eliot profoundly influenced the course of the novel by making internal consciousness crucial to narrative form. In this course we will explore Austen's innovative aesthetic strategies and the ways in which Eliot assimilated and transformed them. By placing each writer's work in its political and philosophical context-in Austen's case, reactions to the aftermath of the French Revolution, in Eliot's, to the failed mid-century European revolutions and the pressures of British imperialism-we will consider how each writer conceives social and historical exigencies to shape comedies and dramas of consciousness. Readings will include Austen's Pride and Prejudice, Emma, Mansfield Park, and Persuasion; Eliot's The Mill on the Floss, The Lifted Veil; and Daniel Deronda; selected letters and prose; and critical essays.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: two papers of approximately 8-10 pages

Prerequisites: a Gateway course or permission of the instructor

Enrollment Limit: 25
Enrollment Preferences: junior and senior English majors

Expected Class Size: 18

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Materials/Lab Fee: course books

Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
WGSS 328 (D1) ENGL 328 (D1)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 329 (S) Austen, Eliot, Woolf

Cross-listings: ENGL 329 WGSS 329

Secondary Cross-listing

At roughly fifty-year intervals, Britain produced three brilliant female novelists -- Jane Austen, George Eliot, and Virginia Woolf -- who would each become renowned, in her own way, for her ability to combine minutely detailed social observation with a rich depiction of the inner lives of her characters. This course will examine some of their major fiction-- with an emphasis on Austen and Eliot -- with special attention to the nature and implications of their narrative methods for representing the consciousnesses of characters, and of the authorial narrative voices that mediate among them. Questions to be considered: how is our understanding of novelistic characters and consciousness shaped by our real-life experience in interpreting the thoughts and character of others, and vice versa? Do "omniscient" narrators lay claim to a privileged kind of knowing presumed to be unavailable either to their character or to readers, or are they modelling humanly available interpretive stances toward a world of others? How do these authors' preoccupations with interior thought relate to their focus on women's experience? Possible texts include Austen's *Emma and Persuasion*, Eliot's *Middlemarch*, *Daniel Deronda*, and *The Lifted Veil*, and Woolf's *The Waves*.

Class Format: seminar

Requirements/Evaluation: one six-eight-page and one ten-twelve-page essay

Prerequisites: a 100-level ENGL course, or a score of 5 on the AP English Literature exam, or a score of 6 or 7 on the Higher Level IB English exam

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: English majors

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
ENGL 329 (D1) WGSS 329 (D2)

Spring 2021

SEM Section: R1 MR 3:15 pm - 4:30 pm Alison A. Case

WGSS 330 (S) "A language to hear myself": Advanced Studies in Feminist Poetry and Poetics (DPE) (WS)

Cross-listings: AMST 310 ENGL 302 WGSS 330

Secondary Cross-listing

The title of this course comes from Adrienne Rich's 1969 poem "Tear Gas," grounding our study in 1960s, 70s, and 80s feminist activist poetry but also in our current moment to answer a fundamental question: what can poetry do for us? In this period, feminist activist poets were at the center of a revolutionary social justice movement that changed the world. Feminist presses published much of the new poetry. This course focuses on the theory and practice of feminist poetry and print culture during this period, and how feminist experiments in language changed how we understand American poetry. We focus on the theoretical writings and poetry chapbooks of a diverse group of poets who powered the movement, including Audre Lorde, Mitsuye Yamada, Nelly Wong, Robin Morgan, June Jordan, Joy Harjo, Gloria Anzaldúa, Sonia Sanchez, Adrienne Rich, Judy Grahn, and Pat Parker. We also read the work of some later feminist theorists, such as Judith Butler, as we analyze the kinds of performances that brought together feminist poetry and political activism. We spend some time in the archives, analyzing documents from the period, including original publications of poetry chapbooks often published by the period's many feminist presses and consider how such attention allows us to construct alternative narratives for
feminism and American poetry. Writing at the intersections of race, class, gender, and sexuality, and of multiple social justice movements (Civil Rights, anti-Vietnam War, LGBTQ activism, and Black Power), these poets gave us a new language to "hear," not only ourselves, but the experience and pain of others, and, in so doing, they moved personal experience into public discourse around issues of inequality and human flourishing in a democratic society.

**Class Format:** I anticipate that this class will be a hybrid course for students who are both remote and in-person, with a mix of synchronous and asynchronous elements.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** two short analysis papers (4-5 pages), creative (1-2 pages), discussion posts (5 pages), short presentation, longer final researched paper (10-12 pages)

**Prerequisites:** a 100-level ENGL course, or a score of 5 on the AP English Literature exam, or a score of 6 or 7 on the Higher Level IB English exam, or permission of instructor

**Enrollment Limit:** 16

**Enrollment Preferences:** English, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, American Studies majors

**Expected Class Size:** 16

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

AMST 310 (D2) ENGL 302 (D1) WGSS 330 (D2)

**Writing Skills Notes:** Writing skills taught through a series of assignments evenly spaced throughout the semester: weekly p/f discussion posts, critical summaries of feminist criticism, two four-to-five-page graded papers, one creative assignment, a longer, final researched paper (10-12 pages), written in stages over a period of several weeks with feedback at each stage. Critical feedback on written assignments a week prior to due date through conferences and Google Docs and on graded assignments within one week.

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** The course examines the effects of class, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality on both poetry and the feminist movement and how women negotiated their differences within the movement, as well as in response to the dominant patriarchal culture. This course employs critical tools (feminist theory, archival research, poetics, close reading, comparative approaches) to help students question and articulate the social injustices that led to the poetry and poetics of the period.

Spring 2021

SEM Section: H1  TF 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm  Bethany Hicok

**WGSS 331 (F) Queer Europe: Sexualities and Politics since 1850  (DPE)**

**Cross-listings:** HISt 332  WGSS 331

**Secondary Cross-listing**

This course explores the construction, articulation, and politics of queer sexual desire in Europe from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. By placing queer sexualities in their broader social and political context, the course examines the ways in which sexuality has become central to questions of identity, both personal and national, in modern European society. Topics include: ways of thinking about the queer past; women's "friendships" in Victorian Britain; the role of the new science of sexuality in specifying various "sexual perversions"; the rise of sexual undergrounds in the context of European urbanization; the birth of campaigns for "homosexual emancipation"; attempts to regulate and suppress "deviant" sexualities, especially under the fascist and Nazi regimes in the 1930s; the effects of the postwar consumer revolution on the practices of sexual selfhood; the postwar "sex change" debates; the politics of 1950s homophile organizing and the 1970s Gay Liberation Movement; and recent debates about migrant queer identities in an increasingly multicultural Europe. The course will focus primarily on experiences in Britain, France, and Germany, but with some detours to Italy and Russia. Readings will be drawn from sexological texts, political tracts, memoirs, and the writings of recent historians and theorists. Several films will be screened and will also be central to our discussions of the changing meanings of sexual selfhood in modern European societies.

**Class Format:** This will hopefully be a 'hybrid' class, taught in person on campus, primarily as a discussion course. After Thanksgiving, the final course readings will be discussed remotely via Zoom. Depending on the numbers, if both on-campus and off-campus students enroll in the course -- or if masks and in-class social distance interfere with fruitful discussions -- instruction may shift to an all-remote format.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** The class will be taught entirely in discussion mode and students will be expected regularly to contribute to the discussion of the readings and films for the course. Evaluation will be based on the quality of those contributions, the posting of four 500-word response papers on the readings (chosen by the students), two 7- to 8-page interpretive essays, and a final research paper of 12- to 15-pages.
**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** "Queer Europe" is a DPE course insofar as it explores the mechanisms by which sexual difference has been constituted, contested, and experienced and addresses how what we assume to be the "sexual norm" has a profoundly political history. It focuses on the means by which norms are created and enforced through the operations of power and on how those norms have been challenged and resisted by individuals who have come to understand themselves outside the normative categories of sexual selfhood.

Fall 2020

**SEM Section:** H1    TR 6:45 pm - 8:00 pm     Chris Waters

**WGSS 333 (F) The Nineteenth-Century British Novel**

**Cross-listings:** ENGL 333  WGSS 333

**Secondary Cross-listing**

In nineteenth-century Britain, the novel took on the world. Shaking off its early disrepute, and taking advantage of growing literacy and innovations in production and distribution, it achieved in this period an unrivalled synthesis of mass appeal and aesthetic and social ambition. Its representational aspirations were breathtaking: attempting to comprehend in its pages the dizzying complexity of new social, political, and economic structures, as well as to delineate in finest detail the texture of individual lives and minds. In an age obsessed with the social, it engaged directly with the most compelling issues of the day, including industrialization and the gap between rich and poor, the role of women, nationalism and imperialism, and more broadly, the very nature of historical change itself. But it did so, for the most part, by telling fine-grained stories of ordinary men and women, people trying to make a living, worrying about their families and their neighbors, facing illness and death, and falling in--and sometimes out of--love. Since so many of these stories remain highly accessible works of popular culture, we will work hard to focus on what is strange and specific about the fiction of the nineteenth century, while also recognizing the roots of much that is modern in our own culture. We will also take seriously their social ambitions, looking especially at the ways they formulate, promote, and contest their readers' understanding of themselves as subjects and agents of an ongoing social history. Likely authors include Jane Austen, Walter Scott, Charlotte Bronte, Charles Dickens, Anthony Trollope, and George Eliot.

**Class Format:** This class will be remote only, with two synchronous discussions of 50 min each per week and a mix of mini-lectures, brainstorming documents, etc. for the remaining 50 min/week.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** Heavy (but entertaining!) reading load. Flexible writing requirement includes options for short essays, weekly journal, creative work, and research paper. Students must complete 4 units of writing, with the research paper, if chosen, counting for two. There will be additional bits of informal writing, evaluated as part of the class contribution grade, such as participating in the production of a "brainstorming" doc on Google.

**Prerequisites:** 100-level ENGL course, or a score of 5 on the AP English Literature Exam, or 6 or 7 on Higher Level IB English exam, or permission of instructor

**Enrollment Limit:** 16

**Enrollment Preferences:** English majors, Women's, Gender and Sexuality majors, Comparative Literature majors, seniors

**Expected Class Size:** 16

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ENGL 333 (D1) WGSS 333 (D2)
WGSS 334  (F) Islam and Feminism

Cross-listings:  WGSS 334  REL 332  ARAB 332

Secondary Cross-listing

This course examines the relationship between feminism and Islam, focusing particularly on Islamic feminist scholarship. We will take a genealogical approach to our study of Islamic feminism tracing the different discourses that have informed and shaped the field. The first part of the course will begin with a critical examination of orientalist and colonial representations of Muslim women as oppressed and in need of liberation. We will then explore Muslim responses so such critiques that were entwined with nationalist and independence movements. This historical backdrop is critical to understanding why the question of women and their rights and roles become crucial to Muslim self-understanding and Islamic reform. The second part of the course will focus on major intellectuals and thinkers who have influenced Islamic feminism. Finally, the last part of our course will explore the breadth of Islamic feminist literature, covering the following themes: 1) feminist readings of scripture; 2) feminist critiques of Islamic law; and 3) feminist theology.

Requirements/Evaluation:  weekly responses, four 2- to 3-page essays

Prerequisites:  none

Enrollment Limit:  15

Enrollment Preferences:  Religion, Arabic Studies, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, History majors

Expected Class Size:  10

Grading:  yes pass/fail option,  yes fifth course option

Distributions:  (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 334 (D2) REL 332 (D2) ARAB 332 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 335  (S) Michelangelo: Self and Sexuality  (WS)

Cross-listings:  ARTH 331  WGSS 335

Secondary Cross-listing

Who are artists? We each have different answers to this question, but our responses would probably share some common assumptions about human individuality and the centrality of the self to artistic creation. In this tutorial, we will take a critical lens to these ideas by studying the life, work, and passions of the Italian artist, Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475-1564). Michelangelo is a towering archetype of the autonomous artistic self: the distinctive personality who telegraphs individual beliefs, feelings, and desires through the creative act. His lifelong engagement with the physicality, beauty, and sensuality of the (male) human body has encouraged the connection between the man and his work on the most intimate levels of pleasure and desire. Ironically, Michelangelo would not have understood our modern conceptions of artistic selfhood or sexuality, but his own Renaissance moment was obsessed with questions surrounding the nature of human identity and subjectivity. His artistic practice--from painting to poetry--wrestles with them in countless, fascinating ways. Students' writing and critical conversation will venture into the spaces between man and myth, selfhood and self-fashioning, artist and patron, past and present.

Class Format: Tutorial meetings will take place primarily on Zoom, with the hopeful possibility of some in-person meetings for students in residence on campus.

Requirements/Evaluation:  Five 5-7 page essays, five 1-2 page responses to partner's essays, critical conversation

Prerequisites:  Any ARTH course

Enrollment Limit:  10

Enrollment Preferences:  ARTH majors and WGSS concentrators (or sophomores intending to pursue the ARTH major or WGSS concentration)

Expected Class Size:  10

Grading:  no pass/fail option,  no fifth course option

Distributions:  (D2)  (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
Writing Skills Notes: Tutorial

Spring 2021
TUT Section: HT1  TBA  Stefanie  Solum

WGSS 336 (S)  *Foucault Now*  (DPE) (WS)

Cross-listings:  WGSS 336  PHIL 326

Secondary Cross-listing

If we think of Michel Foucault as engaged in writing histories, or genealogies, of his own present designed to undercut the sense of the obviousness of certain practices and ways of thinking, categorizing, and knowing, we can easily imagine that he might now be questioning different aspects of our contemporary "present" than the ones standardly associated with his name, namely, panopticons and surveillance, discipline, criminalization, the biopolitics of health, the normal and the abnormal, etc. In this course we address the question: How is the present we find ourselves living today different from the one that the author Foucault wrote about in the 1960s, 70s and early 80s before his untimely death in 1984? What differentiates today from yesterday? And what present practices and ways of thinking and knowing might be questioned using Foucault's tools, genealogy in particular, for resisting unnecessary constraints on freedom and the perpetuation of unnecessary suffering? What is his legacy today? In this tutorial you will read from a selection of Foucault's texts (books, lectures, interviews) in order to acquire a firm grasp of his method of "critique" and his way of looking at the interconnections between forms of power and the knowledge associated with particular disciplines. We will also read more recent work by scholars that draw on Foucault to address problems in today's present. Among the contemporary texts assigned might be the following: Bernard Harcourt's *Exposed: Desire and Disobedience in the Digital Age*, Saidiya Hartman's *Wayward Lives, Beautiful Experiments* (2019), Verena Ehrenbusch's *Terrorism: A Genealogy*, Cressida Heyes' *Anaesthetics*, Ladelle McWhorter's *Racism and Sexism in Anglo-America: A Genealogy*, and *Active Intolerance: Michel Foucault, The Prisons Information Group, and the Future of Abolition*, eds. Perry Zum and Andrew Dilts.

Class Format: I will meet with students in a seminar format at various points throughout the semester. I have requested a class block for this reason.

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation will be based on written work (six 5- to 6-page papers, and six 2-3 page commentaries on their partner's papers) as well as the quality and level of preparation and intellectual engagement in our weekly meetings.

Prerequisites: Relevant background in critical theory, social theory, political theory or philosophy.

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: I will give preference to philosophy majors and to upper class students with a demonstrated background in critical theories. Some sophomores may be eligible.

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 336 (D2)  PHIL 326 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: This is a tutorial. Students will write five or six 5-6-page papers during the course of the semester and receive significant feedback on each paper. At the end of each tutorial meeting the student is asked to reflect on how they would approach the paper differently if they were to rewrite it. In this version of the course, I may ask students to select one paper to revise as a final assignment.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: In this course we address power and domination, reflect on the difference between them, and treat power relations as not only an inevitable feature of any society, but as both enabling and constraining. Moreover, we will read material that uses Foucauldian tools to address contemporary issues involving sexism and racism, digital surveillance, and the abolition of prisons.

Spring 2021
CON Section: R2  MR 3:15 pm - 4:30 pm  Jana  Sawicki

TUT Section: RT1  TBA  Jana  Sawicki

WGSS 337 (S)  *Race, Sex & Gender in Brazil*  (DPE)
The course introduces students to anthropological literature of Brazil as well as Brazilian novels and films. Its focus is on understanding the history and contemporary culture of Brazil through attention to racial justice, including the country’s unique history and legacies of slavery in comparative context. It also examines questions of gender, including the history of feminism in Brazil and current debates related to women’s equality such as Brazil’s abortion laws, domestic violence, sexual tourism, and job opportunities for women. Lastly, we also examine LGBT history in Brazil and dive into writing about queer culture there. NOTE: The seminar will include a mandatory spring break trip to Rio de Janeiro, during which time students will visit important historical sites, museums, and relevant cultural attractions. They will also meet collectively with faculty members from several universities and NGOs to learn about the research and projects our Brazilian hosts are engaged in. Students also have their own individual exploratory research projects there related to social justice, which are integral to the seminar. These form the basis of their final research paper. Students should also be aware of the physical demands of the trip, which include extensive walking, some hiking, and exposure to summer heat and the elements in the Atlantic Rainforest. Thanks to the Global Initiatives Venture Fund, the cost of the trip is covered for all students enrolled.

Requirements/Evaluation: research paper and its various components, participation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 7

Enrollment Preferences: students are required to attend an info session and submit an application that includes a statement of interest, finalists will need to complete an interview

Expected Class Size: 7

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Materials/Lab Fee: the cost of the spring break trip is included (i.e., airfare, most meals, lodging, etc.), but costs related to incidental expenses (e.g., souvenirs, drinks), passports, vaccinations, etc. are not and will vary by student

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
ANTH 337 (D2) WGSS 337 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This is a class about social justice movements and racial/gender/sexual diversity. It includes experiential learning devoted to these issues and engages questions related to the origins of inequality and prejudice in Brazil.

Not offered current academic year
needed. These include an abstract (1-2 pages), annotated bibliography (2-5 pages), outline (2-7 pages), rough draft (2 at 6-10 pages), peer editing exercise, and final draft (10-12 pages). The intention is that students learn practical skills related to effective writing and to encourage them to engage in writing in planned stages with consistent feedback.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 339  (S)  Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination

Cross-listings:  PSYC 341  WGSS 339

Secondary Cross-listing

This course will examine social psychological theories and research that are relevant to the understanding of stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination. We will take a variety of social psychological perspectives, emphasizing sociocultural, cognitive, personality, or motivational explanations. We will examine the impact that stereotypes and prejudice have on people's perceptions of and behaviors toward particular groups or group members and will explore a variety of factors that tend to exacerbate or weaken this impact. We also will consider some of the sources of stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination and some of the processes through which they are maintained, strengthened, or revised. In addition, we will examine some of the effects that stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination can have on members of stereotyped groups, as well as some implications of the social psychological research findings for issues such as education and business and government policies. A major component of this course will be the examination of classic and ongoing empirical research.

Class Format: empirical lab course

Requirements/Evaluation: weekly brief papers, oral reports, two longer papers

Prerequisites: PSYC 201 and 242

Enrollment Limit: 16

Enrollment Preferences: senior, then junior Psychology majors

Expected Class Size: 16

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSYC 341 (D2) WGSS 339 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 340  (S)  Elizabeth Bishop in the Americas  (DPE)

Cross-listings:  ENGL 340  AMST 340  WGSS 340  COMP 342

Secondary Cross-listing

Elizabeth Bishop has emerged as one of the most important poets of the 20th century. She is admired not only for her dazzling mastery of the craft but also her adventurous life as a world traveler. Her more than two decades living in Brazil and translating the culture and literature of that country for a North American audience, for instance, make her life and work a rich focal point for cross-cultural study. At the center of the course will be Bishop's stunning meditations on childhood, memory, travel, lesbian sexuality, gender identity, ecology, and race and class in the U.S. and Brazil. We will look at how Bishop intertwines personal and global historical encounters in order to raise serious ethical questions about our shared history of conquest and sense of place in the Americas from the 16th century to the Cold War period of the twentieth. What is ultimately at stake in our claiming of a "home"? We also read a number of the writers in North and South America who were closely connected to Bishop, from Robert Lowell and Ernest Hemingway in North America, to Pablo Neruda and Clarice Lispector in South America. Ultimately, we study how craft, poetic process, and an ethical eye on the world can open up the study of poetry and poetics in the 21st century.

Class Format: three hours per week, in addition to small group discussion and archival research

Requirements/Evaluation: two short papers of 4-5 pages, one longer critical research paper of 10-12 pages, three to four discussion posts (300-500 words)

Prerequisites: a 100-level ENGL course, or a score of 5 on the AP English Literature exam, or a score of 6 or 7 on the Higher Level IB English exam

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: English, Comparative Literature, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, American Studies majors

Expected Class Size: 15
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D1) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
ENGL 340 (D1) AMST 340 (D2) WGSS 340 (D2) COMP 342 (D1)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course employs critical tools (case studies, translation theory, archival research, poetics, close reading, comparative approaches, postcolonial theory) to help students question and articulate the way that social injustice, such as racial inequality, poverty, and colonial conquest, shapes national and individual identities. Students will learn how to articulate how our aesthetic and cultural products also serve to shape these identities but also can challenge the dominant power structures.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 341 (F) Cinematic Representations of Work and Migration after the Wall

Cross-listings: WGSS 341 COMP 341
Secondary Cross-listing

The increased flow of migrants from East to West and from South to North into the center of Europe and the simultaneous tightening of restrictions against illegal migration have brought to the forefront issues of labour, gender, and precarity, citizenship and cultural belonging. We will analyze feature films and documentaries that trace the changing face of work and migration, with an emphasis on flows from countries the former east bloc and Africa to Europe. We will discuss negative effects of globalized capitalism, such as the monetization of feeling and personal relations (Harvey), the concept of intensification and the disembody state (Nealon and Foucault), but also ask what new opportunities might arise, and for which groups. We will study the depiction of manual labour, illegal migration, women as caregivers, Internet marriage, sex work, and the migrant as a raced and othered body. Theory by Dina Iordanova and William Brown, Ewa Mazierska, Sandro Mezzadra and Brett Neilson, Jeffrey Nealon, Lara Águstin, Angela Melitopoulos, Lauren Berlant and Mieke Bal. Films will likely include: *Illegal, Working Man's Death, NordSud.com, Lichter* (Lights), *Code Unknown, The Flower Bridge, Occident, Since Otar Left, Losers and Winners, Whore's Glory, Le Havre and Time Out.*

Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, two short papers, an oral presentation, and a final paper
Prerequisites: a 200-level ENGL or COMP course, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Limit: 19
Enrollment Preferences: Comparative Literature and Women's Gender & Sexuality majors
Expected Class Size: 10
Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
WGSS 341 (D2) COMP 341 (D1)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 343 (S) Representations of Racial-Sexual Violence from Enslavement to Emancipation

Cross-listings: INTR 343 AFR 343 AMST 343 WGSS 343
Secondary Cross-listing

This tutorial examines representations of and resistance to racial-sexual violence in American society, from colonial America to contemporary US culture. Interdisciplinary texts cover history, politics, literature, film, feminist studies, American studies, LGBTQ and ethnic/black studies. Books include *Southern Horrors; Intimate Matters; Scenes of Subjection; Trauma and Recovery; The Delectable Negro: At the Dark End of the Street*; films include *Birth of a Nation; Bush Mama; To Kill a Mockingbird.* The primary focus is on racial and sexual vulnerability to violence and mobilization for freedom from the 18th-21st centuries.

Class Format: students provide primary and response papers and discuss their analyses and theories of social and interpersonal violence
Requirements/Evaluation: weekly primary and response papers
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 10
Enrollment Preferences: preference given to juniors and seniors
Expected Class Size: 8
**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2)

**This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:**

INTR 343 (D2) AFR 343 (D2) AMST 343 (D2) WGSS 343 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

**WGSS 346 (S) Queer in the City** (DPE)

**Cross-listings:** AMST 337 AFR 337 WGSS 346

**Primary Cross-listing**

In this course we will examine the various ways scholars and filmmakers have used ethnography as a critical tool for understanding the intersections of race, place, space, gender and sexuality. We will foreground studies that examine unfamiliar sites of Black struggle, resistance, and survival. We will examine Black gender variant and sexual minorities and how they produce, reproduce and struggle for spaces and places of desire, community, pleasure, love, and loss. We will explore these stories through primarily ethnographic modalities. We will discuss the political and ethical ramifications of these ethnographic narratives paying particular attention to the usefulness and limitations of both 'Thin' and 'Thick' descriptions. We will use ethnography to center debates regarding the politics of representation of racialized queer space, place, and people through both filmic and written accounts. All students will be asked to discover and develop their ethnographic voices through various critical, creative, experimental and performative assignments.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** facilitated class discussion; weekly critical response papers; creative projects

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 20

**Enrollment Preferences:** WGSS majors; students may be asked to write a short statement of interest in the event of over-enrollment

**Expected Class Size:** 20

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

**This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:**

AMST 337 (D2) AFR 337 (D2) WGSS 346 (D2)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** Course directly discusses structural oppression, forms of inequality, and social redress through the intersecting matrices of race, gender, sexuality and other ontological forms.

Not offered current academic year

**WGSS 348 (S) Women, Men and Other Animals** (DPE)

**Cross-listings:** ARTH 348 STS 348 SCST 348 WGSS 348 ENGL 348

**Primary Cross-listing**

In this seminar, we will together learn to be "animal critics." We will explore ways in which human groups and interests, particularly in the United States, have both attached and divorced themselves from other animals, considering such axes as gender, race, ability, and sexuality as key definitional foils for human engagements with animality. We will examine how the "uses" of "animals" for "us," and precisely who is this "us"? How and when are some willing to see themselves as animal? Indeed, under what political conditions do they embrace the "animal"? What is the history of unique, often asymmetric, interdependencies between human animals and nonhuman animals? How do actual lives of humans and non-human animals merge and clash with the rhetorics and visualities of human animality? We will examine both "everyday" animality and the forms of animality that stand out only today in retrospect, in their exceptionality, or upon reflecting on structures of privilege. We will build a critical animal studies vocabulary from a range of readings in science, philosophy, art, feminism, indigenous studies, critical race, geography, fiction, film, rhetoric, history, activist movements, disability studies, postcolonial studies, and examine both visual and narrative cultural production.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** individual research project

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 15

**Enrollment Preferences:** Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors, Art History majors, English majors, Environmental Studies majors

**Expected Class Size:** 15
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
ARTH 348 (D1) STS 348 (D2) SCST 348 (D2) WGSS 348 (D2) ENGL 348 (D1)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Human/animal intersections are analysed with special attention to axes of gender, race, ability and sexuality.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 350  Queer Tongues & Lavender Linguistics  (DPE)
This course in linguistics provides an introduction to linguistic anthropology, sociolinguistics, and folklore studies using topics and approaches related to gender and sexuality. It is a methods course based in empirical research principles, but a basic familiarity with the broad strokes of queer/feminist theory may be helpful. One goal of the class will be learning to read and write in IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) and how to construct and use IPA “change charts.” We then build on this as we turn to sociolinguistics as students will learn how to do Discourse Analysis and Conversation Analysis, using WGSS-oriented topics (e.g., upspeak, vocal fry, so-called “gay voice,” the gendered nature of turn-taking and interrupting.) We then turn to an extended unit on queer folklore and folklife, learning how anthropologists and folklorists use motif type indexes (e.g., Propp Functions, Thompson Type Index, etc) to study oral narratives and how feminist/queer theorists can use these to analyze gender in folk/fairytales and other stories. We also read several linguistic anthropologists’ ethnographies of queer communities’ language practices in global context. The semester concludes with a unit on LGBT slang, argots, and profanity.

Requirements/Evaluation: IPA Quizzes (reading/writing), Conversation Analysis/Turntaking Transcription Assignment, Urban Legends Tale Type Analysis, Short Analytical Paper on Feminist/Queer Folk Figures

Prerequisites: None; prior coursework in WGSS may be helpful, but is not required

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: WGSS majors; short statements of interest will be solicited in the event of overenrollment

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading:

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course examines the centrality of power in communication as broken down along axes such as sex, gender, and sexuality. It deliberately takes a canonical field (i.e., linguistic anthropology) that often neglected the gendered nature of communication and puts these questions at the center of the curriculum. Assignments are structured in such a way as to build awareness of the role of gender and sexuality within human interactions and how sociolinguistics reveal power imbalances.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 352  (S)  Mystic Spirituality in Black Women's Social Justice Activism: Brazil-USA
Cross-listings: REL 352  AFR 352  WGSS 352

Secondary Cross-listing

This course examines the meanings and manifestations of mystic spirituality in the lives and work of selected Black women artists/activists in the USA and Brazil. The writings of Lucille Clifton (poet), Rosemarie Freeney Harding (activist and counselor) and Makota Valdina Pinto (activist and Candomblé ritual elder) are key texts for our exploration of the uses of mystic sensibilities and Afro-Atlantic ritual traditions—such as dreams and visions, prayer, divination, sacred dance, healing rites and other forms of unmediated intimate encounter with the sacred—as resources for creativity, community organizing, self-care and as aspects of political and social critique in African American and Afro-Brazilian contexts. The methodology of the course blends historical, literary and womanist approaches in an investigation of the conjunctions of spiritual practice and activism in the experience of women in the Afro-Atlantic diaspora.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, 2-3 short papers (5-7 pages) and a final project

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: AFR, REL, and WGSS concentrators

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

REL 352 (D2) AFR 352 (D2) WGSS 352 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 353 (S) The Brontës

Cross-listings: ENGL 353 WGSS 353

Secondary Cross-listing

Around 1845, three sisters in a remote town in Yorkshire effectively converted their father's humble parsonage into a family writers' colony. In 1846, each published her first novel--two of which would go on to become major classics. Within 8 years, all three sisters were dead, but by then they had produced seven of the most formally innovative, socially challenging, original and powerful works in English fiction. We will read them all, from Charlotte's best-selling love story, Jane Eyre, to the underrated Anne's brilliant and disturbing anatomy of an abusive marriage, The Tenant of Wildfell Hall, to Emily's singular masterpiece Wuthering Heights, as well as their poetry and selections from the voluminous fantasy fiction they created together as children. We will also read Elizabeth Gaskell's acclaimed 1857 Life of Charlotte Bronte, the first full-length biography of a woman novelist by a woman novelist, which began the process of making the Brontës the cult figures they remain today. Reading these works together in the bicentennial year of Anne's birth, we will consider how their shared efforts helped all three sisters to push through boundaries few other women writers had dared to challenge. In a similar spirit of collaboration, we will mix critical and creative writing in our responses to these works.

Requirements/Evaluation: discussion, two critical essays and two short creative pieces

Prerequisites: a 100-level ENGL course, or a score of 5 on the AP English Literature exam, or a score of 6 or 7 on the Higher Level IB English exam

Enrollment Limit: none

Enrollment Preferences: English majors, WGSS majors, seniors

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ENGL 353 (D1) WGSS 353 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 368 (F) Arab Women Writers: Remapping Urban Narratives

Cross-listings: COMP 368 ARAB 368 WGSS 368

Secondary Cross-listing

In "The Lover of Blue Writing above the Sea," (1995) a poem written to console a lover after the death of his beloved, Syrian poet, Ghada al-Samman, pens: "If you are sad and burn the edge of my book/I shall come to you/like the genie in my grandmother's Damascene stories..." As these lines imply, the fantastic grandmother's Damascene stories have the power to equally amend broken hearts and restore memories of loss. In this course, we will adopt "the grandmother's Damascene stories" as a conceptual metaphor that guides our line inquiry into the intersection of Arab women's narrative and the city. We will read novels and short stories by Arab women writers about cities and capitals in the Arab world and the diaspora. The goal of this course is not only to familiarize students with prominent Arab women novelists, such as Hoda Barakat, Radwa Ashur, Liana Badr, Raja'a Alem, Alia Mamdouh, and Ahlam Mosteghanemi, among others, but also to introduce them to the literary and visual cartography of Beirut, Granada (via Cairo), Ramallah, Mecca, Baghdad, and Constantine, respectively. We will also read short stories about other cities in the world, such as New York, Paris, London, Buenos Aires and Tokyo among other world metropolises. Questions we will address include: How does the city appear as a protagonist? How do Arab women novelists represent nationhood, modernity, memory, love, war, sexuality and religion, among other themes, in their construction of urban narratives? How do these narratives map an Arab feminist metropolis? How do Arab women writers represent cities beyond the Arab world? To answer these questions, we will also look at Arab women's blogs and watch films that focus on the city as a site for spatial articulation of national histories, popular revolutions, and feminist public spheres.

Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, several short response papers, three short papers (3-5 pages), a final performance project, and a final paper (7-10 pages)

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19
Enrollment Preferences: Arabic Studies majors and Comparative Literature majors

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

COMP 368 (D1) ARAB 368 (D1) WGSS 368 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 371 (F) Medicine and Campus Health in Disruptive Times (DPE)

Cross-listings: STS 370  WGSS 371  ANTH 371

Secondary Cross-listing

This class uses the methods and theories of critical medical anthropology and medical sociology to help students design and pursue innovative ethnographic projects that explore campus health or community health. Students will use an array of ethnographic techniques such as observant participation, interviewing, focus groups, and qualitative surveys to explore our campus community comprised of students, faculty, and/or staff, that build on weekly discussions, feedback, and design exercises. We situate our campus health projects within the wider context of how power and intersectionality inflect and structure health and well-being locally and globally. Our case studies explore how structural racism shapes medical education, pediatric care, and maternity care in the US, how the spread of US psychiatry inflects the landscape of global mental health, and how queer activism responded to the HIV/AIDS crisis. We consider how disruptive moments like COVID-19 or HIV/AIDS can serve as focal moments in social history that reveal underlying inequalities of health outcomes and access. We attend to the parallel roles of narrative in medicine and ethnography, as we contrast the discourse of providers & patients as well as researchers & interlocutors. Throughout our goal is to better understand the strengths and limits of ethnographic inquiry while exploring the challenges of collaborative and participatory research within communities always already structured by power, privilege, and engaged practices.

Class Format: Offered in hybrid format, yet students are encouraged to attend in person if they can. Students will be grouped into in-person or remote sections and can be reassigned during the semester if they request or require it for health reasons. Students should complete all assignments, weekly exercises, and attendance in class discussion. Please email me (Kgutsch@williams.edu) to indicate whether you plan to attend in person or remotely.

Requirements/Evaluation: Three written fieldnotes, weekly attendance and other writing exercises, midterm and final presentations on fieldwork projects.

Prerequisites: none, but a class in Anthropology, Sociology, Science & Technology Studies, or other social science is recommended

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: Majors in Anthropology, Sociology, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies; Concentrators in Public Health, Science and Technology Studies

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

STS 370 (D2) WGSS 371 (D2) ANTH 371 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This class examines the intersection of race, gender, class, and sexuality in structuring health outcomes, well-being, and access to health resources. It theorizes the ways that intersectionality shapes health of individuals and societies, including patient/provider encounters and efforts to ‘improve’ community health within contexts of social inequality and social suffering.

Fall 2020

SEM Section: H1  WF 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm  Kim Gutschow

WGSS 376 (S) Sex, Gender, and the Law in U.S. History (DPE)

This course explores how the law in America has defined and regulated gender and sexuality. We will evaluate how the law has dictated different roles for men and women, how sexual acts have been designated as legal or illegal, and the ways that race, class, and nationality have complicated the definition and regulation of gender and sexuality. We will examine how assumptions about gender and sexuality have informed the creation and
development of American law, contested interpretations of the Constitution, and the changing meanings of citizenship; We will consider how seemingly gender neutral laws have yielded varied effects for men and women across race and class divides, challenging some differences while naturalizing others. Finally, we will examine the power and shortcomings of appeals to formal legal equality waged by diverse groups and individuals. Throughout the course, we will consider the various methodologies and approaches of the interdisciplinary field of legal history. Topics to be covered will include the Constitution, slavery, marriage, divorce, custody, inheritance, immigration, sexual violence, reproduction, abortion, privacy, suffrage, jury duty, work, and military service.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** four papers, including three 4- to 6-page papers, and one final paper of 8-10 pages

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 25

**Enrollment Preferences:** History majors, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors

**Expected Class Size:** 20

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D2) (DPE)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course fulfills the DPE requirement because it examines the legal, social, and political constructions and theorizations of difference, power, and equity. It examines the ways that individuals and groups have organized across various axes of difference to fight for legal equality, and explores how those individuals and groups have experienced legal equality and legal inequality in varied ways.

**Not offered current academic year**

**WGSS 377 (F) Legacies of the Gothic Novel: Feminism and Horror in the Transatlantic World** (DPE)

**Cross-listings:** WGSS 377 ENGL 377 COMP 377

**Secondary Cross-listing**

Much maligned as a popular or "low" genre at its inception in the late eighteenth century, the gothic form has persisted in its popularity as well as crossed into "higher" forms of modernism, postmodernism, and postcolonialism. In this course, we will read key texts in the gothic mode-Frankenstein, Jane Eyre, and Wuthering Heights among others—and follow the ways in which they are revisited and rewritten by contemporary American and Caribbean writers, filmmakers, and artists. Particularly, we will examine how these texts subvert the realist leanings of Anglo-American narrative fiction and its assumptions of enlightenment rationalism by way of two main processes: narrative hypertrophy and feminist revisions of horror. The class will take up select contemporary criticism on the gothic and horror in literature, film, and art. This course will be of interest to students curious about feminism, postcolonialism, cultural criticism, horror, and comparative literature.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** presentation, paper plus revision, final research project

**Prerequisites:** one literature or related course

**Enrollment Limit:** 25

**Enrollment Preferences:** any student with relevant coursework in ENGL, COMP, or WGSS

**Expected Class Size:** 20

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D1) (DPE)

**This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:**

WGSS 377 (D1) ENGL 377 (D1) COMP 377 (D1)

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** The course will follow the path of radical thinking and generic experimentation by feminist writers of the nineteenth century as they transform in an anti colonial, anti racist, and anti misogynist contexts. We will study power, hegemony, and resistance along axes of gender, race, state form, and literary craft.

**Not offered current academic year**

**WGSS 378 (S) Uncontrollable: Deconstructing Stereotypes of Black Womanhood in the Americas**

**Cross-listings:** AFR 378 WGSS 378

**Secondary Cross-listing**

In *Black Feminist Thought* Patricia Hill Collins powerfully illustrates how "portraying African-American women as stereotypical mammies, matriarchs, welfare recipients, and hot mommas has been essential to the political economy of domination fostering Black women's oppression." This course
explores how similar social constructions of race and womanhood have evolved in Latin American countries affected by slavery and colonialism. We begin by revisiting Collins’ seminal text, as well as the work of other feminist scholars, as a starting point from which to deconstruct controlling images of Black women in Latin American nations. We will then explore clips from films, television series, advertisements, and comic strips to analyze different iterations of stereotypes and their impact on Afro-Latin American women’s life chances. The second component of this course will engage with Black women’s resistance throughout Latin America. We will engage songs, poetry, and empirical data on Black women’s resistance to examine they how have and continue to challenge stereotypes, educate the public, and construct their own narratives of black womanhood.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, 2-3 short papers (5-7 pages), and a final paper (12-15 pages)
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 19
Enrollment Preferences: AFR concentrators
Expected Class Size: 15
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
AFR 378 (D2) WGSS 378 (D2)
Not offered current academic year

WGSS 379 (S) Black Women in the United States (DPE)
Cross-listings: HIST 379 WGSS 379 AFR 379
Secondary Cross-listing
As slaves and free women, activists, domestics, artists and writers, African Americans have played exciting and often unexpected roles in U.S. political, social, and cultural history. In this course we will examine black women's lives from the earliest importation of slaves from Africa and the Caribbean through to the expansion of slavery, the Civil War, freedom, Jim Crow, the Civil Rights movements, and up to the present day. Consistent themes we will explore are the significance of gender in African American history and the changing roles and public perceptions of black women both inside and outside the black community. We will read and discuss a combination of primary and secondary sources; we will also consider music, art, and literature, as well as more standard "historical" texts.

Class Format: discussion
Requirements/Evaluation: student participation, three papers, and a brief oral presentation
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 15
Enrollment Preferences: History, WGSS, and American Studies Majors, and Africana Concentrators.
Expected Class Size: 12
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2) (DPE)
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
HIST 379 (D2) WGSS 379 (D2) AFR 379 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course meets the Difference, Power, and Equity requirement. The course focuses on empathetic understanding, power, and privilege, especially in relation to class, gender, and race within a U.S. context. We will study the ways in which the conflicts arose within the Black community and how Black women, usually without official positions as leaders, emerged as organizers and leaders in political and social movements.

Spring 2021
LEC Section: R1 TR 8:30 pm - 9:45 pm Gretchen Long

WGSS 380 (F) Freedom Dreams, Afro-Futures & Visionary Fictions
Cross-listings: AFR 380 SCST 380 WGSS 380 AMST 380 ENGL 381 STS 380
Primary Cross-listing

In this course we will examine the various ways Black scholars, artists, & writers use science fiction and visionary fiction to imagine freedom and new world orders. We will focus on the role of history, particularly slavery, in the Black radical imagination. "Freedom" is the keyword throughout the course. We will grapple with the various and sometimes conflicting meanings and uses of freedom as it relates to blackness, gender, sexuality, class and ability. We will explore multiple forms of scholarship and cultural productions, including film, music, novels, short-stories, art, poetry, and other academic texts. All students will be asked to discover and develop their writerly voices through various critical, creative, experimental and performative assignments.

Requirements/Evaluation: active participation, completion of various short assignments, one 5-page paper and one 7- to 10-page final paper
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 20
Enrollment Preferences: Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors, then Africana Studies concentrators
Expected Class Size: 20
Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
AFR 380 (D2) SCST 380 (D2) WGSS 380 (D2) AMST 380 (D2) ENGL 381 (D1) STS 380 (D2)

WGSS 386 (S) Latinas in the Global Economy: Work, Migration, and Households
Cross-listings: HIST 386 WGSS 386 LATS 386
Secondary Cross-listing

An increasingly global economy, from 1945 to the present, has affected Latinas in their home countries and in the United States. The garment industry, one of the first industries to go global, has relied extensively on Latina workers in their home countries and in the United States. Domestic work, a traditional field of women's work, also crosses borders. Challenging the myth that labor migration is a male phenomenon and that women simply follow the men, this course explores how the global economy makes Latinas labor migrants. What impact has the global economy and economic development had on Latinas' work and their households in their home countries? How have economic changes and government policies shaped Latinas' migrations and their incorporation in the changing U.S. economy? How have Puerto Rican, Mexican, Cuban, Dominican, Salvadoran, and Guatemalan women confronted the challenges created by a globalizing economy and balanced demands to meet their households' needs?

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation and group presentations, short writing assignments, two short essays, and a final paper that will be presented to the class
Prerequisites: open to first-year students with instructor's permission
Enrollment Limit: 25
Expected Class Size: 15
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
HIST 386 (D2) WGSS 386 (D2) LATS 386 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 389 (F) Fiction of Virginia Woolf
Cross-listings: ENGL 389 WGSS 389
Secondary Cross-listing

"Let us record the atoms as they fall upon the mind in the order in which they fall, let us trace the pattern, however disconnected and incoherent in appearance, which each sight or incident scores upon the consciousness. Let us not take it for granted that life exists more fully in what is commonly thought big than in what is commonly thought small" ("Modern Fiction"). Virginia Woolf's fiction represents a self-conscious and highly experimental challenge to the conventions of Victorian and Edwardian fiction, in an effort to re-center the novel on lived experience. This course will explore the
evolution of the innovative fictional forms by which she tried to bridge the gap between the experience of consciousness and its representation in language. We will also consider the links between Woolf's concern with in the fluidity of consciousness and her interest in gender fluidity and androgyny. We will read most of the major novels, probably including The Voyage Out, Jacob's Room, Mrs. Dalloway, To the Lighthouse, Orlando, The Waves, and Between the Acts, together with selected short fiction and critical essays.

Requirements/Evaluation: discussion, weekly journal, three 4- to 6-page essays

Prerequisites: a 100-level ENGL course, or a score of 5 on the AP English Literature exam, or a score of 6 or 7 on the Higher Level IB English exam

Enrollment Limit: none

Enrollment Preferences: English majors, WGSS majors, seniors

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
ENGL 389 (D1) WGSS 389 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 401  (F) Senior Seminar: Rethinking the Public: the Arts Take on Neoliberalism  (DPE)

Cross-listings: WGSS 401 GERM 401 COMP 401

Secondary Cross-listing

Western neoliberalism is a predatory excrescence of late capitalism that overvalues competition, transferring the laws of the market to human relationships. It deliberately creates instability not only in the economic sphere but, more generally, in the social collective by encouraging dangerous risk-taking, fomenting crises and cementing systemic inequity, while suggesting to those under its sway that they are corporate 'entrepreneurs of self.' This model of self-management also extends into the sphere of intimate relationships. Of course, because predatory neoliberalism heavily favors a white investor model and is premised on white norms, the racialized body is considered a priori subaltern and subservient. Humanistic and artistic approaches (while not per se immune or outside of neoliberal constraints) effectively polemicize against neoliberalism, and suggest practices that resist its technocratic mindset. Looking at literature, cinema, and critical theory from a range of regions and disciplines, we will focus on Europe and the United States. Moreover, we will ask how forms of neoliberalism affect different regions of the world: Southeast Asia, Russia? Where and how can solidarity be reimagined beyond identity politics? Where is the boundary between animal and human in the neoliberal collective?

Class Format: three hours per week

Requirements/Evaluation: three 3-page papers, a short oral presentation, a 15-page final paper

Prerequisites: 300-level course

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Comparative Literature majors and advanced students in other fields with permission of instructor

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Materials/Lab Fee: course books and reader packet

Distributions: (D1)  (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
WGSS 401 (D2) GERM 401 (D1) COMP 401 (D1)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course addresses the costs to exploited groups within the neoliberal marketplace. We will discuss theoretical sources from a variety of fields (sociology, economics, philosophy, gender studies) every week that render these forms of expulsion or dispossession explicit. Far from benefitting all, the privileging of self-interest and market relations leads to increased inequality and in turn provokes violent reactions: the birth of new forms of fascism, racism and religious fundamentalism.

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 403  (S) The Pedagogy of Liberation  (DPE)

Education is inherently political, and politics necessarily involves pedagogy. Who should teach, what is taught, how it is taught, and why it is taught are questions hotly debated at all levels and in all sites of education because the answers have implications for societal reproduction or transformation.
Politicians, activists, even family members at the dinner table all seek to educate in ways that incline us toward particular political positions. At the heart of this class stands the question: if different pedagogies point us in different political directions, then what kind of pedagogy or pedagogies serve the end of liberation from oppression and why? Are there certain pedagogical “goods” that reliably serve the goal of liberation across sites? Or do different sites require different approaches? To begin to answer these questions, we will engage a variety of thinker-teachers and groups known for their commitment to a “pedagogy of liberation.” While feminist thinkers will be foregrounded, we may also look to thinker-teachers who and groups that do not claim this label. In addition to engaging texts which reflect on different aspects of radical pedagogy (content, form, method, etc.) and radical pedagogy in different settings (the college classroom, the social movement headquarters, the home), we will witness radical pedagogy in practice. Moreover, we will enact various radical pedagogical strategies in our own classroom and beyond.

Requirements/Evaluation: Participation, assistance developing syllabus, presentation, final paper or paper equivalent

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Preference will be given to WGSS majors.

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This class is concerned with the relationship between pedagogy and equity - how can pedagogy be leveraged to combat oppression and encourage equity? In it, students will gain not just insight on, but practice in enacting radical democratic pedagogies that flatten power differentials and encourage effective engagement across difference.

Spring 2021

SEM Section: R1    MW 11:45 am - 1:00 pm     Greta F. Snyder

WGSS 408  (F) Senior Seminar: Nineteenth-Century French Novel: Desperate Housewives and Extreme Makeovers

Cross-listings: WGSS 408  RLFR 412

Secondary Cross-listing

In 1834, Balzac wrote that “Paris is a veritable ocean. Sound it: you will never know its depth.” The same can be said of the French nineteenth-century novel and its boundless ability to echo the past and illuminate the present. From the Romanticism of Stendhal and Hugo, and the Realism of Balzac and Flaubert, to the Naturalism of Zola and Maupassant, the novel became a forum for examining illicit sexuality, institutional misogyny, social injustice, criminal passions, revolutionary struggles, and Parisian pleasures in nineteenth-century France. Characters such as the imprisoned housewife Emma Bovary, the reluctant revolutionary Jean Valjean, the social-climbing lover Julien Sorel, the ambitious undergraduate Rastignac, and the domestically-abused Gervaise became synonymous with France’s turbulent social and political landscape from the 1830s to the 1880s. And as recent film adaptations make clear, these desperate housewives and extreme makeovers continue to haunt our twenty-first century present. Reinterpreted by such actors as Gérard Depardieu, Isabelle Huppert, Uma Thurman, Claire Danes, and Jennifer Aniston, the nineteenth-century novel continues to sound out the scandalous and sensational depths of our own century. Readings to include novels by Balzac, Stendhal, Hugo, Flaubert, Maupassant, Zola. Films to include adaptations by Clément, Berri, August, Arleta, Lelouch, Chabrol. Conducted in French.

Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, midterm exam, and two to three papers

Prerequisites: a 200-level or 300-level RLFR literature course at Williams; advanced coursework during study abroad; or by permission of the instructor

Enrollment Limit: 16

Enrollment Preferences: French majors and certificate students; Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors; Comparative Literature majors; and those with compelling justification for admission

Expected Class Size: 16

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 408 (D2) RLFR 412 (D1)

Not offered current academic year
In the age of satellite television, e-mail, and mobile applications such as WhatsApp and Skype, transnational living has rapidly emerged as the norm as opposed to the exception. However, what does it really mean to "be transnational"? How are the lived experiences of transnational individuals and communities shaped by categories of difference such as gender, ethno-racial identity, sexuality, and class? What impacts do the growing number of transnational citizens and residents in the U.S. have on our understanding of "American" identity in the local, national, and global contexts? In this interdisciplinary seminar we will analyze recent theories regarding the origins and impacts of transnationalism. Particular attention will be paid throughout the semester to the intersections of gender, ethno-racial identity, sexuality, and class in connection with everyday transnational dynamics. The broad range of case studies examined includes Central American, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Indonesia, Jamaica, Mexico, the Middle East, and Peru.

Class Format: This remotely taught, synchronous course will follow a discussion format.

Requirements/Evaluation: student participation, an original 12-15 page semester-long research paper conducted in stages, and peer editing

Prerequisites: LATS 105, WGSS 101 or AMST 201; junior or senior standing

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Latina/o Studies concentrators, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors, and American Studies majors by seniority. If the course is overenrolled students may be asked to submit a brief writing sample.

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LATS 409 (D2) WGSS 409 (D2) AMST 411 (D2)

Spring 2021

SEM Section: R1 MR 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm Maria Elena Cepeda

This capstone readings and research seminar for WGSS majors will culminate in a substantial independent research project. In the first half of the semester, we will examine the disciplinary and interdisciplinary development of the field(s) of WGSS; read classic texts and examples of more recent scholarship representing a range of WGSS theories and methods; and explore a variety of methods and strategies for crafting research within the field of WGSS. In the second half of the semester, students will design and conduct their own WGSS-related research projects.

Requirements/Evaluation: weekly discussion questions, research proposal, substantial final research project, and oral presentation

Prerequisites: WGSS 101

Enrollment Limit: none

Enrollment Preferences: WGSS majors

Expected Class Size: 5

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: senior seminar

Distributions: (D2)

Not offered current academic year

This seminar examines recent and canonical work in queer anthropology, exploring how different cultures construct sexual and gender identities and subjectivities, and what happens when dominant paradigms such as the Euro-American LGBT model become enmeshed in globalization, late
capitalism, and consumerism. We begin with a series of case studies highlighting alternative gender and sexual formations in various cultures around the world, emphasizing how these seemingly "authentic" local categories are themselves the products of historical shifts, colonial relations, and political economy. We also examine how these categories overlap, conflict with, subvert, or syncretize with the increasingly global category of "gay." In addition to reading queer ethnographies, we will also learn the methods required for doing ethnography ourselves, including interviewing techniques, participant observation, writing thick description, data analysis, and editing.

Requirements/Evaluation: ethnographic writing assignments (e.g., interviews, field notes, essays, etc.)

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors and others with substantial background in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies or Anthropology and Sociology Studies; statements of interest will be solicited

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Unit Notes: WGSS junior/senior seminar

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 412 (D2) WGSS 412 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 413 (S) Feminist Technoscience (DPE)

Cross-listings: WGSS 413 STS 413

Secondary Cross-listing

Are Feminism and Science compatible commitments? What do these nouns mean when paired with one another, when capitalized (or not), when pluralized (or not), and when deployed by a range of authors in different disciplines? What features do they share as ethical, political, and epistemological practices? What have scientific feminism and feminist science looked like in print and in practice since the middle of the 20th century, and how have they shaped our present, 21st-century technoscientific culture? To address these questions, we will read a set of essays and academic articles that are connected by a trail of citations. These will include works of theory -- like Donna Haraway's "Situated Knowledges" and "A Cyborg Manifesto" -- research write-ups like Pat Treusch's "The Art of Failure in Robotics," and ethnographic work like Sophia Roosth's "Evolutionary Yarns in Seahorse Valley." We will also examine the editorial introduction to "Science Out of Feminist Theory," a 2017 special issue of Catalyst, and we will circle outward and backward to make sense of the terms and arguments we encounter there. While some of the readings will be set in advance, students will help shape the syllabus as we travel toward a better understanding of feminist technoscience's potentials and limitations at a time when technical change often outpaces careful consideration of its consequences.

Class Format: This course will meet remotely in Spring 2021.

Requirements/Evaluation: discussion participation; five response papers (~2 pages); mid-semester essay (8 pages); final essay (12-15 pages + in-class presentation)

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Science and Technology Studies concentrators

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 413 (D2) STS 413 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Central to "Feminist Technoscience" is a recognition of and engagement with the historical under-privileging of women, women's work, and women's bodies in capital-S "Science" and in a wide range of other technoscientific practices. We will examine and elucidate several branches of feminist theory, We will also develop feminist accounts of contemporary technoscientific work, even as we critique a number of such accounts from the past several decades.
WGSS 416 (S) Senior Seminar: The Art of Minor Resistance: Advanced Readings in Race, Gender, Performance

Cross-listings: COMP 404  ARTH 416  THEA 416  WGSS 416

Primary Cross-listing

This seminar will study stagings and aesthetic theories of dissent in feminist, queer, anti-colonial, and anti-racist performance. An attunement to performance and to the minor is also a turn toward minoritarian knowledges and lifeworlds. Of interest will be modes of sensing and relating that are not often legible as political—including aesthetics of opacity, quiet, disaffection, aloofness, and inscrutability—but could be understood as critiques of political recognition. Performance is a capacious rubric in this class that will include performance art, social media, photography, music videos, poetry, street protest, and everyday life. Students will learn to describe, interpret, and theorize performance through discussion, writing, and creative form.

Requirements/Evaluation: in-class discussion, partner presentation, weekly reading responses, final project

Prerequisites: WGSS 101

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: WGSS majors, students with previous performance studies coursework

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

COMP 404 (D2) ARTH 416 (D2) THEA 416 (D1) WGSS 416 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 453 (S) Women, Gender, and Social Movements in U.S. History

Cross-listings: HIST 453  WGSS 453

Secondary Cross-listing

This seminar is devoted to researching and writing a substantial research paper on some aspect of U.S. women's or gender history, with a particular focus on social movements. Social movements organized around gender issues and identities have been significant sources of social and political change in U.S. History. Drawing on online archival collections of personal letters and diaries, published writings, organizational records, and oral histories, students will research an individual, social group, organization, event, or movement that invites them to explore that particular subject in depth, while also considering some of the following issues and questions: the different strategies, tactics, and ideologies used for organizing and movement building across the political spectrum; the ways that gender has united and divided grassroots movements; how and when it has been useful for women to act through women's groups versus other types of organizations; the ways that ethnicity, race, religion, and class have been resources for organizing and coalition building; how social movements have shaped and been shaped by larger political and economic developments; the ways that various gendered identities have served as both agents and objects of political and social change; and the relative importance of formally organized politics versus less formal strategies to effect political change.

Requirements/Evaluation: 20- to 25-page research paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: senior History majors

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

HIST 453 (D2) WGSS 453 (D2)

Not offered current academic year
WGSS 468  (S)  Practicum in Curating: Visual Art for a Garden

Cross-listings:  WGSS 468  ARTH 468

Secondary Cross-listing

This course aims to develop the wide range of skills needed to realize an art exhibition in a botanical garden (specifically Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota where the instructor is Curator at Large. The course responds to her charge to exhibit artists with 100% name recognition for the first five years of Selby's new "Living Museum" initiative which puts works of art in dialogue with botanicals. In the wake of shows devoted to Marc Chagall (2017), Andy Warhol (2018) and Paul Gauguin (forthcoming, 2019), each student will research and choose a non-male and/or non-white artist of some renown and construct an exhibition of works that might be possible to borrow. Course work includes 1) research on the artist and the concept, the focal works of art, auxiliary objects that do not require climate control (e.g. photographs and other works on paper), social history and other methodological frameworks 2) writing requests e.g., loans, rights; and 3) preparations for several of the following: press release, wall texts, wall labels, audio guide, and programming for the exhibition. The final project includes a 10-page synthetic research paper, written for a general audience, about the artist and their use of flowers as well as the projected installation of the climate-controlled gallery. Students may have the opportunity to participate in a WSP in situ in which they will experience all sectors of the museum, glass house, and gardens.

Class Format: this is a practicum so while it meets 3 hours/week as a seminar does, it is hands on in a different way (e.g., co-peer and one-on-one reviewing by me in class)

Requirements/Evaluation: in-class presentations of research (weekly or bi-weekly), a substantive annotated bibliography, several short writing assignments (e.g. letters, queries, reviews), reading and critiques of others’ work, in-class presentation of two drafts of the final paper and installation

Prerequisites: at least one 100-level course in ARTH

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: junior and senior art majors, especially those who have had either methods or a senior seminar and/or those with strong research, writing, and design skills

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading:  no pass/fail option,  no fifth course option

Materials/Lab Fee:  field trip expenses that may not be funded by the department (not to exceed $100)

Distributions:  (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
WGSS 468 (D1)  ARTH 468 (D1)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 491  (F)  Honors Project: Women's & Gender Studies

Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies honors project.

Grading:  no pass/fail option,  no fifth course option

Distributions:  (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 492  (S)  Honors Project: Women's & Gender Studies

Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies honors project.

Grading:  no pass/fail option,  no fifth course option

Distributions:  (D2)

Not offered current academic year

WGSS 493  (F)  Senior Thesis: Women's & Gender Studies

Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies senior thesis.

Grading:  no pass/fail option,  no fifth course option

Distributions:  (D2)
WGSS 494 (S) Senior Thesis: Women's & Gender Studies
Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies senior thesis.
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)

Spring 2021
HON Section: R1   TBA   Gregory C. Mitchell

WGSS 497 (F) Independent Study: Women's & Gender Studies
Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies independent study.
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)

Fall 2020
IND Section: H1   TBA   Gregory C. Mitchell

WGSS 498 (S) Independent Study: Women's & Gender Studies
Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies independent study.
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)

Spring 2021
IND Section: R1   TBA   Gregory C. Mitchell

Winter Study ---------------------------------------------------------------

WGSS 31 (W) Senior Thesis: Women's and Gender Studies
See description of Degree with Honors in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies.
Class Format: thesis
Grading: pass/fail only
Not offered current academic year

WGSS 99 (W) Independent Study: Women's and Gender Studies
Open to upperclass students. Students interested in doing an independent project (99) during Winter Study must make prior arrangements with a faculty sponsor. The student and professor then complete the independent study proposal form available online. The deadline is typically in late September. Proposals are reviewed by the pertinent department and the Winter Study Committee. Students will be notified if their proposal is approved prior to the Winter Study registration period.
Class Format: independent study
Grading: pass/fail only
Not offered current academic year