988: 101 (01) -- Women, Culture, and Society

T/F 8:10-9:30 – MU-111

P. Caravantes-González

Women, Culture and Society aims to introduce students to the theoretical study of differences regarding gender, race, ethnicity, class, nation, and sexuality. We will collectively reflect on diverse forms of oppression such as sexism, racism, heteronormativity and/or ethnocentrism. In order to approach these issues, this course will rely on a variety of feminist analyses.

988: 101 (02) -- Women, Culture, and Society*

T/F 12:00-1:20 - BE 250

L. Tam

“Women, Culture and Society” provides a cross-section of ongoing debates within the field of Women’s and Gender Studies, including some of the foundational texts and theories that have shaped recent feminist thought. Throughout the course there will be a strong emphasis on the critical perspectives, lived experiences, and political struggles of Black women, Indigenous women, racialized immigrants, and queer and trans people of color.

We will examine the historical relationships between race, gender, disability, and sexuality across multiple, overlapping systems of exploitation and expropriation. These include contemporary practices of slavery in the prison industrial complex, colonial genocide in Indigenous North America, nationbuilding projects in Western capitalist states (such as Canada, the United States, and United Kingdom), and new (and old) medical interventions in the lives of immigrants and workers from the global South.

At the heart of our inquiry is the question of power: who wields it, how is it rationalized, what tactics or strategies are deployed? This course offers a set of analytic tools absent from mainstream academic disciplines, centering the narratives and knowledge of communities traditionally marginalized from scholarly research and writing. We will both draw on and question practices from disciplines such as history, anthropology, psychology, and literary studies.

*Open to 1st and 2nd year students only.

988:101 (03) – Women, Culture, and Society*

M/TH 9:15-10:35 – HCK-209

R. Moumneh

This course examines the operations of gender, race, class and sexuality as categories which work to organize society and structure lived experience. It takes as axiomatic that all identity categories are socially constructed and are designed to create and maintain vectors of privilege and marginalization. It also examines the ways identities can be experienced pleasuringly, ambivalently...
and, at times, as outright oppressive. We will be tracing the ways in which gender, sexuality, race, and class form and complicate both local and transnational political, economic, and social realities. We will draw on a toolbox for this work that includes course readings, theoretical concepts, popular culture and social media, and our own lived experiences in order to understand how social, political, and emotional worlds are shaped by gender, sexuality, race, and class.

*Open to 1st year students only.

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**988:101 (04) - Women, Culture, and Society***

T/F 12:35-1:55 - HCK 216

R. Aparicio

This course examines the operations of gender, race, sexuality and disability as categories which work to organize societal operations and structure lived experience. It takes as axiomatic that all identity categories are socially constructed and are designed to create and maintain vectors of privilege and marginalization. It also examines the ways identities can be experienced pleasurably, ambivalently and, at times, as outright oppressive.

*Open to 1st and 2nd year students only

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**988:101 (05) - Women, Culture, and Society**

T/TH 5:35-6:55 - RAB 206

J. Foster

This course introduces students to the theoretical study of women’s lives as they vary within and across cultures. We will examine differences according to sex, gender, race, class, ethnicity, and age, and we will use a feminist lens to study how gender intersects with other categories of identification. The course focuses on the social construction of gender during the life cycle by examining women within and outside of the United States. Economic, political, and social aspects of women’s lives will gain our attention, as will a host of important issues ranging from the value of work, the work-family balance, poverty, violence, sexuality, and women in developing countries.

*Open to 1st and 2nd year students only.

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**988:101 (06) - Women, Culture, and Society**

T/TH 1:10-2:30 - MU 204

M. Fuentes
This course will introduce students to the significance of gender in shaping the lives of women in the context of the multi-cultural and multi-ethnic U.S. From both historical and contemporary lenses, students will engage with readings, films, and class discussions, and small group work, exploring how sexuality, class, ethnicity/race, age and disability impact on women's lives and life choices. We will ask how gender was defined in different moments and by different communities and how justice for gender equality came to be and can be understood so variously depending on one's identity or social experience. Through the interdisciplinary perspective of Women's and Gender Studies we will track Feminist/Womanist social movements from the mid-19th century to the present to address how the complexities of identity inform(ed) the struggle for variously defined "freedoms" in American society and affected the ways in which women organized around social issues impacting themselves and their communities. Students will be required to respond to the course material through short blog assignments based on readings, class discussions, 3 exams and group reading presentations.

988:101 (09 & 11*) - Women, Culture, and Society

09: T/F 12:35-1:55 - FS 109

11: T/TH 6:10-7:30 - MU 212A. Estepa

In this course, we will examine how gender and sexuality (as well as other identity categories such as race and class) work to organize society and its institutions, as well as our personal experiences. What do we mean when we say these categories are “socially constructed”? How do they help determine our place in society—how much power we have, how seriously we are taken, the kinds of opportunities available to us, what others expect of us, what we expect of ourselves, how our experiences are interpreted and evaluated? How relevant are these categories to our day-to-day lives—in our families, with our friends, in school, at work, on the streets of our communities? After an introduction to the basic theories, terminology, and themes of gender studies and feminist analysis, we will use readings from a variety of genres and disciplines, as well as cultural and media productions (e.g. film, television, photography, advertising) to delve deeper into a range of issues including: gender socialization; the intersection of gender, race, and class; the body and standards of beauty; sexuality; the history of American feminism; work and family life; and gendered and sexualized violence.

*Open to 1st and 2nd year students only.

988:101 (10) - Women, Culture, and Society**

M/W 7:40-9:00 - MU 210

N. Tanjeem

This course offers an introduction to major concepts, theories, and debates in Women’s and Gender Studies. By utilizing a transnational feminist lens, we will unravel how gender identities are locally and globally constituted at the intersection of race, class, sexuality, nation, ethnicity, and so on. We will draw on the interdisciplinary scholarships that deal with the questions of gender and differences; gender, war, and violence; the politics of embodiment; and gendered
labor, neoliberalism, and the global economy. Through a variety of assignments, we will
demystify common misconceptions about Women’s and Gender Studies, critically interrogate
what feminist theories and activism could mean in transnational contexts, and connect classroom
learning with our everyday lives.

**Open to 1st year students only.**

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**988:101 (15) - Women, Culture, and Society**

M/W 7:15-8:35 - CDL 103

K. Gray

This is an introductory course integrating women’s and gender studies and film and media studies.
Over the course of the semester we will chart representations of gender, race, and sexuality in U.S.
cinema. As a pervasive form of cultural production, cinema produces and reproduces notions of
gender, race, and sexuality. In what ways do these visual objects narrate dominant conceptions of
gender, sexuality, and race, while simultaneously rebelling against them? Taking U.S. cinema as
our object (with the addition of a few international exceptions), we will examine and challenge
both normative and countercultural formations of these social constructs.

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**988:101 (16) - Women, Culture, and Society**

T/F 10:55-12:15 – RAB-110B

A. Cantrell

Women, Culture, & Society is an introductory course that examines concepts of power, privilege,
stigma, and social construction. We will investigate what we thought that we knew about the
world, and ask ourselves how we know what we know. This course will examine some of the most
basic and fundamental structures of how we orient and organize ourselves as human beings in the
world. By pulling apart these basic structures, we will develop an understanding of how systems of
power and oppression undergird our everyday interactions, and we will challenge ourselves to
dream up new ways of being in the world as a response.