

Feminist Methodology: Gender and the Archive

16:988:602

Wednesdays, 1:10-4:10

VD, CAC

Professor Marisa J. Fuentes

This course will examine historical and theoretical texts concerned with gender as an analytic in the practice of history and in working with historical archives. With a global and transnational scope, we will consider the construction of gendered, queer, and invisible historical subjects across a range of time periods from medieval to the present. Beginning with theoretical questions that interrogate archival production, organization, and silences we will explore how the construction of genders (along with an intersectional perspective of race, class, sexualities, geographies) silence or amplify historical voices and the innovative approaches feminist scholars have employed to work with and against the silences and fragmentation of certain gendered historical subjects. This course does not require an educational background in the discipline of history but does require students to think historically and be open to understanding the discipline and field of history. While not an official methods course, we will consider methods particular to historical inquiry, archival research, and narrativization. We will also read texts in cultural studies that theorize archival production, methods, and subjectification.

Readings may include but are not limited to: Ranajit Guha, Gayatri Spivak, C. Riley Snorton, Ann Stoler, Leah DeVun and Zeb Tortorici (TSQ Special Issue Trans*historicities), Jack Halberstam, Joan Scott, Saidiya Hartman, Marisa Fuentes, Natalie Zemon Davis, Antoinette Burton, Thomas Foster, Michel-Rolph Trouillot, Michelle McKinnley, Sarah Haley, Talitha LeFlouria, Diana Taylor, John D'Emilio, Pamela Scully.

*Readings will be finalized by August 30, 2018