

TRANSNATIONAL FEMINISMS

WGSS 290B – Introduction to Sexuality Studies: Movements for Justice in the Contemporary World

Monday, Wednesday 11:15-12:05 p.m.

Friday discussions 12:20 and 1:25

Svati Shah

This interdisciplinary course will help students to understand what the term "sexuality studies" means by providing a foundation in the key concepts, historical and social contexts, topics, and politics that inform the fields of sexuality studies; lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender studies; and queer studies. Course instruction will be carried out through readings, lectures, films, and discussions, as well as individual and group assignments. Over the course of the semester, students will develop and use critical thinking skills to discern how "sexuality" becomes consolidated as a distinct category of analysis in the late nineteenth century, and what it means to speak about sexuality and transgender politics and categories today. Topics will include queer theories and politics, trans theories and politics, LGBTQ social movements within and outside of the US, relationships with feminist reproductive justice movements, heterosexuality, homophobia, and HIV/AIDS and health discourses. The range of materials covered will prioritize developing analyses that examine the interplay between sexuality and class, gender, race, ethnicity, and neoliberalism. (Gen. Ed. SB, DG)

WGSS 392J/692J – Feminisms and Environmental Justice

Monday, Wednesday 2:30-3:45 p.m.

Kiran Asher

While feminism and environmental justice are both political projects of social change, their objects or objectives are not the same. As we sink into the 21st century, amid looming fears of ecological catastrophes and socio-economic crises, is a conversation between these two projects likely to be productive for both struggles, or are their goals at odds with each other? This class will examine the perceived, existing, and potential links (or disjuncts) between feminism and environmental justice. Our interdisciplinary inquiry will be guided by questions such as: What is understood by the terms "feminism" and "environmental justice"? How have nature and the environment figured in feminist writings and feminist ideas of justice? Conversely, how do women and gender figure in ideas and struggles for environmental justice? Indeed, how do feminist ideals inform (or not) other struggles for social change (such as those of peasants, workers, ethnic groups, queer folk, and more)?

WGSS 493W/693W - Worlds of Migration

Monday 4:00-6:30 p.m.

Svati Shah

This seminar takes an expansive view of migration, beginning with readings from archaeology, physical anthropology and antiquity, all of which show that humans have always traveled great distances, for resources, because of climate disturbances, and for reasons that are yet to be understood. Indeed, migration has been a consistent feature and "producer" of human existence. Taking human migration as the norm rather than the exception, we will examine when, how and why "nativism" and reactionary discourses of ethnic and racialized citizenship began imagining a

different view of migration to the one we find in the records of human history. Readings on contemporary migration will focus on India, South Africa, Greece, Australia and the US, all of which have had intense debates on questions of nation, sexuality, race and labor in recent years. Theoretically, we will rely on critiques of migration that emphasize temporality, political economy and postcoloniality, especially with respect to understanding borders and how they are surveilled and enforced. Our readings and discussions will expand the terrain of what counts as "migration", why certain forms of human movement across great distances are not thought of as "migration" at all, and why legal and policy debates around the world tend to focus on cross-border migration, often at the expense of equally important discussions of domestic, "circular" and seasonal migrations that people everywhere undertake as a means of survival.

CHINESE 394WI – Women in Chinese Cultures

Tuesday, Thursday 10:00-11:15 p.m.

Elena Chiu

This course focuses on the representation of women and the constitution of gender in Chinese culture as seen through literature and mass media. It focuses on literary and visual representations of women to examine important issues such as the relationship between gender and power, self and society, and tradition and modernity. This course has a dual goal: to explore how women's social role has evolved from pre-modern China to the present and to examine important issues such as women's agency, "inner-outer" division, and the yin-yang dichotomy in Chinese literature and culture. Satisfies the Integrative Experience requirement for BA-Chinese majors.

HISTORY 397REH – Race, Sex, and Empire: Britain and India

Monday, Wednesday 4:00-5:15 p.m

Priyanka Srivastava

Imperialism cannot be understood merely as an economic-military-territorial system of control and exploitation. Cultural domination is integral to any sustained system of global exploitation. Focusing on cultural aspects of imperialism, this course explores the racial and sexual politics of British Empire in India from the late eighteenth to early twentieth century. Using a combination of primary and secondary sources as well as visual and literary material the course will examine how socially constructed racial and gendered hierarchies, and myths about the sexual practices of colonized people were linked to the pursuit and maintenance of imperial rule over India. Simultaneously, we will consider how the complex intersection of race, sexuality, and class influenced the political and social cultures of both Britain (the metropole) and India (the colony). We will analyze key scholarly perspectives on the following: forms of colonial knowledge, theories of Aryanism, colonial masculinities, regulation of sexual behavior and prostitution, and the varying roles of colonial institutions, medical practices, popular discourses, and cultural artifacts in producing racial and sexual stereotypes and in creating distinctions between the colonizers and the colonized.

JAPANESE 391S/591S – Women Writers of Japan

Tuesday, Thursday 1:00-2:15 p.m.

Amanda Seaman

See department for description.

POLISCI 392AP – Activism, Participation and Protest

Wednesday 2:30-5:00 p.m.

Sonia Alvarez

This course examines contemporary forms of political activism, participation, and protest. Drawing on select case studies, principally from Latin America, the U.S, and Europe, we will pay particular attention to the dynamic development of feminisms, anti-racist/Black mobilizations, anti-austerity and pro-democracy protests, and LGBTQ organizing.

MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

GNDST 204CW/ASIAN 215/FMT 230CW - Androgyny and Gender Negotiation in Contemporary Chinese Women's Theater

Wednesday 1:30-4:20 p.m.

Ying Wang

Yue Opera, an all-female art that flourished in Shanghai in 1923, resulted from China's social changes and the women's movement. Combining traditional with modern forms and Chinese with Western cultures, Yue Opera today attracts loyal and enthusiastic audiences despite pop arts crazes. We will focus on how audiences, particularly women, are fascinated by gender renegotiations as well as by the all-female cast. The class will read and watch classics of this theater, including *Romance of the Western Bower*, *Peony Pavilion*, and *Butterfly Lovers*. Students will also learn the basics of traditional Chinese opera.

GNDST 210SL/RELIG 207/CST 249L – Women and Gender in Islam

Tuesday, Thursday 11:30-12:45 p.m.

Amina Steinfels

This course will examine a range of ways in which Islam has constructed women--and women have constructed Islam. We will study concepts of gender as they are reflected in classical Islamic texts, as well as different aspects of the social, economic, political, and ritual lives of women in various Islamic societies.

GNDST 212BW/CST 249BW - Black Women and the Politics of Survival

Tuesday, Thursday 1:30-2:45 p.m.

Riche Barnes

Contemporary Black women in Africa and the Diaspora are concerned with the sea of economic and political troubles facing their communities, and grappling with how to affirm their own identities while transforming societal notions of gender and family. In this course, we will explore the "intersectionality" of race, gender, sexuality, class, transnational

identity; reproductive health; homophobia and heteronormativity, along with the effects of racism, unequal forms of economic development, and globalization on Black communities. The overall aim of this course is to link contemporary Black women's theory and practice to a history and tradition of survival and resistance.

GNDST 333FP/FREN 341FS - Women and Writing in French-Speaking Africa
Tuesday 1:30-4:20 p.m.
Samba Gadjigo

This course explores writings by women in French-speaking Africa from its early beginnings in the late 1970s to the present. Special attention will be given to social, political, gender, and aesthetic issues.

GNDST 333AE - Race, Gender and Sexual Aesthetics in the Global Era
Wednesday 1:30-4:20 p.m.
TBD

Reading across a spectrum of disciplinary focuses (e.g. philosophies of aesthetics, post-structural feminisms, Black cultural studies, and queer of color critique) this course asks the question what is the nature of aesthetics when it negotiates modes of difference? This course explores the history and debates on aesthetics as it relates to race, gender, and sexuality with particular emphasis on Black diaspora theory and cultural production. Drawing on sensation, exhibitions, active discussion, observation, and experimentation, emphasis will be placed on developing a fine-tuned approach to aesthetic inquiry and appreciation.

SMITH COLLEGE

SWG 288/FRN 288 - Immigration and Sexuality in France and Europe
Monday, Wednesday 1:20-2:35 p.m.
Mehammed Mack

This course analyzes the politics of sexuality in immigration debates in France and Europe, from the 1920s to the present. Students examine both cultural productions and social science texts: memoirs, psychoanalytical literature, activist statements, sociological studies, films, fashion, performance art, music videos, and dance forms. France has historically been the leading European host country for immigrants, a multiplicity of origins reflected in its current demographic make-up. Topics include: the hyper-sexualization of black, brown, and Muslim bodies, France as a Mediterranean culture, immigrant loneliness in Europe, intermarriage and demographic change, the veil and niqab, as well as sexual nationalism and homo-nationalism.

FRN 230 - [French Calligraphies: Contemporary Chinese Women's Writing](#)
Monday, Wednesday 1:20-2:35 p.m.
Dawn Fulton

France is home to the largest overseas Chinese community in Western Europe. This course looks at how Francophone women writers and artists of Chinese origin critique and celebrate French culture in their work. Focusing on contemporary fiction, film, and graphic art, we consider the role of canonical French literature during the Cultural Revolution, portrayals of Sinophone cultures in France, and the relationship between language and stereotype. Through the lens of gendered and multigenerational immigration narratives, we also study such topics as translation, food, sexuality, and exile.

HST 263 – Women and Gender in Latin America

Tuesday, Thursday 10:50-12:05 p.m.

Diana Sierra Becerra

This course will use gender as an analytical lens to understand key themes and periods of Latin American history, from the pre-Columbian era to present-day neoliberalism. Drawing from a variety of methodological approaches, the course will illuminate how gender has shaped social relationships, institutions, identities, and discourses in the region. It will prioritize the role of women and how their individual and collective actions have impacted Latin America. Special attention will be paid to the racial and class differences among women, and their social movement participation.

HST 286 – Historiographic Debates in the History of Gender and Sexuality

Tuesday 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Darcy Buerkle

This course considers methodologies and debates in modern historical writing about gender and sexuality, with a primary focus on European history. Students develop an understanding of significant, contemporary historiographic trends and research topics in the history of women and gender.

SPN 230 – Creative Writing By and With Spanish Women Writers

Tuesday, Thursday 1:20-2:35 p.m.

Reyes Lazaro

This is a hinge course between beginning-intermediate and advanced-intermediate courses. Students read and practice creative writing (essays and pieces of fiction) with the aid of fictional and biographical pieces written by Spanish women from the 12th century to our day. Its goal is to develop introspective writing, students' competence and self-confidence in the analysis of short and longer fiction in Spanish, knowledge of the history of women's writing in Spain, and acquisition of linguistic and cultural literacy in Spanish through playful fiction writing. Fulfills the writing requirement for the major.

SPN 255 – Muslim Women in Film

Tuesday, Thursday 2:45-4:00 p.m.

Ibtissam Bouachrine

Focusing on films by and about Muslim women from Africa, the Middle East, and Europe, this transdisciplinary course will explore one question: What do Muslim women want? Students will watch and study critically films in Farsi, Hebrew, French, Spanish, Dutch, Italian, and different Arabic dialects. Class discussion and assignments will be primarily in Spanish.