

FYSE 08

Reading Gender

Tuesday, Thursday 11:30-12:50 p.m.

Rose Olver

Michelle Barale

This course will introduce students to questions fundamental to understanding the meaning of gender by undertaking two types of reading: the reading of gender as displayed by individuals and the reading of materials that consider gender from particular disciplinary points of view. The course is cross-disciplinary both in the texts from the humanities, sciences, and social sciences it reads and in the pedagogical structure it will employ. We will explore the uses and limits of biology in explaining gender differences; male and female sexualities including homosexualities; men's and women's participation in production and reproduction as well as their differing investments in social change. We will pay attention to the intersection of gender, race, and class and to the functions of visual and verbal representation in the creating, enforcing, and contesting of gender norms. The role culture plays in creating gender will be examined by studying cross-cultural similarities and differences in the definitions of masculinity and femininity. Careful analysis of the arguments posed in our texts will provide the foundation for students to develop their own ability to write arguments. This course will be team-taught by professors from two different disciplines; class sessions will be taught at times separately and at other times jointly.

Women and Gender Studies

14 Grosvenor

542-5781

WAGS 10/
FIAR 85

Witch/Vampire/Monster

Tuesday, Thursday 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Natasha Staller

This course will explore the construction of the monstrous, over cultures, centuries and disciplines. With the greatest possible historical and cultural specificity, we will investigate the varied forms of monstrous creatures, their putative powers, and the explanations given for their existence--as we attempt to articulate the kindred qualities they share. Among the artists to be considered are Bosch, Valdés, Leal, Velázquez, Goya, Munch, Ensor, Redon, Nolde, Picasso, Dalí, Kiki Smith, and Cindy Sherman.

WAGS 11

Construction of Gender

Tuesday, Thursday
10:00-11:20 a.m.

Kristin Bumiller

Martha Saxton

This course introduces students to the issues involved in the social and historical construction of gender and gender roles from a cross-cultural and interdisciplinary perspective. Topics will include women and social change; male and female sexualities including homosexualities; the uses and limits of biology in explaining human gender differences; women's participation in production and reproduction; the relationship among

gender, race and class as intertwining oppressions; women, men and globalization; and gender and warfare.

WAGS 22 War & Community/S. Asia Neloufer De Mel
Monday 2:00-4:30 p.m.

Representations of war and their aftermath have exerted a powerful influence in shaping our understanding of war, normalizing armed conflict or resisting the ideology of militarism. Literary and cinematic treatments of recent conflicts in South Asia provide a unique, focused lens through which to analyze how representations of war and resistance to it construct communities around identities of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, disability, religion and class. This course uses film and literary texts from South Asia to examine the role such representations play in social struggle, community-building, and the politics of memory, as well as the gendering of specific aspects of militarization, from masculinized militaries to figurations of the female suicide bomber. Students will develop close readings of these materials in the context of their circulation and production, often under conditions of censorship and militarization that govern war.

WAGS 39 Women in Judaism Susan Niditch
REL 39 Wednesday 2:00-4:30 p.m.

A study of the portrayal of women in Jewish tradition. Readings will include biblical and apocryphal texts; Rabbinic legal (halakic) and non-legal (aggadic) material; selections from medieval commentaries; letters, diaries, and autobiographies written by Jewish women of various periods and settings; and works of fiction and non-fiction concerning the woman in modern Judaism. Employing an inter-disciplinary and cross-cultural approach, we will examine not only the actual roles played by women in particular historical periods and cultural contexts, but also the roles they assume in traditional literary patterns and religious symbol systems.

Black Studies

108 Cooper

542-5800

BLST 24 Black Women in Black Literature Andrea Rushing
Tuesday, Thursday 10:00-11:20 a.m.

This cross-cultural course examines similarities and differences in portrayals of girls and women in Africa and its New World diaspora with special emphasis on the interaction of gender, race, class, and culture. Texts are drawn from Africa, the Caribbean, and the United States. Topics include motherhood, work, and sexual politics. Authors vary from year to year and include: Toni Cade Bambara, Maryse Condé, Nuruddin Farah, Bessie Head, Merle Hodge, Paule Marshall, Ama Ata Aidoo, and T. Obinkaram Echewa.

Law, Jurisprudence
and Social Thought

208 Clark House

542-2380

LJST 74
POLSC 74
Component

Norms/Rights/Justice
Tuesday 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Kristin Bumiller

This seminar explores how the civil rights movement began a process of social change and identity-based activism. We evaluate the successes and failures of “excluded” groups’ efforts to use the law. We primarily focus on the recent scholarship of theorists, legal professionals, and activists to define “post-identity politics” strategies and to counteract the social processes that “normalize” persons on the basis of gender, sexuality, disability, and class.

Spanish

5 Barrett Hall

542-2317

SPAN 38

Race & Gender: Caribbean
Monday, Wednesday 12:30-1:50 p.m.

Carmen Lamas

Through an analysis of how race and gender is constructed in key texts and in manifestation of popular culture of the 19th and 20th century, this interdisciplinary course brings together the political, social, and literary history of Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic. Our study of the construction of race and gender will serve as a point of departure for asking ourselves how colonialism, Plantation society, and U.S. intervention impact the construction of a national subject in these countries; how migration and transculturation shape national identity; and in what ways the Spanish-speaking Caribbean can be said to be a part of or apart from the rest of Latin America and the Caribbean. Films will supplement our readings. This course is conducted in Spanish.

Psychology

321 Merrill

542-2217

PSYC 40

Sex Roles Socialization
Wednesday 2:00-4:30 p.m.

Rose Olver

An examination of the processes throughout life that produce and maintain sex-typed behaviors. The focus is on the development of the psychological characteristics of males and females and the implications of that development for participation in social roles. Consideration of the biological and cultural determinants of masculine and feminine

behaviors will form the basis for an exploration of alternative developmental possibilities. Careful attention will be given to the adequacy of the assumptions underlying psychological constructs and research in the study of sex differences.

Sociology/Anthropology

205 Morgan Hall

542-2193

SOCI 34
component

Social Class
Tuesday, Thursday 10:00-11:20

Ron Lembo

This course will consider various ways that class matters in the United States. Historical accounts will be used in conjunction with sociological theories to discuss the formation of classes, including the formation of discourses and myths of class, in American society. Class will then serve as a lens to examine the origins and characteristics of social stratification and inequality in the U.S. The bulk of the course will focus on more contemporary issues of class formation, class structure, class relations, and class culture, paying particular attention to how social class is actually lived out in American culture. Emphasis will be placed on the role class plays in the formation of identity and the ways class cultures give coherence to daily life. In this regard, the following will figure importantly in the course: the formation of upper class culture and the role it plays in the reproduction of power and privilege; the formation of working class culture and the role it plays in leading people to both accept and challenge class power and privilege; the formation of the professional middle class and the importance that status anxiety carries for those who compose it. Wherever possible, attention will be paid to the intersection of class relations and practices with those of other social characteristics, such as race, gender and ethnicity. The course will use sociological and anthropological studies, literature, autobiographies, and films, among other kinds of accounts, to discuss these issues.