

HACU-0165

Postcolonial Feminist Philosophy  
Tuesday, Thursday 12:30-1:50 p.m.

Monique Roelofs

Contemporary feminist philosophers, postcolonial theorists, and critical race theorists have formulated novel theories of subjectivity and sense making. This course introduces you to fundamental concepts that help you to think critically about race, gender, sexuality, and the transnational. Course themes include: language as racialized and sexed; commodification and the market; postcoloniality and the aesthetics of embodiment; global feminisms; narrativity and experience; theories of transformation and critique.

HACU-0166

The Body in Modern Art  
Tuesday, Thursday 2:00-3:20 p.m.

Sura Levine

The representation of the human body is central to the history of art. This course will explore this crucial subject in art. The course begins with the shift from Jacques-Louis David's virile masculinity to a more androgynous and even feminized male as rendered by his followers. It then will explore the spectacle of a modern city in which prostitutes/Venus/ femme fatales/other kinds of working women often were favored over the domestic sphere. It ends with the period of World War I where various assaults on traditional mimesis took place among avant-garde artists.

HACU-0280

Shakespeare and Woolf  
Tuesday, Thursday 12:30-1:50 p.m.

Susana Loza

"Lovers and mad men have such shaping phantasies, that apprehend more than cool reason ever comprehends." (A Midsummer Night's Dream) In the first part of the course we will read Shakespeare (five plays) and in the latter part Virginia Woolf (four novels and selected essays). Our main focus will be on the texts, reading them from several perspectives and with some attention to their widely different literary and cultural assumptions. However, one thread tying together our work on these two authors will be their common interest in the ways human beings lose their frames of reference and their sense of themselves in madness, lose and find themselves in love or in sexuality, and find or make both self and world in the shaping act of the imagination. The method of the course will include directed close reading, discussion, and periodic lectures. Three to four pieces of student writing are expected.

HACU 329  
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Identity Beyond Identity Politics  
Wednesday 1:00-3:50 p.m.

Monique Roelofs

How can we understand the importance of identity politics and what are its limitations? What grounds do philosophy, literary theory and the arts provide for thinking identity and imagining beyond it? What do conceptions of sex-specific, racialized processes of becoming imply for the question of subjectivity? How important is the idea of identity to the life of categories such as race, gender, class, ethnicity, sexuality, age, the nation, and culture within and outside the arts? What ideas about reading, subjectivity, community and action are at stake? We will study literature, films, images, and writings by theorists such as Benjamin, Adorno, Kristeva, Irigaray, Braidotti, Lugones, Alcoff, Chow, Agamben, Ahmed.

SS-0119

Third World, Second Sex

Laurie Nisonoff

Tuesday, Thursday 10:30-11:50 a.m.

What happens to women when societies "modernize" and industrialize their economies? Is capitalist economic development a step forward or a step backward for women in industrialized and developing countries? In this seminar we look at debates about how some trends in worldwide capitalist development affect women's status, roles and access to resources, and locate the debates in historical context. In the "global assembly line" debate we look at women's changing work roles. We ask whether women workers in textile and electronics factories gain valuable skills, power and resources through these jobs, or whether they are super-exploited by multinational corporations. In the population control debate, we ask whether population policies improve the health and living standards of women and their families or whether the main effect of these policies is to control women, reinforcing their subordinate positions in society. Other topics include the effects of economic change on family forms, the nature of women's work in the so-called "informal sector," and what's happening to women in the current worldwide economic crisis. We will use journal articles, short fiction, videos, and *The Women Gender & Development Reader* to explore these issues.

SS-0147

Land Stories, Land Rights

Susan Darlington

*component*

Monday, Wednesday 1:00- 02:20 p.m.

Land Stories, Land Rights: Humans have long identified with the land on which they live. Yet different people tell different stories of themselves, their histories, their relations with the land and the land itself. Whose stories are heard while others are silenced? How do told and untold stories affect access and rights to land or decisions about land use? This course will explore cases from around the world, examining debates surrounding U.S. national parks, conflicts involving religion, gender and land rights, and questions of indigenous rights versus economic development. Theories from anthropology, history, human rights and agrarian studies will inform our explorations of these controversies.

SS 0206-1

New Class of Racisms

Falguni Sheth

*component*

Wednesday 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Wilson Valentin

The purpose of this course is to critically analyze and discuss the historical, political and social origins of empire and its impact on the racial formation of particular U.S. Communities: Latinas, Native Americans, Asian Americans and African Americans. We will interrogate the history and politics of ethnicity, race, and gender, while learning about domestic work, red-lining, one-drop laws, immigration (legal and "illegal"), affirmative action, reverse discrimination, welfare, low-wage work, and miscegenation. We aim to highlight the various ways in which racializing and class-distinctions develop and operate within particular historical periods and communities.

SS-0221

Political Economy of Pleasure

Michelle Bigenho

*component*

Wednesday, 2:30- 05:20 p.m.

Political Economy of Pleasure: Is one person's pleasure at the expense of another? This course examines the social relations behind the production, marketing, and consumption of enjoyment that may be photographic, culinary, sexual, cinematic, musical, or televisual. Through anthropological

modes of inquiry, students will be introduced to concepts of political economy, commodities, and the construction of desire and pleasure. The course will closely examine how an economy of pleasure crosses and often reinforces hierarchies of class, race, gender, and ethnicity.

SS-0224                      The Battle Between Science,                      Marlene Fried  
and Religion in Sexuality and Reproduction  
Tuesday, Thursday 2:00 03:20 p.m.

This course will explore contemporary debates over religion v. science as they are occurring in the areas of sexuality and reproduction. Questions asked will include: What is "junk" science and is it in the eye of the beholder? How does one identify and counter pseudo scientific claims? Can science be distinguished from ideology? Issues to be investigated include: the FDA's refusal to approve over the counter distribution of Emergency Contraception; claims that abortion is linked to breast cancer and post-traumatic-stress disorder; the removal of information about condoms and HIV/AIDS prevention from the CDC website; the effectiveness of abstinence-only sexuality education; objections to stem cell research. We will look at these issues in the context of broader societal debates such as that over creationism v. intelligent design and challenges to claims about the objectivity of science. Finally, we will examine viewpoints which offer alternatives to the polarization.

SS 254                      Making Landmarks, Doing History                      James Wald  
*component*                      Monday 2:30-5:20 p.m.

Amherst marks its 250th anniversary. Our town has been home to such famous poets as Emily Dickinson and Robert Frost, and to Noah Webster (of dictionary fame), but also to lesser-known writers such as Lilian Garis, who wrote *The Bobbsey Twins* and fought for women's right to vote; Helen Hunt Jackson, who highlighted the plight of Native Americans; and Mabel Loomis Todd, who edited Dickinson's poetry and wrote on subjects from witchcraft to Japan. In collaboration with the Amherst Historical Commission and Massachusetts Center for the Book, students will research this rich literary heritage in local libraries, archives, and museums, and help to design a series of commemorative plaques for placement at historic sites. In the process, they will gain an understanding both of New England history and culture, and of the theoretical and practical aspects of public history and historic preservation.

SS-0311                      Women and Work                      Laurie Nisonoff  
Wednesday 1:00-03:50 p.m.

This research workshop examines case studies of the interrelationships of gender and capital, some located in specific practice, time and place, others directed toward theoretical critique and construction. We examine issues such as: the work lives of women in the home and workplace; the relationships between "paid" and "unpaid" work; the "feminization of poverty" and of policy; the growth of new professions, the service sector, and the global assembly line. This course is organized as a seminar with students assuming substantial responsibility for discussion. This course is designed for advanced Division II and Division III students. Prerequisite: Some background in feminist studies, political economy, history, or politics is expected.