

ARAH 84-01
WAGS 06

Women/Art Early Mod Europe
Monday, Wednesday 12:30-1:50 p.m.

Nicola Courtright

This course will examine the ways in which prevailing ideas about women and gender shaped visual imagery, and how these images influenced ideas concerning women from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment. It will adopt a comparative perspective, both by identifying regional differences among European nations and tracing changes over time. In addition to considering patronage of art by women and works by women artists, we will look at the depiction of women heroes such as Judith; the portrayal of women rulers, including Elizabeth I and Marie de' Medici; and the imagery of rape. Topics emerging from these categories of art include biological theories about women; humanist defenses of women; the relationship between the exercise of political power and sexuality; differing attitudes toward women in Catholic and Protestant art; and feminine ideals of beauty.

WAGS 24-01

Gender Labor
Monday, Wednesday 12:30-1:50 p.m.

Rose Olver
Alicia Ellis

In this course we will explore the intimate relations of gender and labor: both the necessary labor of genders' production as well as the gendered organization of labor itself. In general the course will use gender to focus on contemporary concerns in the American workplace-class, ethnicity, sexuality, and race-but will also make critical comparisons with developments in other nations. The biological labor of reproduction and its intersection with the labor of production will necessarily be a constant concern in our discussions. We shall have to become familiar with certain terms: glass ceiling, glass escalator, mommy-track, affirmative action, child care, sexual harassment, welfare to workfare. We certainly might want to ask what constitutes work? But we also might need to wonder if work is done for love, is it still work?

WAGS 13-01

Fashion Matters
Monday, Wednesday 12:30-1:50 p.m.

Paola Zamperini

This course will focus on both the historical and cultural development of fashion, clothing and consumption in East Asia, with a special focus on China and Japan. Using a variety of sources, from fiction to art, from legal codes to advertisements, we will study both actual garments created and worn in society throughout history, as well as the ways in which they inform the social characterization of class, ethnicity, nationality, and gender attributed to fashion. Among the topics we will analyze in this sense will be hairstyle, foot-binding and, in a deeper sense, bodily practices that inform most fashion-related discourses in East Asia. We will also think through the issue of fashion consumption as an often-contested site of modernity, especially in relationship to the issue of globalization and world-market. Thus we will also include a discussion of international fashion designers, along with analysis of phenomena such as sweatshops.

WAGS 15-01

Global Voices
Monday, Wednesday 8:30-9:50 a.m.

Alicia Ellis

The design and aim of this course is to examine how contemporary literature written by women critiques categories of gender, sexuality, race and class. You will be asked to think and write about cultural meanings which have become naturalized in practice and ideology and how our texts think through/beyond those taxonomies of power, coercion and abridgement in order to neutralize them. Topics to be discussed include: violence, colonialism and the politics of

identity, embodiment and the creative voice and the meanings of gender in a transnational world. Authors will include Edwidge Danticat, Jhumpa Lahiri, Nora Okja Keller, Michelle Cliff, Maryse Conde and Arundhati Roy.

WAGS 20-01 Sex, Gender & the Family Margaret Hunt
HIST 74-01 Thursday 2:00-4:00 p.m.

The topic changes from year to year. In spring 2008 this seminar will focus on sexuality and reproduction mostly in Europe and America from approximately 1700 to the present. We will read a few key theoretical texts (e.g., Jewish and Christian scripture, Thomas Malthus, some feminist sociobiologists) but most of the class will be divided as follows: First half: the experience of sex and reproduction in times past including childbirth in the pre-modern age; infanticide; the Demographic Revolution; and birth control and abortion from the eighteenth century to *Roe v. Wade*. Second half: modern debates about sexuality and the family including reproductive technologies; gay and "Third World" adoption; polygamy; and internet sex.

WAGS 32-01 Human Rights Activism Amrita Basu
Monday, Wednesday 2:00-3:20 p.m. Martha Saxton

This course is intended to give students a sense of the challenges and satisfactions involved in the practice of human rights work as well as a critical sense of how the discourses calling it forth developed and continue to evolve. We intend to provide specific historical and cultural context to selected areas in which human rights abuses of women and men have occurred, and to explore how differing traditions facilitate and inhibit activism within these areas. The semester will begin by exploring the historical growth of human rights discourse in Europe and the United States, culminating in the emergence of the post-World War II Universal Declaration. We will then turn to the proliferation of these discourses since the 1970s, including the growing importance of non-governmental organizations, many of them internationally based, the use of human rights discourse by a wide range of groups, and expanding meanings of human rights including new conceptions of women's human rights. The third part of the course will explore criticisms of human rights discourses, particularly the charge that for all their claims to universalism, these discourses reflect the values of European Enlightenment traditions which are inimical to conceptions of rights and justice that are grounded in culture and religion. Throughout the course, rights' workers will discuss their own experiences, abroad and in the U.S., and reflect on the relationship between their work and formal human rights discourse.

WAGS 85-01 States of Poverty Kristen Bumiller
Tuesday 2:00-4:30 p.m.

In this course the students will examine the role of the modern welfare state in people's everyday lives. We will study the historical growth and retrenchment of the modern welfare state in the United States and other Western democracies. The course will critically examine the ideologies of "dependency" and the role of the state as an agent of social control. In particular, we will study the ways in which state action has implications for gender identities. In this course we will analyze the construction of social problems linked to states of poverty, including hunger, homelessness, health care, disability, discrimination, and violence. We will ask how these conditions disproportionately affect the lives of women and children. We will take a broad view of the interventions of the welfare state by considering not only the impact of public assistance and social service programs, but the role of the police, family courts, therapeutic professionals, and schools in creating and responding to the conditions of impoverishment. The work of the seminar will culminate in the production of a research paper and students will be given the option of incorporating field work into the independent project. This course fulfills the requirement for an advanced seminar in Political Science. Requisite: Some previous exposure to background material.

American Studies

102 Morgan Hall

542-2246

AMST 30
component

Screening Asian Americans
Monday, Friday 12:30-1:50 p.m.

Karen Cardozo

Emphasizing contemporary issues, this course introduces students to various forms of visual media by and about Asian Americans. Using a chronological and thematic approach, various genres in advertising, television and film (including narrative dramas, documentaries, and experimental films) will be analyzed within the context of transnational Asian/American histories, cultures, and identities. Some of the issues we will address include: Orientalist stereotypes of Asians; the re/creation of history and memory; the intersections of race, class, and gender/sexuality; and interracial relations. Students will be expected to apply the critical languages of film and narrative theory to their analysis of visual texts—that is, to understand how form and content relate. Along with its broad survey of the panethnic category of “Asian Americans,” the course will feature an in-depth case study of media representations of South Asian Americans (e.g., people from Bhutan, India, Pakistan). Among other assignments, students will independently review a text not covered by the syllabus and generate a final research paper.

Black Studies

108 Cooper

542-5800

BLST 25-01
POSC 29-01

Women & Politics in Africa
Monday, Wednesday 12:30-1:50 p.m.

Catharine Newbury

This course will explore the genesis and effects of political activism by women in Africa, which some believe represents a new African feminism, and its implications for state/civil society relations in contemporary Africa. Topics will include the historical effects of colonialism on the economic, social, and political roles of African women, the nature of urban/rural distinctions, and the diverse responses by women to the economic and political crises of post-colonial African policies. This course will also explore case studies of specific African countries, with readings of novels and women’s life histories as well as analyses by social scientists.

History

11 Chapin

542-2229

HIST 46-01

Women's History 1865-Present
Tuesday, Thursday 10:00-11:20 p.m.

Martha Saxton

This course begins with an examination of the experience of women from different racial, ethnic and economic backgrounds during Reconstruction. It will look at changes in family life as a result of increasing industrialization and the westward movement of settler families, and will also look at the settlers' impact on Native American women and families. Topics will include the work and familial experiences of immigrant women (including Irish, Polish, and Italian), women's reform movements (particularly suffrage, temperance, and anti-lynching), the expansion of educational opportunities, and the origins and programs of the Progressives. The course will examine the agitation for suffrage and the subsequent splits among feminists, women's experiences in the labor force, and participation in the world wars. Finally, we will look at the origins of the Second Wave and its struggles to transcend its white middle-class origins.

English

1 Johnson Chapel

542-2231

ENGL 95-03

Contemporary American Novels by Women
Tuesday, Thursday 8:30-9:50 a.m.

Marisa Parham

At the beginning of Joy Kogawa's *Obasan*, the narrator wonders, "If I could follow the stream down and down to the hidden voice, would I come at last to the freeing word?" This class takes as its topic the many ways American female authors have written about memory-memories of the past as well as of other places, about memories that refuse to be surfaced and memories that are at times not even of their protagonists' own lives. How, for instance, do writers portray the ways painful pasts have influenced their characters' identities? Or what it means to suffer for a past whose details one does not even know? Is the "truth" freeing, or does overcoming the hidden and silent increase memory's burdens? What are some of the possibilities and limitations of portraying what are often traumatic experiences in the novel form? And can "trauma" even mean the same thing across ethnic experiences? With such questions in mind, we will look specifically at novels concerned with two of the foundational experiences of American civilization, slavery and migration, and at the pervasive problems of longing, disjuncture, and displacement endemic to such experiences. Authors we may read in this cross-cultural course include Maxine Hong Kingston, Edwidge Danticat, Alesia Perry, and Cristina Garcia.

Philosophy

Cooper House

542-5805

PHIL 01-01
component

Rights and Wrongs
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:00-11:50 a.m.

Gentzler

A primary objective of this course is to develop analytic tools for making thoughtful moral decisions in our own lives and for evaluating policies and decisions made by others. Equally, this course offers students the opportunity to become effective and eloquent writers. The particular moral problems that we consider will depend in part on the interests of the members of the seminar. They may include problems raised by the practices of international aid, abortion, euthanasia, affirmative action, capital punishment, eating animals, sex, parenting, war, and terrorism. Admission with consent of the instructor.

Psychology

321 Merrill

542-2318

PSYC 40-01

Sex Role Socialization
Thursday 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.