

Introduction to Women's Studies Discussion Section Guidelines

Section AD03, Fri 10:10 a.m., School of Management 35
Section AD08, Fri 11:15 a.m., Bartlett 206

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Women's studies are historical, political, social, and personal. Having the broadest possible understanding of gender identity, gender oppression, and potential for liberation requires that one learn the historical, social, familial, and personal factors that make up one's own individual identity while simultaneously going beyond the self to understand and perhaps sympathize with the experiences of others who are different from oneself.

Our discussion section is meant to be a safe and stimulating space for exploration, dialogue, and questions -- this is your chance to consider, critique, and engage with the course material. This requires that we all respect each others diverse ideas and thoughts and allow each other space to speak, and listen carefully to each other.

Your Responsibilities

Attendance is mandatory. You must attend all 13 sections. The only provision for absences is excused absences supported by the appropriate written documentation and with the assigned make-up work turned in*, i.e., if you were sick bring a doctor's note; if you are an athlete and need to miss to attend a game, you are required to provide a letter from the athletics department; if you will miss for religious observance, you should notify me in advance via email. Refer to the University's Handbook of Undergraduate Rights and Responsibilities for guidelines.

***Even if your absence is excused and documented, you must complete and turn in a 2-page reflection paper involving the themes of the lectures and the readings for the week of your absence. Failure to complete this assignment makes even a documented absence unexcused.**

Prepare for class. Attend both lectures, and complete all of the week's assigned readings. Bring your textbooks and your lecture notes to class. Come prepared to dialogue and to ask questions regarding what is presented in the course.

Speak up in class! Your perspectives and opinions are valued and needed. Lend your voice and your views to our section meetings, and our class can be stimulating and thought-provoking.

Turn in your assignments on time. Writing assignments, essays, and reflection papers for excused absences are to be turned in to me on their due date. Assignments must be handed to me or put into my mailbox. No assignments under the door, and no email submissions, please.

Grading

In your longer course syllabus, 20% involves your work in the discussion sections. This includes the following:

12% Attendance

5% Participation (including contributions to discussion, in class writings and activities, and quizzes)

3% Presentation on an activist or activist group.

Grades are determined according the following scale:

A: 94-100
A-: 90-93
B+: 87-89
B: 83-86

B-: 80-82
C+: 77-79
C: 73-76
C-: 70-72

D+: 67-69
D: 60-66
F: 59-0