

WOST 187: INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN STUDIES
Fall 2004

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Section 7: Bartlett 201 Friday 11:15am-12:05pm

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Office hours: Wednesday 2:00pm –3:00pm or by appointment

Phone: 577-0711 (voicemail) Email is the best way to reach me.

Rationale for discussion section

The purpose of discussion sessions is to provide an opportunity and space to share thoughts, insights and experiences. These sessions will also serve to clarify arguments, expand on lecture discussions, readings and points of confusion--by pinpointing central ideas and drawing correlations between the materials covered and your understanding of them. We will also be covering and discussing a variety of issues and topics. In doing so, let us make this a safe and comfortable learning environment where individuals can express their diverse thoughts and opinions while being respected and heard. Ultimately, I want you to learn and get as much as possible from discussion. Therefore, let us engage our self with the material, learn and have fun.

Your Responsibilities

Prepare for the discussion section by carefully reviewing your lecture notes and the readings, noting any questions you have and issues you wish to address in class. You are also required to complete assignments promptly.

Attendance of your discussion section is **MANDATORY!** You must attend the discussion section for which for which you are registered; no exceptions. **Two unexcused absences can lower your final grade by an entire letter grade.** If you are unable to attend class, due to an illness or other legitimate reasons, *you are required to provide appropriate written documentation* (refer to the Handbook of Undergraduate Rights and Responsibilities, 2004-2005). In addition, for those of you who foresee an absence due to religious observances, sports, family emergencies, etc. **you must notify me in advance.** You will also be required to submit a 2-page reflection paper, based on the reading for that week, for your absence. Papers should summarize the readings, and demonstrate your understanding of the material. Your absence in class does not exonerate you from your academic responsibility. You are still responsible for getting class notes and submitting assignments on time. **Non-attendance will result in an F for the course.** Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each session. Lateness is unacceptable arrive on time. You must also turn off your cellular phones during discussion sessions.

Engage energetically with the topic at hand in a manner, which demonstrates your respect for your fellow students as well as your preparation for class.

Grading

Your course discussion grade is determined by the following criteria:

12% Attendance, 1 point each week

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

3% Presentation on an Activist or Activist group.

Total of 20% of overall grade

University of Massachusetts-Amherst Grading Criteria:

A	100-94%	B-	82-80%	D+	69-67%
A-	93-90%	C+	79-77%	D	66-60%
B+	89-87%	C	76-73%	F	59% or below
B	86%-83%	C-	72-70%		

Late assignments will be graded down. **PLEASE NO ASSIGNMENTS VIA EMAIL.**

Special Needs:

If any student has a condition, such as a physical or sensory disability, which will make it difficult to carry out the work outlined, please notify Professor Deschamps and myself at once in order to make appropriate arrangements.

As competent students, I expect you to take full advantage of my office hours. Remember, I am here to help you understand the material. Please come see me with any questions, comments or concerns regarding the course. If my office hours conflict with your academic schedule, I will be more than happy to set up an appointment. I am looking forward to an exciting semester.