

WOST 187: Introduction to Women's Studies

Spring 2005

Course Instructors:

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Discussion Section Instructors: (all sections Fridays)

Section 01	Beverly Weber	bweber@complit.umass.edu	9:05	Bartlett 203
Section 02	Chizu Sato	chizu@educ.umass.edu	9:05	Bartlett 205
Section 03	Mirangela Buggs	mirangeb@educ.umass.edu	10:10	Bartlett 212
Section 04	Chizu Sato	chizu@educ.umass.edu	10:10	Bartlett 205
Section 05	Beverly Weber	bweber@complit.umass.edu	10:10	Bartlett 203
Section 06	Shelly Perdomo	saperdom@educ.umass.edu	10:10	Bartlett 302
Section 07	Mitch Boucher	mboucher@english.umass.edu	10:10	Bartlett 119
Section 08	Shelly Perdomo	saperdom@educ.umass.edu	11:15	Bartlett 302
Section 09	Mirangela Buggs	mirangeb@educ.umass.edu	11:15	Bartlett 212
Section 10	Mitch Boucher	mboucher@english.umass.edu	11:15	Bartlett 119

Course Description

This course places women's experience at the center of analysis to introduce basic concepts and perspectives in Women's Studies. Focusing on both historical and contemporary women's issues, particularly in the United States, we will examine women's lives, paying special attention to how gender intersects with and inflects race, ethnicity, nationality, class and sexuality. Our central aim is to foster critical thinking and reading about "gender" in the contexts of interlocking systems such as colonialism, racism, sexism, ethnocentrism, ageism, and heterosexism. These issues are situated in the interdisciplinary field of women's studies, which engages research in the humanities, social, natural, and physical sciences.

Throughout the course, we will integrate :

- intersectional analysis
- analysis that considers micro, macro, meso and global levels
- a notion of feminist theorizing that includes *description* and *analysis* as well as thinking for *vision* and *change*
- women's resistance to oppression and inequities
- women's work for progressive change

Required Readings

Available at Food for Thought Books in downtown Amherst, 106 North Pleasant Street: Gwyn Kirk and Margo Okazawa-Rey, *Women's Lives, Multicultural Perspectives*, 3rd Edition

E-Reserves: Available at: <http://ereserves.library.umass.edu> , password: women

Web readings: As assigned on syllabus.

Recommended: Howard Zinn, *A People's History of the United States*

Course Requirements

- You must be **registered** for both the lecture and discussion section. Attendance at BOTH is required and mandatory.
- U Mass policy requires that every student have a **U Mass email account** for university correspondence. It is free: please use it!
- Reading assignments must be **completed by the class period for which they were assigned**.
- This course fulfills a **general education** requirement (IU), and we will therefore pay particular attention to your writing. Let us know (early in the semester) if you have special learning or writing needs.
- If you have a learning disability, a medical condition, or other **special needs**, please discuss your situation immediately with the course instructors AND your TA so that we can work together to make appropriate accommodations.
- You are responsible for knowing when assignments are due and handing them in on time. Dates of major writing assignments are in this syllabus. **Absence from these sections on the day the assignment is due is no excuse for not handing in the assignment on time.** It is each student's responsibility to find out about assignments from someone in your discussion group or from your Teaching Assistant. Sections *may* have different assignments.
- Absences other than emergencies must be made up **in advance**. YOU are responsible for making arrangements with the TA or course instructors.
- **Videos and guest lectures** are part of the class material and students are responsible for knowing the material.
- Despite the size of this class, we are concerned about the quality of your experience. To that end, we will try to foster as much active participation in the course as possible. Lectures will include time for questions as they arise, and discussion sections have been designed to continue the dialogue.
- Make use of office hours to continue class discussions, clarify confusions or to discuss any other problems you are having with the course.
- 300 people in one room is a difficult situation on many levels. One major concern is NOISE. Talking, even whispering is **disruptive to both the instructor and other students**. Please be courteous to everyone.
- This class is **50 minutes** and we expect you to remain for the entire period. Late comers and those who begin to pack 5 minutes before the class period disrupt the class for everyone.
- *We will follow all university policies on issues of academic honesty, grading, attendance, examinations, and absences due to religious observance or athletics.* See Undergraduate Rights and Responsibility Handbook at http://www.umass.edu/dean_students/rights .

Discussion Groups

- Discussion groups begin **this Friday, January 28th**.
- ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED. Discussion groups are integral part of the class. **Attendance and participation in discussion sections** are factored into the final grade. Two unexcused absences will result in your grade being marked down. Non-attendance will result in an "F." If you have an excused absence, you must submit a two page reflection paper based on the readings assigned for that week.
- We expect you to have **completed and thought about** all of the readings for that week and to be ready to engage in meaningful dialogue.

Grading:

- Attendance: 12%
- Homework Assignments: 15%
- 4 Quizzes: 8%
- Paper: 20%
- Midterm Exam: 20%
- Final Exam: 25%

Written Assignments and Exams

- A **MIDTERM EXAM** is scheduled in discussion section on **Wednesday, March 9th**, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. (place to be announced).
- One **ANALYTIC PAPER** (4-5 page paper) due **Friday, April 8th**. Guidelines will be posted at the course website. Papers must always be typewritten and double spaced. Handwritten papers will not be accepted. Papers must be handed in on the due date. Late papers will be graded down.
- A **FINAL EXAM** scheduled during finals week. ***Do not make plane reservations or plans to leave before you check the final exam schedule.*** Note: Final exam is not cumulative, and will include material from the midterm on.
- Five **HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS**. These will be posted on the online course page.
- Four unannounced **QUIZZES** in lecture and/or discussion.
- **Make up** assignments and exams will only be given to students with excused absences per university policy. Ignorance of this rule does not constitute an excuse. **You must make arrangements in advance (except for medical emergencies).**
- Incompletes will not be given unless there are unusual circumstances. Speak to your TA as early as possible.

Academic Honesty

Please see university policy at: http://www.umass.edu/dean_students/rights/acad_honest.htm

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Due ON this day
Introduction		
Wed 26 Jan	Introduction; The "F" Word and Women's Studies	
Fri 28 Jan	Introduction	Ask five people how they define feminism and jot down their answers as preparation for discussion section. Pay attention not only to what they say, but <i>how</i> they say it (facial expression, tone of voice, body language, etc).
Mon 31 Jan	Frameworks	[Text] Kirk and Okazawa-Rey, "Introduction" p. 1-7 Lorber, "The Social Construction of Gender," p. 21-24 [E-Reserve] Bunch, "Not by Degrees: Feminist Theory and Education"
Feminisms and Social Movements		
Wed 02 Feb	Identities, Social Location, and Intersectionality [Guest Lecture: Mirangela Buggs]	[Text] Kirk and Okazawa-Rey, Chapter 2, p. 59 – 69 Allison, "A Question of Class," p. 78 – 85 Waters, "Optional Ethnicities," p. 96 – 103 Kaye/Kantrowitz, "Jews, Class, Color, and the Cost of Whiteness" p. 103 – 109
Fri 04 Feb	Social Location and Intersectionality	Homework Assignment 1 Due
Mon 07 Feb	Intersectionality and Precolonial Women's Experiences	[Text] Daly, "Perspectives of Native American Women" p. 70 - 78 [E-Reserves] Zinn, Chapter One: "Columbus, The Indians, and Human Progress"
Wed 09 Feb	Colonial, and early Republic: Intersectionality and Women's Experiences	[E-Reserves] Zinn, Chapter Six: "The Intimately Oppressed" [E-Reserves] Angela Davis, "The Legacy of Slavery" [Web] Barbara Welter, "The Cult of True Womanhood 1820 – 1860" http://www.pinzler.com/ushistory/culttwo.html [Web] "Coverture" http://www.britannica.com/women/articles/coverture.html Recommended: [E-Reserves] Clark Hine, "Female Slave Resistance and the Economics of Sex"
Fri 11 Feb	Precolonial, Colonial, and early Republic	
Mon 14 Feb	Abolition and 1 st Wave Feminism: Intersectionalities, Dialogues and Debates	[E-Reserve] Davis, "Working Women, Black Women and the History of the Suffrage Movement" [Web] Sally Roesch Wagner, "The Untold Story of Iroquois Influence on Early Radical Feminists"

	[Guest Lecture: Alex Deschamps]	http://www.awakenedwoman.com/iroquois_women.htm [Web] "The Seneca Falls Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions" http://www.pbs.org/stantonanthony/resources/index.html?body=dec_senti_ments.html Recommended: [E-Reserve] Gunn Allen, "The Red Roots of White Feminism"
Wed 16 Feb	Reconstruction and Ida B. Wells [Video: <i>A Passion for Justice--Ida B. Wells</i>]	[E-Reserve] "Ida B. Wells" from <i>Contemporary Black Biography</i> [E-Reserve] Wells, "Lynch Law in America"
Fri 18 Feb	1 st Wave and Ida B. Wells	Homework Assignment 2 Due
Mon 21 Feb	No Class	President's Day
Wed 23 Feb	Monday schedule Intersectionality: Social Movements of the 1960s and 1970s	[Text] Omolade, "Ella's Daughters" p. 536-545 Thompson, "Multiracial Feminism" p. 545-556 [E-Reserve] Chafe, "The Revival of Feminism"
Fri 25 Feb	2 nd Wave & Liberation Movements	
Mon 28 Feb	Backlash and Anti-Feminist Movements	[E-Reserve] Hardisty, "Kitchen Table Backlash: The Antifeminist Women's Movement" [E-Reserve] Faludi, "Introduction: Blame it on Feminism" [Web] Petchesky, "Phantom Towers: Feminist Reflections on the Battle between Global Capitalism and Fundamentalist Terrorism" http://www.publiceye.org/frontpage/911/petchesky.html
Women's Work		
Wed 02 Mar	Industrialization [Guest Lecture: Prof. Arlene Avakian]	[Text] Review time table on p. 66-67 [E-Reserve] Zinn, Chapter 13, "The Socialist Challenge" [Web] "Triangle Factory Fire" http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=1416870
Fri 04 Mar	Anti-Feminism and Industrialization	
Mon 07 Mar	Women's Work and World War II	[Text] Takahashi, "U.S. Concentration Camps," p. 442 – 448 [E-Reserves] Chan, "Women, Families, and the Second Generation Dilemma" [Web] Rosie the Riveter: http://www.clarityfilms.org/rosie/story.html [Web] World War II Posters: Search for "women" and "Japanese" at http://www.library.northwestern.edu/govpub/collections/wwii-posters/ [Web] Anti-Japanese World War II Posters: http://bss.sfsu.edu/internment/posters.html
Wed 09 Mar	Globalization	[Text] Kirk and Okazawa-Rey, Chapter 9, p. 371-387 Fernández-Kelly, "Maquiladoras" p. 388-397

	[Video: <i>Behind the Labels</i>]	Chang, "The Global Trade," p. 397-407 Hynes, "Consumption" p. 514-519 Figure 12.1 on p. 498
Wed 09 Mar	Mid-term Exam	6:30 pm – 8:00 pm; Place TBA
Fri 11 Mar	<i>Class cancelled</i>	<i>Spring Break March 12-20</i>
Mon 21 Mar	Women's Labor, Wages and Welfare [Guest Lecture: Prof. Dale Melcher]	[Text] Kirk and Okazawa-Rey, Chapter 8, p. 317 -331 Ammott and Mattaei, "Women's Wage Work" p. 333-347 "He Works, She Works" p. 347 [Web] View the charts: "The Wage Gap Over Time" and "The Wage Gap by Race" http://pay-equity.org/info.html [Web] ATMP, <i>Let Them Eat Wedding Rings</i> http://www.unmarried.org/rings.pdf
Wed 23 Mar	Families, Relationships and Households	[Text] Wolf, "Radical Sexuality" p. 155 – 158 Kirk and Okazawa-Rey, Chapter 7, p. 273-286 Hinjosa, "Raising Kids como los Americanos," p. 294-300 Filemyr, "Loving Across the Boundary," p. 308-315 [Web] MassEquality, "Civil Marriage vs. Civil Unions: What is the Difference?" http://www.massequality.org/issue_cu.php
Fri 25 Mar	Women's Wages and Globalization; Families and Households	Homework Assignment 3: Paper Proposal Due
Women's Bodies		
Mon 28 Mar	Violence Against Women Panel	[Text] Kirk and Okazawa-Rey, Chapter 6, p. 225-239 Foo, "Domestic Violence and Asian American Women" p. 249-256 Smith, "Sexual Violence and American Indian Genocide" p. 256-266
Wed 30 Mar	Construction of Masculinity [Video: <i>Tough Guise</i>]	[Text] Madhubuti, "On Becoming Anti-Rapist" p. 266-271 Croteau and Hynes, "Media and Ideology" p. 483-489 [Web] Kaufman, "The Seven P's of Men's Violence" http://www.michaelkaufman.com/articles/pdf/7ps.pdf
Fri 01 April	Masculinity and Violence	
Mon 04 April	Nature, the Body, and Feminist Critiques of Science [Guest Lecture: Prof. Banu Subramaniam]	[Web] Allen, "Social Origins of Eugenics" http://www.eugenicsarchive.org/html/eugenics/essay1text.html [E-Reserve] Unger & Crawford, "Biology, Sex, and Gender"
Wed 06 April	Women's Bodies, Beauty Ideals, and Representation	[Text] Kirk and Okazawa-Rey, Chapter 3, p. 111-120 Cofer, "The Story of My Body" p. 130-134 [E-Reserve] Meyerowitz, "Women, Cheesecake, and Borderline Material"
Fri 08 April		Paper Due
Mon 11 April	The New Woman and	[E-Reserve] Davis, "Racism, Birth Control and Reproductive Rights"

	Margaret Sanger: Sexual Freedoms & Racisms [Guest Lecture: Shelly Perdomo]	Evans, Chapter 7, "Women and Modernity" Recommended: [E-Reserve] Evans, Chapter 8, "Flappers, Freudians and all that Jazz"
Wed 13 April	Sexualities	[Text] Kirk and Okazawa-Rey, Chapter 4, p. 143-152 Feinberg, "We Are all Works in Progress," p. 164-168 [E-Reserve] <i>SIECUS Report</i> , "Declaration of Sexual Rights"
Fri 15 April	Sexuality	
Mon 18 April	<i>No Class</i>	<i>Patriot's Day</i>
Wed 20 April	Reproductive Rights [Guest Lecture: Marlene Fried]	[Text] Kirk and Okazawa-Rey, Chapter 5, p. 173-178 Saxton, "Reproductive Rights: A Disability Rights Issue" p. 190 – 194 [E-Reserve] Fried, "Abortion in the United States—Legal but Inaccessible" [Web] AGI, "Facts at a Glance" http://www.agiusa.org/pubs/fb_induced_abortion.pdf [Web] http://clpp.hampshire.edu/newsletter.htm (read most current newsletter)
Thur 21 April	<i>Monday Schedule</i> Women's Health and Medicalization of Women's Bodies	[Text] Kirk and Okazawa-Rey, Chapter 5, 178-187 Arditti and Schreiber, "Breast Cancer," 201-207 Zeff, Love, and Stults, "Empowering Ourselves," 503-508
Fri 22 April	Medicalization and Reproductive Rights	Homework Assignment 4 Due
The "Third Wave" and Contemporary Feminisms		
Mon 25 April	This is What Democracy Looks Like: Alternative Globalizations and US Activism	[Text] Rose, "Taking on the Global Economy" p. 577-580
Wed 27 April	Militarization and the Security Regime	[Text] Women of Color Resource Center, "10 Reasons Why Women Should Oppose the 'War on Terrorism'" p. 478 Enloe, "Sneak Attack" p. 482-483 [E-Reserve] Young, "Militarization and the Security Regime"
Fri 29 April		
Mon 02 May	Contemporary Feminisms [Guest Lecture: Mirangela Buggs]	[E-Reserve] - Daisy Hernandez and Bushra Rehman, "Colonize This! Young Women of Color on Today's Feminism" [E-Reserve] – Leslie Heywood and Jennifer Drake, Introduction, <i>Third Wave Agenda</i> [Web] Hernandez & Leong "Feminism's Future: Young Feminists of color take the mic" http://www.inthesetimes.com/comments.php?id=703_0_1_0_C Recommended: [E-Reserve] - Rebecca Walker, "Riding the Third Wave"

Wed 04 May	The Politics of Culture	[E-Reserve] – Guerilla Girls Images [E-Reserve] – Jen Smith, “Doin’ It for the Ladies” [Web] Guerilla Girls FAQ: http://www.querrillagirls.com/interview/faq.shtml
Fri 06 May		Homework Assignment 5 Due
Mon 09 May	Activist Panel	[Text] Kirk and Okazawa-Rey, Chapter 13, p. 521-33
Wed 11 May	Review	
Final Exam:	TBA	
