

SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS

Colorado State University, Academic Partner

Voyage: Spring 2018
Discipline: Women's Studies
Course Number and Title: WS 200 Introduction to Women's Studies
Division: Lower
Faculty Name: Pitts-Taylor
Semester Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction to Women's Studies is an interdisciplinary course that addresses the categories of sex and gender from critical perspectives. The course will question how well the category of "women" operates as a platform for critical understanding and advocacy, and explore the commonalities and differences in women's experiences across ethnicity, race and class and across cultures. We will begin by exploring 19th and early 20th century ideas about women's rights in relation to the suffrage and the abolitionist movements, and address the internationalization of women's rights at the turn of the century. We will examine the establishment of conceptions of universal women's rights at the United Nations, and trace the development of so-called "second wave" feminism, addressing the idea of gender as the social construction of sex. We will then move on to late 20th century and contemporary writings - including queer theory, intersectionality, and transnational and postcolonial feminism. We'll explore the debates in different eras of feminist thought, and pay attention to the multiplicity of feminist vantage points. Assignments will draw from a variety of sources, and include critical essays, literature/poetry, memoir, and film. The course will pay special attention to global, postcolonial and transnational perspectives on sex/gender and sexuality, and include readings from feminist scholars and activists of the Global South.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the history of the contemporary feminist movement and its relationship to other social movements
2. Explore gender as a social institution that is intersectional and varies across cultures
3. Understand the relationship between gender and other forms of inequality
4. Explore global and transnational perspectives on feminism and women's rights

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

AUTHOR: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
TITLE: *We Should All Be Feminists.*
PUBLISHER: Anchor

ISBN #: ISBN-10: 110191176X
DATE/EDITION: 2015/ Reprint Edition

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

1. Historical Context – 19th Century Sex, Race And Rights

Key issues: suffrage, abolitionism, women's labor and class status, 19th century racism and violence.

global focus: Rupp on Transnational women's movements

II: Defining Sex/Gender

Key concepts: biological determinism, social constructionism, gender socialization, sex/gender. development, gender roles, performativity, heteronormativity.

III: Intersectionality

Key concept: Intersectionality of race, gender, class, sexuality, nation.

global focus: *Japan-US*, Eguchi on Cross-National Identity Transformation

Myanmar, Laos, China, film "Trading Women" on sex trafficking and sex work

IV: Undoing Sex/Gender Binaries

Key issues: transgender, intersex, sex regulation, sex and citizenship.

global focus: *Iran*, Najmabadi on transgender experiences in Iran

India, Dutta and Roy on decolonizing transgender in India

Venezuela, Ochoa on transformistas and sex work in Caracas

V. Postcolonial feminisms

Key concepts: colonialization, postcolonialism, global and transnational women's rights movements.

global focus: *Afghanistan-US*, Abu-Lughod on Muslim women and the Western gaze

Africa (South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria, Sudan, Uganda), Tripp on women's movements

Africa (Sierra Leone & Malawi), film "Shout Gladi Gladi" on maternal care

Morocco, "Some Women of Marrakesh," on purdah

Depart Ensenada, Mexico – January 5

B1—January 8:

Introduction and course overview.

SECTION I: Historical Context – 19th Century Sex, Race And Rights

This section briefly introduces the historical context of the emergence of women's movements in the US and Europe in relation to the abolitionist movement, and the transnationalization of women's rights in the first part of the 20th century. We continue into the 20th century with De Beauvoir's classic with the question of what makes a "woman." Key issues include suffrage, abolitionism, women's labor and class status, racism.

B2—January 10:

Elizabeth Cady Stanton. "Declaration of Sentiments." Women's Rights Convention, Seneca Falls, New York [1848].

Sojourner Truth, "Ain't I a Woman?" [1851/1853].

Angela Davis, "The Anti-Slavery Movement and the Birth of Women's Rights," ch 2 (pp 30-45) in *Women, Race and Class*. New York, NY: Vintage Books, 1983.

Honolulu, Hawaii — January 12**B3—January 13:**

Leila J. Rupp, "Transnational Women's Movements," *European History Online*, 2011, pp 1-10.

SECTION II: Defining Sex/Gender/Sexuality

In this section, we explore theories about sex, gender and sexuality. Key concepts include biological determinism, social constructionism, gender socialization, sex/gender development, gender roles, heteronormativity.

B4—January 15:

Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*, selection (Chapter 1, "Biological data," pp 21-48), [1949] Vintage 2011

Judith Lorber, "Believing is Seeing: Biology as Ideology," *Gender and Society* Vol 7 No 4: 568-581, 1993.

January 16—International Date Line crossing (Lost Day)

B5—January 18:

Gayle Rubin, "The Traffic in Women: Notes on the Political Economy of Sex," in *Toward an Anthropology of Women*, ed Rayna Reiter, New York: Monthly Review Press. 1975, pp 157-201.

No Class — January 19**B6—January 21:**

Gayle Rubin, "Thinking Sex: Notes for a Radical Theory of the Politics of Sexuality." Chapter 5 (pp 137-181) in *Deviations: The Gayle Rubin Reader*, Duke University Press, [1984] 2011.

SECTION III: Defining intersectionality

This section focuses on intersectionality, and ways to account for differences within the category "women." Intersectionality examines links between gender, race, class, sexuality and nation. Note: look for other readings throughout the course that are also 'intersectional.' Key concept: intersectionality

B7—January 23:

Kimberle Crenshaw, "Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics and Violence against Women of Color" *Stanford Law Review* 43(6): 1241- 1299, 1989.

Kobe, Japan — January 24-28

B8—January 30:

Shinsuke Eguchi, "Ongoing Cross-National Identity Transformation: Living on the Queer Japan-US Transnational Borderland," *Sexuality & Culture* vol 18: 977-993, 2014.

Shanghai, China — January 31 - February 1

In-Transit — February 2-3

Hong Kong, SAR — February 4-5

B9—February 7:

Patricia Hill Collins, "All in the Family: Intersections of Gender, Race and Nation," *Hypatia* Vol. 13 Issue 3 pp 62-82, 1998.

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam — February 8-13

B10—February 15:

in-class film: "Trading Women" (2003), David Feingold, 77 mi, on sex work and sex trafficking

No Class —February 16

B11—February 18:

Midterm exam

Yangon, Myanmar — February 19-23

SECTION IV: Undoing Sex/Gender Binaries.

This section focuses on the regulation of sex/gender binaries, and bodies, practices and experiences that challenge them. Key concepts and issues: transgender, intersex, sex regulation, sex and citizenship.

B12—February 25:

Judith Butler, "Doing Justice to Someone: Sex Reassignment and Allegories of Transsexuality," Chapter 3 (pp 57-74) of *Undoing Gender* New York: Routledge, 2004.

Also recommended: Undoing Gender ch 4 – book on reserve

B13— February 27:

Lisa Jean Moore & Paisley Currah, "Legally Sexed: Birth Certificates and Transgender Citizens" in *Feminist Surveillance Studies*, ed Dubrofsky and Magnet, Duke University Press, 2015 pp 58-76.

Cochin, India – February 28 – March 5

No Class – March 7

B14–March 8:

Aniruddha Dutta and Raina Roy, "Decolonizing Transgender in India: Some Reflections," *TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly* Volume 1, Number 3, 2014, pp 320-337.

B15–March 10:

Afsaneh Najmabadi, "Transing and Transpassing Across Sex-Gender Walls in Iran," *WSQ: Women's Studies Quarterly* vol 36, no 3-4, 2008, pp 23-42.

Port Louis, Mauritius – March 11

B16–March 13:

Marcia Ochoa, "Perverse Citizenship: Divas, Marginality, and Participation in 'Loca-lization'" *WSQ: Women's Studies Quarterly* vol 36, no 3-4, 2008, pp. 146-169.

SECTION V. Postcolonial feminisms

Key concepts: colonialization, postcolonialism, global and transnational women's rights movements, representation. Note: look for readings in the course that are also explicitly 'postcolonial.'

B17–March 15:

Mohanty, Chandra [1984]. "Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses" *Boundary 2* Vol. 12/13 Issue 3/1, 1984, 333-358.

B18–March 17:

Lila Abu-Lughod, 2002. "Do Muslim Women Really Need Saving?: Anthropological Reflections on Cultural Relativism and its Others" *American Anthropologist* 104(3): 783-790.

in-class film: "Some Women of Marrakesh" (1976), 52 min

Cape Town, South Africa – March 18-23

B19–March 25:

Tripp, Aili Mari. 2000. "Rethinking Difference: Comparative Perspectives from Africa." *Signs* 25 (3): 649 -75.

B20–March 27:

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, 2015. *We Should All Be Feminists*

B21—March 29:

In-class Film: “Shout Gladi Gladi” (2015)

Takoradi, Ghana — March 30 - April 1

Tema, Ghana — April 2-3

B22—April 5:

In-class presentations: cross-cultural analysis

B23—April 7:

In-class presentations: cross-cultural analysis

Study Day — April 8

B24— April 10:

In-class presentations: cross-cultural analysis

Casablanca, Morocco — April 11-14

B25—April 16: Final Exam

Arrive Bremerhaven, Germany — April 19

FIELD WORK

Semester at Sea field experiences allow for an unparalleled opportunity to compare, contrast, and synthesize the different cultures and countries encountered over the course of the voyage. In addition to the one field class, students will complete independent field assignments that span multiple countries.

Field Class attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on the day of your field class.

Field Classes constitute at least 20% of the contact hours for each course.

Field Class and Assignment

The Field Class for this course will take place on Wednesday, February 28, in Cochin, India.

Field Class Title: Reproductive Health in South India

Field Class Description: Visit a family planning organization to learn about issues of girls’ and women’s empowerment in South India, including the issues of reproductive rights and reproductive health.

Field Class Learning Objectives:

1. Learn about pressing human rights issues for Indian women and girls.

2. Learn about local efforts to promote gender equality in South India.
3. Explore the role of transnational non-governmental organizations and the relationships between local and transnational actors in social change efforts.

Field Class Assignment:

Write a Field Class Report (2-3 pp typed, double spaced) addressing the academic objectives listed for the field class. Your report for the field class will be in addition to the field journal entry for India.

Independent Field Assignments

Field journal assignment: For seven ports of call (Japan, Vietnam, China, Myanmar, India, South Africa, and Ghana), you will be expected to complete a field journal entry. This will consist of about 2 typed, double-spaced pages (500 words) responding to the themes of the course as they relate to the local environment. Such themes include (but are not limited to): women’s rights, gender inequality, sexual rights, gender identity, and representations of gender/sexuality. Try to use an intersectional lens, attending to issues of race/ethnicity, class, and/or citizenship. You may include photographs of individuals *if they are taken with permission*. You may also want to include photographs of public spaces, media representations/billboards/signs, buildings and so on that in some way illustrate these themes. The field journal entry will be due 2 days after sailing from a visited port.

Presentation: At the end of the semester, you will be asked give a brief presentation to the class that draws from your field journal to address gender and/or sexuality in cross-cultural and comparative terms. You will be asked to highlight one theme and compare your observations between at least three countries.

Summary of Assignments and Grading:

- Field Journal (7 entries total) = 30%
- Field Class Report = 20%
- In-Class Presentation = 10%
- Midterm exam = 20%
- Final Exam = 20%

METHODS OF EVALUATION / GRADING SCALE

GRADING SCALE

The following Grading Scale is utilized for student evaluation. Pass/Fail is not an option for Semester at Sea coursework. Note that C-, D+ and D- grades are also not assigned on Semester at Sea in accordance with the grading system at Colorado State University (the SAS partner institution).

Pluses and minuses are awarded as follows on a 100% scale:

<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Satisfactory/Poor</u>	<u>Failing</u>
97-100%: A+	87-89%: B+	77-79%: C+	Less than 60%:
93-96%: A	83-86%: B	70-76%: C	

90-92%: A- 80-82%: B- 60-69%: D

ATTENDANCE/ENGAGEMENT IN THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Attendance in all Semester at Sea classes, including the Field Class, is mandatory. Students must inform their instructors prior to any unanticipated absence and take the initiative to make up missed work in a timely fashion. Instructors must make reasonable efforts to enable students to make up work which must be accomplished under the instructor's supervision (e.g., examinations, laboratories). In the event of a conflict in regard to this policy, individuals may appeal using established CSU procedures.

LEARNING ACCOMMODATIONS

Semester at Sea provides academic accommodations for students with diagnosed learning disabilities, in accordance with ADA guidelines. Students who will need accommodations in a class, should contact ISE to discuss their individual needs. Any accommodation must be discussed in a timely manner prior to implementation.

A letter from the student's home institution verifying the accommodations received on their home campus (dated within the last three years) is required before any accommodation is provided on the ship. Students must submit this verification of accommodations to academic@isevoyages.org as soon as possible, but no later than two months prior to the voyage.

STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

The foundation of a university is truth and knowledge, each of which relies in a fundamental manner upon academic integrity and is diminished significantly by academic misconduct. Academic integrity is conceptualized as doing and taking credit for one's own work. A pervasive attitude promoting academic integrity enhances the sense of community and adds value to the educational process. All within the University are affected by the cooperative commitment to academic integrity. All Semester at Sea courses adhere to this Academic Integrity Policy and Student Conduct Code.

Depending on the nature of the assignment or exam, the faculty member may require a written declaration of the following honor pledge: "I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance on this exam/assignment."

RESERVE BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY

Judith Butler
Undoing Gender.
Routledge.
ISBN: 978-0415969239
2004

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
We Should All Be Feminists.
Anchor
ISBN-10: 110191176X
Reprint edition 2015

FILM REQUEST:

Title of Film: Trading Women
Distributor: Documentary Educational Resources

Title of Film: Shout Gladi Gladi
Distributor: International Film Circuit

Title of Film: Some Women of Marrakesh

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS

Stanton, Elizabeth Cady. "Declaration of Sentiments." Women's Rights Convention, Seneca Falls, New York, 1848. public domain. available here:

<http://ecssba.rutgers.edu/docs/seneca.html>

Truth, Sojourner. "Ain't I a Woman?" 1851/published 1853. public domain. available here:

<http://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/sojtruth-woman.asp>

Douglass, Frederick. Speech before the International Council on Women, 1888. public domain. available here: <http://www.blackpast.org/1888-frederick-douglass-woman-suffrage>

AUTHOR: Angela Davis

TITLE: The Anti-Slavery Movement and the Birth of Women's Rights

BOOK: *Women, Race and Class*, New York, NY: Vintage Books.

DATE: 1983

PAGES: Ch 3, pp 30-45

AUTHOR: Leila J. Rupp

TITLE: Transnational Women's Movements

JOURNAL: *European History Online*

2011

PAGES: 1-10.

AUTHOR: Simone de Beauvoir

TITLE: *The Second Sex*

DATE: 2011

PAGES: Ch 1, pp 21-48

AUTHOR: Judith Lorber

TITLE: Believing is Seeing: Biology as Ideology

JOURNAL: Gender and Society
VOLUME; Vol 7 No 4
DATE: 1993
PAGES: 568-581

AUTHOR: Gayle Rubin
TITLE: The Traffic in Women
BOOK: Toward an Anthropology of Women, ed Rayna Reiter, New York: Monthly Review Press
DATE: 1975
PAGES: 157-201

AUTHOR: Gayle Rubin
TITLE: Thinking Sex: Notes for a Radical Theory of the Politics of Sexuality
BOOK: *Deviations: The Gayle Rubin Reader*, Duke University Press
DATE: 2011
PAGES: Ch 5, pp 137-181

AUTHOR: Kimberle Crenshaw
TITLE: Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics and Violence against Women of Color
JOURNAL: *Stanford Law Review*
VOLUME: 43(6)
DATE: 1989
PAGES: 1241- 1299

AUTHOR: Shinsuke Eguchi
TITLE: Ongoing Cross-National Identity Transformation: Living on the Queer Japan-US Transnational Borderland
JOURNAL: *Sexuality & Culture*
VOLUME: 18
DATE: 2014
PAGES: 977-993

AUTHOR: Patricia Hill Collins
TITLE: All in the Family: Intersections of Gender, Race and Nation
JOURNAL: *Hypatia*
VOLUME: Vol. 13 Issue 3
DATE: 1998
PAGES: 62-82

AUTHOR: JUDITH Butler
TITLE: "Doing Justice to Someone: Sex Reassignment and Allegories of Transsexuality"
BOOK: *Undoing Gender*
DATE: 2004
PAGES: Ch 3, pp 57-74

AUTHOR: Lisa Jean Moore & Paisley Currah
TITLE: Legally Sexed: Birth Certificates and Transgender Citizens
BOOK: Feminist Surveillance Studies, ed Dubrofsky and Magnet, Duke University Press
DATE: 2015
PAGES: Ch 3, pp 58-76

AUTHOR: Aniruddha Dutta and Raina Roy
TITLE: Decolonizing Transgender in India: Some Reflections
JOURNAL: *TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly*
VOLUME: Volume 1, Number 3
DATE: 2014
PAGES: 320-337

AUTHOR: Afsaneh Najmabadi
TITLE: Transing and Transpassing Across Sex-Gender Walls in Iran
JOURNAL: *WSQ: Women's Studies Quarterly*
VOLUME: vol 36, no 3-4
DATE: 2008
PAGES: pp 23-42

AUTHOR: Marcia Ochoa
TITLE: Perverse Citizenship: Divas, Marginality, and Participation in 'Loca-lization'
JOURNAL: *WSQ: Women's Studies Quarterly*
VOLUME: vol 36, no 3-4
DATE: 2008
PAGES: 146-169

AUTHOR: Chandra Mohanty
TITLE: Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses
JOURNAL: *Boundary 2*
VOLUME: Vol. 12/13 Issue 3/1
DATE: 1984
PAGES: 333-358

AUTHOR: Lila Abu-Lughod
TITLE: Do Muslim Women Really Need Saving?: Anthropological Reflections on Cultural Relativism and its Others
JOURNAL: *American Anthropologist*
VOLUME: 104(3)
DATE: 2002
783-790

AUTHOR: Aili Mari Tripp
TITLE: Rethinking Difference: Comparative Perspectives from Africa
JOURNAL: *Signs*
VOLUME: vol 25 no 3

DATE: 2000
PAGES: 649 -75

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
None.