

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

GENDER STUDIES 116 – INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN’S STUDIES

3 hours lecture, 3 units

Catalog Description

This is an interdisciplinary course utilizing social science methods and approaches to examine women's roles and experiences related to a range of issues affecting women of diverse backgrounds. Students will explore the history of women’s rights movements, women’s roles in social movements, feminisms, and Women’s Studies through a variety of topics/concepts such as: social construction of gender, systemic inequality, gender and the body, representation in media and culture, patriarchy, masculinity, health and reproductive justice, gender and violence, education, paid and unpaid labor, and family structures. Topics will be examined with an emphasis on how gender intersects with race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, sexuality, culture, dis/ability, age, religion, etc.

Prerequisite

None

Course Content

- 1) Introduction to concepts such as sex, gender, patriarchy, gender socialization, intersectionality, privilege and oppression, etc. and how they apply at the micro, macro, and global level
 - a. How gender intersects with other forms of oppression and systems of power
- 2) Comparison/contrast of gender formation theories
- 3) Intersections of gender with other social identities: race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, sexuality, culture, dis/ability, age, religion, etc.
- 4) U.S. and global feminist movements
- 5) Types of feminism including: Black, Chicana, Native American, Asian American, and other Women of Color feminisms; radical, lesbian, liberal, socialist, eco-feminism, transfeminism, transnational feminism, global feminism, etc.
- 6) Analysis of sexuality and gender identity
- 7) Social impact of representations of women in various media and popular culture
- 8) Women, religion, and spirituality
- 9) Women’s health, reproductive rights, and reproductive justice
- 10) Women and the family
- 11) Women’s education
- 12) Women’s work in a globalizing world (paid and unpaid labor)
- 13) Women's political activism, including electoral politics on the local and transnational level
- 14) Women and gender in relation to imperialism and colonialism
- 15) Women and environmental justice
- 16) Causes and effects of high poverty rates among women
- 17) Causes and societal outcomes of violence against women and children
- 18) Process of making social change: theory, vision and action

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Analyze how gender intersects with other social identities such as race, class and sexuality.
- 2) Develop a comprehensive knowledge of gendered societal and cultural gendered norms.
- 3) Critically discuss and analyze privilege and oppression, and how gender intersects with other forms of oppression and systems of power.

- 4) Analyze key concepts and different types of feminisms.
- 5) Appraise issues surrounding women's sexuality and health.
- 6) Define women's work and illustrate the impact of globalization on work.
- 7) Analyze the causes and effects of violence against women.
- 8) Evaluate issues of security and sustainability as they relate to women.
- 9) Define and assess women's approaches to social change.
- 10) Develop critical thinking, reading and writing skills related to women's studies

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, including quizzes and exams, writing assignments, in-class activities, and research projects that measure students' ability to do the following:

- 1) Analyze how gender intersects with other social identities such as race, class and sexuality.
- 2) Develop a comprehensive knowledge of gendered societal and cultural gendered norms.
- 3) Critically discuss and analyze privilege and oppression, and how gender intersects with other forms of oppression and systems of power.
- 4) Analyze key concepts and different types of feminisms.
- 5) Appraise issues surrounding women's sexuality and health.
- 6) Define women's work and illustrate the impact of globalization on work.
- 7) Analyze the causes and effects of violence against women.
- 8) Evaluate issues of security and sustainability as they relate to women.
- 9) Define and assess women's approaches to social change.
- 10) Develop critical thinking, reading and writing skills related to women's studies

Special Materials Required of Student

None

Minimum Instructional Facilities

- 1) Smart classroom with writing boards, overhead projector
- 2) Library with adequate collections related to women's studies

Method of Instruction

- 1) Lecture and discussion
- 2) Small and large group discussion
- 3) Multimedia presentations
- 4) Individual and group projects, structured in-class exercises
- 5) Textual analysis of sources
- 6) Library materials and internet exploration
- 7) Auxiliary use of study groups, peer tutoring and/or instructional office hours

Out-of-Class Assignments

- 1) Reading assignments, reading response questions, reading journals
- 2) Metacognitive reflections
- 3) Textual analysis of sources
- 4) Projects
- 5) Papers and writing assignments

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative examples):
 - a. Rothenberg, Paula S. and Christina Hsu Accomando. *Race, Class, and Gender in the United States: An Intersectional Study, 12th Ed.* New York: MacMillan, 2024.
 - b. hooks, bell. *Feminism Is for Everybody: Passionate Politics, 2nd Ed.* New York: Routledge, 2014.

- c. Shaw, Susan and Janet Lee. *Women's Voices, Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings, 8th Ed.* Columbus: McGraw-Hill, 2022.
 - d. Scott, Bonnie Kime, Susan E. Cayleff, Anne Donadey and Irene Lara, Eds. *Women in Culture: An Intersectional Anthology for Gender and Women's Studies, 2nd Ed.* Somerset, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell, 2016.
 - e. Andersen, Margaret L. *Thinking About Women: Sociological Perspectives on Sex and Gender, 10th Ed.* New York: Pearson, 2016.
 - f. Hunter College Women's Collective. *Women's Realities, Women's Choices, 4th Ed.* New York: Oxford University Press, 2014.
- 2) Supplemental:
- a. Dicker, Rory. *A History of U.S. Feminisms, 2nd Ed.* Berkeley: Seal Press, 2016.
 - b. *Ms. Magazine Online*

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Analyze the intersections of gender with race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, and other identity factors in the context of women's struggles for equality in U.S. society.
- 2) Analyze gendered societal and cultural norms.
- 3) Analyze and apply the history and theories of feminist movements to current women's issues and to students' own lives and experiences.
- 4) Develop and support an argument or thesis statement with reliable, scholarly evidence.