WST 101, SECTION 3
GENDER AND POWER: INTRO TO WOMEN'S STUDIES
Fall 2016, T/Th 1:25 – 2:40pm, Kimbrough Music Hall RM 101

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Women's and Gender Studies (WGS) is a vibrant academic field that spans across disciplines in the humanities and social, physical and natural sciences. By placing gender at the center of inquiry, WGS challenges and adds new layers and dimensions to academic and cultural understandings of a range of issues. Ideas about gender and gendered systems of power are deeply embedded in society, politics, economics, culture, and history in the United States and around the world. These ideas are not – and never have been – stable and fixed, though they are all too often categorized as "natural" and just "the way things are." This course sets out to shatter this illusion and demonstrate, through the lens of interdisciplinary women's/gender history and investigations of contemporary social justice issues, the various ways in which gendered structures of power have been produced, naturalized, and perpetuated to maintain specific power dynamics and hierarchies in the modern world. This approach also reveals the ways in which gender ideologies intersect with other socially- and culturally-constructed categories of identity such as race, class, sexuality, and disability in powerful ways. By exploring this complex historical landscape, contemporary events and issues such as second-, third-, and fourth-wave feminism, reproductive rights, women in politics, transnational feminism as well as other social justice issues involving the politics of gender emerge in a clearer light. This approach also reveals the ways in which systems of gender have oppressed individuals but simultaneously galvanized and propelled them into action. Over the course of the semester, we will engage primary sources, scholarship, documentaries, and literature to explore past and present understandings of gender and contemplate how these ideas and practices impact all of our lives.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
This course will: (1.) Introduce students to some of the key concepts, theories, and methods that inform the interdisciplinary field of women's/gender studies. (2.) Challenge students to recognize and articulate their understanding of the socially-constructed and always-changing nature of gender ideologies in the United States and globally. (3.) Encourage students to critically analyze the relationship between gender and contemporary social justice issues. (4.) Train students to recognize various forms of overt and covert gender discrimination, bias, and oppression at both the structural and individual level. (5.) Provide students with the opportunity to grapple with their own positionality in the gendered terrain of the modern world and consider the ways in which a greater awareness of gendered structures of power has the potential to transform, in positive ways, their own lives.

NOTE: *This syllabus and the course schedule below are subject to change based on necessary adjustments made by the professor; your continued enrollment in the course signifies your acceptance of the terms of the syllabus.*

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance/Participation: In order to succeed in this class students must be present and prepared (all assigned readings completed as specified on the course schedule). Students can miss TWO classes without penalty (it is NOT necessary to contact your professor about these first three absences if you cannot come). Each absence beyond the two allowances will result in a 5% deduction from your attendance score.

STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT THEY LEGIBLY WRITE THEIR OWN NAME ON THE SIGN-IN SHEET EACH CLASS PERIOD. NO ONE WILL BE "ADDED" TO THE SIGN-IN SHEET AFTER THE CLASS PERIOD IS OVER. IF STUDENTS ARE DICOVERED ADDING FRIEND(S)' NAMES TO THE LIST THEY AND THEIR FRIEND(S) WILL RECEIVE A ZERO ATTENDANCE SCORE FOR THE COURSE.

Tardiness: Arrive to class on time. If you cannot avoid being late, please enter the room quietly and avoid distracting classmates or interrupting lecture to the best of your ability. Habitual tardiness will be penalized.

Cellphones, Laptops, and other Electronic Devices: Students cannot use any form of personal electronics during class time. Please ensure that cellphones and computers are turned off and stored before the start of class. If a student needs an accommodation for this policy because of a disability, please coordinate with your professor and the Access Center.
**ALSO PLEASE NOTE: No student, under any circumstances, can videotape or otherwise record Dr. Barclay or her lectures and any other class content without her express written permission.

Late work: Written work may be turned in for up to two weeks after the due date with the following stipulations: if it is submitted in the first week after the due date it will be docked 25%; if submitted during the second week after the due date, it will be docked 50%.
****Students should retain all written work that the professor grades and returns to them in the event that their final grade for the course is contested in any way.*

Submitting assignments via email: Emailed work will ONLY be accepted in extreme cases and if the student secures permission from the professor in advance. It is the student's responsibility to turn in a hard copy of their work when it is due.

Mid-term Exam Make Up: The professor will make reasonable accommodations for students to make up the mid-term exam ONLY if they are forced to miss it because of significant reasons (ie., an illness that required a visit to the doctor/hospital, a significant family emergency, military service, etc.) The exam make-up MUST take place within one week of the date that it was originally administered and it is the *student's* responsibility to coordinate this re-scheduling with the professor.

Plagiarism: According to WSU's Student Standards of Conduct, plagiarism is defined as "Presenting the information, ideas, or phrasing of another person as the student's own work without proper acknowledgment of the source. This includes submitting a commercially prepared paper or research project or submitting for academic credit any work done by someone else. The term 'plagiarism' includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or academic materials" (http://conduct.wsu.edu/policies/standards-of-conduct/)

PLAGIARISM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND IMMEDIATE ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST STUDENTS WHO CHOSE TO PLAGIARIZE. THIS CAN RESULT IN FAILURE OF THE ASSIGNMENT OR, IF THE PROBLEM PERSISTS, FAILURE OF THE ENTIRE COURSE. DO YOUR OWN WORK!

Students with Disabilities: Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please either visit or call the Access Center (Washington Building 217; 509-335-3417) to schedule an appointment with an Access Advisor. All accommodations MUST be approved through the Access Center.

ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION:

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION	15%
QUIZZES (4)	20%
MID-TERM EXAM	20%
CRITICAL RESPONSE ESSAY (MARGARET ATWOOD – DUE NOV. 10)	25%
FINAL EXAM	20%
	100%

Grading Scale:

93-100 A	83-85 B	73-75 C	60-65 D
90-92 A-	80-82 B-	70-72 C-	0-59 F
86-89 B+	76-79 C+	66-69 D+	

COURSE TEXTS:
Required:
Margaret Atwood, *The Handmaid's Tale* (1st Anchor Books edition, 1998)
Course readings on Blackboard [Bb] or online listed in course schedule

Recommended:
Susan Shaw and Janet Lee. *Women's Voices, Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings*, 5th Ed.

SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE – INTRODUCTION

T AUG 23: Review syllabus; intro to the course

Th AUG 25: A Short History of Women's/Gender Studies
Reading: Jennifer Baumgardner and Amy Richards, "A Day Without Feminism" [Bb]
bell hooks "Feminist Politics: Where We Stand" [Bb]

WEEK TWO – FOUNDATIONS, I

T AUG 30: Gender…
Reading: Judith Lorber, "The Social Construction of Gender" [Bb]

Th SEPT 1: … Does Not Equal Sex or Sexuality
Reading: Anne Fausto-Sterling, The Five Sexes, Revisited [Bb]
Kate Bornstein, "Naming All the Parts" [Bb]

WEEK THREE – FOUNDATIONS, II

T SEPT 6 Intersectionality and Privilege
Reading: Kimberle Crenshaw, "Why Intersectionality Can't Wait" (Washington Post, 24 September 2015): https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/in-theory/wp/2015/09/24/why-intersectionality-cant-wait/?utm_term=.ea31f0ba9f14
Stephanie Wildman and Adrienne Davis, "Making Systems of Privilege Visible" [Bb]
Peggy McIntosh, "White Privilege and Male Privilege" [Bb]

Th SEPT 8 In-class viewing – *The Codes of Gender* (2009) [1 hr, 12 mins]

WEEK FOUR – GENDER IDEOLOGY AND INTERSECTIONALITY IN AMERICAN HISTORY

T SEPT 13 White womanhood and separate spheres
Reading: Barbara Welter, "The Cult of True Womanhood" [Bb]

Th SEPT 15 Gender and Racial Slavery
Reading: Adrienne Davis, "'Don't Let No Body Bother Yo' Principle: The Sexual Economy of American Slavery" [Bb]

WEEK FIVE – HISTORIES OF WOMEN'S MOVEMENTS IN THE U.S., I

T SEPT 20 Abolitionism and the Women's Rights Movement
Reading: Angelina Grimke "Human Rights Not Founded on Sex"
http://www.stolaf.edu/people/fitz/COURSES/Grimke3.htm
"Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions, Seneca Falls" (1848) [Bb]

Th SEPT 22 Women in the Civil Rights Struggle
Reading: SNCC Position Paper "Women in the Movement" (1964) online:
http://www2.iath.virginia.edu/sixties/HTML_docs/Resources/Primary/Manifestos/SNCC_women.html

WEEK SIX – HISTORIES OF WOMEN'S MOVEMENTS IN THE U.S., II

T SEPT 27 The Feminist Movement
Reading: Excerpt, Betty Friedan "The Feminine Mystique" [Bb]

Th SEPT 29 Women of Color Critiques
Reading: The Combahee River Collective [Bb]
Maxine Baca Zinn and Bonnie Thornton Dill, "Theorizing Difference from Multiracial Feminism" [Bb]

WEEK SEVEN – MID-TERM

T OCT 4 Mid-term review

Th OCT 6 Mid-term exam

WEEK EIGHT – BBIOLOGICAL DETERMINISM, MEDICINE, AND EDUCATION

T OCT 11 Race, Gender, and Professional Medicine
Reading: B. Ehrenreich and D. English, "The Sexual Politics of Sickness" [Bb]

Th OCT 13 Women and Education
Reading: Meghan O'Rourke, "Don't Let Larry Summers Off the Hook Yet" online at: http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/the_highbrow/2005/01/dont_let_larry_summers_off_the_hook_yet.html

WEEK NINE – THE POLITICS OF REPRODUCTION

T OCT 18 Race, Gender, and Reproductive Rights in U.S. History
Reading: TBA

Th OCT 20 Politics, Moral Panics, and the Movement for Reproductive Justice
Reading: Diane di Mauro and Carole Joffe, "The Religious Right and the Re-Shaping of Sexual Policy" [Bb]

WEEK TEN – FEMINIST DYSTOPIAN LITERATURE

T OCT 25 In-class discussion: Margaret Atwood, *The Handmaid's Tale*
Reading: Chapter I (Night) – Chapter X (Soul Scrolls)

Th OCT 27 In-class discussion, Margaret Atwood, *The Handmaid's Tale*
Reading: Chapter XI (Night) – end (read "HISTORICAL NOTES" – this is part of the novel)

WEEK ELEVEN – REPRESENTATIONS

T NOV 1 Gender and sexuality in popular culture
Reading: Happel and Esposito, "Vampires, Vixens, and Feminists" [Bb]
Begin in-class viewing, Miss Representation (2011)

Th NOV 3 Finish Miss Representation (2011)

WEEK TWELVE – WOMEN, GENDER, AND ELECTORAL POLITICS

T NOV 8 Fighting for Political Participation
Reading: Susan B. Anthony, "Constitutional Argument" (1872-3) [Bb]

Th NOV 10 In-class viewing "Makers: Women in Politics"
CRITICAL ESSAY DUE

WEEK THIRTEEN – BODY POLITICS

T NOV 15 Gender, beauty and disability
Reading: CHOOSE ONE: Rosemarie Garland Thompson, "Feminist Theory, the Body, and the Disabled Figure" [Bb] OR Susan Bordo, "Hunger as Ideology" [Bb]

Th NOV 17 NO CLASS

** THANKSGIVING BREAK NOV 21-25 **

WEEK FOURTEEN – TRANSNATIONALISM

T NOV 29 Gender and Western Imperialism
Reading: Oyeronke Oyewumi, "Visualizing the Body: Western Theories, African Subjects" [Bb]

Th DEC 1 Hegemonic Feminism
Reading: Abu-Lughod, "Do Muslim Women Really Need Saving?" [Bb]

WEEK FIFTEEN – FEMINISM ONLINE

T DEC 6
Reading: Mantilla, "Gendertrolling: Misogyny Adapts to New Media" [Bb]

Th DEC 8
Reading: Munro, "Feminism: A Fourth Wave?" online at:
https://www.psa.ac.uk/insight-plus/feminism-fourth-wave
Radsch, "Women, Cyberactivism, and the Arab Spring" online at:
http://muftah.org/women-cyberactivism-the-arab-spring/#.V7vEvvkrKCg

****FINAL EXAM TBA****