

GOV 335M/WGS 340, Spring 2010
T-TH 2:00-3:15pm, MEZ 2.210
Unique #: 38878 & 47683

Professor Juliet Hooker
MEZ 3.146, x232-7273, Office hours: T-TH 3:30-5:00pm
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U.S. and Third World Feminisms

This course explores the variety of feminisms developed by women of color and non-western women to critique the racism and ethnocentrism of white-dominated systems and practices, including feminism. Its overall concern is with the intersection of gender, race, sexuality and social class, an analytical feminist perspective developed by women of color. We begin by examining the dominant approaches to feminist theory that emerged in the United States and Europe, such as liberal, Marxist, radical feminism, and standpoint feminism. We will then focus on the critiques of these traditions developed by U. S. women of color and third world feminists. We will also examine debates regarding the politics of sexuality, the role of men in feminism, feminist re-conceptualizations of politics, veiling and Arab feminism, etc. This course carries both the Cultural Diversity in the United States and Writing flags.

Course Requirements: This course is designed to be a seminar. Students are expected to have completed the readings prior to class and to actively participate in class discussion. The emphasis of this course is on critical thinking and analytical writing. Students are expected to read thoroughly and carefully, as the quality of discussion depends on the extent of your preparation and participation.

Attendance is required, as is completion of all assignments. Students who fail to complete ANY of the following assignments will fail the course. Students will write two short (5 pages) papers, and one revised paper (7 pages). The final paper will be a revised, expanded version of the short paper on which the student received the lowest grade. Papers are due on the day noted, via email, at **5:00 PM**. Late papers will NOT be accepted. Essay deadlines are listed in the course schedule. All work on the papers must be independent. Students who are found guilty of academic dishonesty will fail the course and be recommended for suspension from the university.

Final grades will be assessed based on class participation (15%), short papers (25% each for a total of 50%), and final paper (35%). There will be no grading curve. Class participation affects grades that are on the borderline.

The University of Texas at Austin provides, upon request, appropriate accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, at x471-6259 or <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>.

A student who misses an examination, work assignment, or other project due to the observance of a religious holy day will be given an opportunity to complete the work missed within a reasonable time after the absence, provided that he or she has properly notified the instructor. It is the policy of the University of Texas at Austin that the student must notify the instructor at least 14 days prior to the classes scheduled on dates he or she will be absent to observe a religious holy day. For religious holy days that fall within the first two weeks of the semester, the notice should be given on the first day of the semester. The student will not be penalized for these excused absences, but the instructor may appropriately respond if the student fails to complete satisfactorily the missed assignment or examination within a reasonable time after the excused absence.

Required Texts The following books are available for purchase at the Co-op bookstore:

1. bell hooks, Feminism is for Everybody (South End Press, 2000).
2. Maxine Hong Kingston, Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts (Vintage, 1989).
3. Caryl Phillips, Cambridge (Vintage, 1993).

In addition, a course reader is available at Abel's Copies (715-D W. 23rd St). Readings marked with an asterisk are in the reader.

Course Schedule and Reading Assignments

Weeks 1-2. Defining Key Terms: Feminism, Gender, and Race

January 18: Introduction

January 20: bell hooks, Feminism is for Everybody, p. 1-24 & Judith Lorber, "The Social Construction of Gender," Race, Class, and Gender in the U. S. (Worth Publishers, 1983), p. 33-45.*

January 25: bell hooks, Feminism is for Everybody, p. 55-60, & Michael Omi & Howard Winant, "Racial Formations," Race, Class, and Gender in the U. S., p. 12-20.*

January 27: Class visit by Rokhaya Diallo, the founder and president of Les Indivisibles in France.

Week 3. Liberal and Marxist Feminism

February 1: John Stuart Mill, "The Subjection of Women," On Liberty and Other Essays (Oxford Univ. Press, 1998), p. 471-472, 502-556.*

February 3: Frederick Engels, "The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State," The Marx-Engels Reader (W. W. Norton & Co., 1978), p. 734-759.*

Week 4. Standpoint and Radical Feminism

February 8: Carol Gilligan, "In a Different Voice," & Nancy Hartsock, "The Feminist Standpoint," Feminisms (Oxford Univ. Press, 1998), p. 152-160, 146-152.*

February 10: Andrea Dworkin, "Pornography," & Catherine McKinnon, "Towards a Feminist Theory of the State," Feminisms, p. 325-327, 351-358.*

Week 5. Black Feminism

February 15: The Combahee River Collective, "A Black Feminist Statement," Home Girls: A Black Feminist Anthology (Kitchen Table/Women of Color, 1983), p. 272-282, & Hazel Carby, "White Woman Listen! Black Feminism and the Boundaries of Sisterhood," Black British Cultural Studies: A Reader (Univ. of Chicago Press, 1996), p. 61-86.*

February 17: Audre Lorde, "Sexism an American Disease in Blackface," & "Age, Race, Class, and Sex: Women Redefining Difference," Sister Outsider (Crossing Press, 1984), p. 60-71, 110-133.*

Weeks 6-7. Racialized Patriarchy

February 22: Caryl Phillips, Cambridge, Part I.

February 24: Discussion of drafts of essay # 1.

March 1: Caryl Phillips, Cambridge, Part II.

Essay # 1 Due March 2 by 5PM

Week 7-8. Latina Feminism in the U.S. and Latin American Feminism

March 3: Gloria Anzaldúa, "La Conciencia de la Mestiza: Towards a New Consciousness," Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza (Spinsters/Aunt Lute Book Co., 1987), p. 77-98.*

March 8: Cherríe Moraga, Loving in the War Years (South End Press, 2000), p. 97-108, 120-131.*

March 10: Margaret Randall, ed., Sandino's Daughters (New Star Books, 1981), p. 40-93, 129-149.*

Spring Break

Week 9. Feminist Politics

March 22: Jane Mansbridge, "Reconstructing Democracy," Revisioning the Political: Feminist Reconstructions of Traditional Concepts in Western Political Theory (Westview Press, 1996), p. 117-138.*

March 24: Joan Tronto, "Care as a Political Concept," Revisioning the Political, p. 139-156.*

Week 10. The Politics of Sexuality

March 29: bell hooks, Feminism is for Everybody, p. 25-36, 85-99, & bell hooks, "Seduced by Violence no More," Outlaw Culture (Routledge, 1994), p. 109-113.*

March 31: Audre Lorde, "Uses of the Erotic: The Erotic as Power," Sister Outsider, p. 53-59.*

Week 11. Race, Gender, and Sexuality

April 5: Angela Y. Davis, "Rape, Racism and the Myth of the Black Rapist," Women, Race, and Class (Vintage, 1983), p. 172-201.*

April 7: Film to be shown in class, Tongues Untied, by Marlon Riggs (1989).

Week 12. Men and Feminism

April 12: Cooper Thompson, "A New Vision of Masculinity," Race, Class, and Gender in the United States, p. 475-481, Arthur Brittan, Masculinity and Power (Wiley-Blackwell, 1989), p. 1-18, & Patrick D. Hopkins, "How Feminism Made a Man Out of Me: The Proper Subject of Feminism and the Problem of Men," Men Doing Feminism (Routledge, 1998), p. 33-56.*

April 14: bell hooks, Feminism is for Everybody, p. 67-84, & Audre Lorde, "Man Child: A Black Lesbian Feminist's Response," in Sister Outsider, p. 72-80.*

Essay # 2 Due April 15 by 5PM

Week 13. Women and Culture

April 19: Maxine Hong Kingston, Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts, p. 3-109.

April 21: Maxine Hong Kingston, Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts, p. 113-209.

Week 14. Arab Feminism

April 26: Lama Abu Odeh, "Post-Colonial Feminism and the Veil: Thinking the Difference," Feminist Review 43 (1993): p. 26-37.*

April 28: Film to be shown in class, Beyond Borders: Arab Feminists Talk About Their Lives (2000).

Week 15. Feminist Horizons

May 3: Premilla Nadasen, "Sista Friends and Other Allies: Domestic Workers United and Coalition Politics," New Social Movements in the African Diaspora (Palgrave Macmillan, 2009), p. 285-298, & Ginia Bellafante, "Is Feminism Dead?" Time (July 29, 1998).*

May 5: bell hooks, Feminism is for Everybody, p. 44-47, 100-104, 110-118.

Final Paper Due May 11 by 5 PM