

WOMEN AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN THE 20TH-CENTURY U.S.

HIS 365G (38845), AMS 321 (30120), WGS 340 (46680)

Spring 2015 TH 3:30-5:00 UTC 3.122

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This upper-division history course explores participation by women in well known and lesser known social movements during the 20th century. We examine women's activism in both movements that specifically targeted women's rights, such as the women's suffrage movement, and movements that do not outwardly appear to be about women's rights, such as the Civil Rights Movement. The course draws on a variety of course materials – books, articles, historical documents and films –to consider the distinct experiences of different groups of women in American society.

OVERALL THEMES:

- 1) how cultural understandings of gender shaped these movements
- 2) tensions between ideas of women's rights that emphasized equality of the sexes and those that emphasized difference
- 3) whether we can write a universal history of women or distinct studies along lines of race, class, region and sexual preference
- 4) power relations among women, in addition to those between men and women.

Course Structure

Instead of presenting a comprehensive survey, the course offers a more in-depth exploration of several important movements. Therefore, the course is organized around five units of about three weeks each. The units include lectures, discussions of readings and historical documents (as a whole class or in groups), and films. There will also be a final exam based on the four overall themes listed above.

Course Evaluation

Attendance	5%
Team and individual assignments [submission]	5%
Unit quizzes	20% total
Unit In-class essays	50% total
Final exam - email by Sat., 5/16, 5 p.m.	20%

Required course materials

BOOKS: Can be purchase at the University Co-Op. 1-3 copies of each title are on reserve at PCL. The Orleck book is also available as an e-book.

Crow Dog, Mary. *Lakota Woman*.

Moody, Anne. *Coming of Age in Mississippi*.

Orleck, Annelise. *Common Sense and a Little Fire: Women and Working-Class Politics in the United States, 1900-1965*.

Marjorie Spruill Wheeler, *One Woman, One Vote: Rediscovering the Women's Suffrage Movement*.

ARTICLES AND DOCUMENTS: The course pack (CP) for this course contains most assigned articles. Both articles and assigned documents can be downloaded from Blackboard (BB) or Women and Social Movements (WSM), an online database.

FILMS: Films are required course materials and will be on reserve at the Fine Arts Library after we screen them in class.

Attendance and courtesy

ATTENDANCE: What we do in class is essential to the course, so attendance is mandatory. If you have more than 2 unexcused absences, two points will be deducted from your final grade for each additional unexcused absence, so please plan ahead. However, documented medical or family emergencies will be excused. With advance written notice, official U.T. business that requires travel away from campus will also be excused. Religious holiday observances are considered excused absences. Late arrivals and early departures are disruptive to the class. If you have to leave early or arrive late for a specific reason, please see the professor or teaching assistant.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES: Use of social media is not allowed in class. You may use a laptop in class for notes, as long as you are not connected to the Internet (unless we do work in class using databases). Please also silence your phones.

Grades

Pluses and minuses will be used, as follows:

A+ = 97-100; A = 93-97; A- = 90-92

B+ = 87-89; B = 83-86; B- = 80-82

C+ = 77-79; C = 73-76; C- = 70-72

D+ = 67-69; D = 63-66; D- = 60-62

F = below 60

Grades ending in .5 or above will be rounded up; grades ending in .49 or below will not.

Work in Groups

You will be assigned to a group, with which you will work on classroom projects throughout the semester. Group assignments will be given a submission grade only.

Make-up Quizzes and Exams

Make-ups are held by the History Department on Fridays, 2-4:45 p.m. You must have a photo i.d. If you missed the quiz or exam because of documented illness or family emergency, or official campus business (with advanced notice), you will receive full credit. If you missed the quiz or exam for any other reason, you will need to take the exam/quiz during the next available Friday make-up time. You will be docked 10 points (and 10 for each further make-up time you miss).

PLEASE NOTE: The final exam date is scheduled by the university for SATURDAY, 5/16, 2-5. Your take-home final must be emailed by 5 p.m. on that date. Please do not request exceptions, unless a medical issue is involved.

Office hours, Blackboard and email

I encourage you to come to office hours, whether you want help with the course or just want to chat about issues related to the course. If the official times conflict with your schedule, please do feel free to request an appointment. The course syllabus, office hours and locations, readings, assignments, lecture outlines and terms, announcements, and grades will all be posted on Blackboard. Be sure your mailbox is not full.

Reading and note taking

History courses have lots of reading, so I will be posting a handout on what to read for, with suggestions on note taking for both the readings and lectures. *Please feel free to request help figuring out note-taking strategies.* No one is born knowing how to take good notes! Read assigned readings prior to the date scheduled on the syllabus.

Quizzes and Essay Tests

- * Quizzes will be based on the overview lecture and initial reading for each unit.
- * In-Class Essays will be based on what you have learned for the current unit only. They will take 30-45 minutes, as specified. Bring a blue book and ink pen.
- * The final cumulative essay exam, scheduled on the exam date for this class, will test your thoughtful engagement with one of the four central themes noted at the beginning of this syllabus. Because you will know the themes from the start of the course, you can create a “portfolio” of ideas and evidence on which you can draw for your final.

Special accommodations

Any accommodations approved by the Services for Students with Disabilities office will be provided. Do not hesitate to bring such accommodations to the attention of the professor and please do so as early in the semester as possible. If you believe you may qualify for accommodations, visit the SSD website: <http://ddce.utexas.edu/disability/> .

Academic Integrity:

The University of Texas adheres strictly to guidelines regarding academic integrity, including cheating and plagiarism. *These guidelines extend to all material found on the Internet*, in addition to print materials. Penalties for violations may include loss of credit for the course and a report to the Student Judicial Services. Please familiarize yourself with the information listed on the following website.

http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint_student.php .

Please note: I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus. All exam dates will stay the same. The lectures, syllabi and exams for this course are the property of Prof. Green and may not be produced in written or electronic form, in full or in part, without written permission.

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1

Jan. 20: Introduction

Jan. 22: What are social movements? How can we approach the subject of women’s participation in them?

READ: Astrid Henry, “Waves” [BB]

IN-CLASS Working with primary documents

UNIT 1: MULTIPLE FORMS OF WOMEN’S ACTIVISM IN THE PROGRESSIVE ERA

WEEK 2

Jan. 27: Overview Lecture: Women’s Activism and Politics in the Progressive Era

READ: *Common Sense*, Ch. 1

Jan. 29: The Creation of Working-Class Feminism
READ: *Common Sense*, Ch. 2
QUIZ

WEEK 3

Feb. 3: From Settlement Houses to Legislative Reform
READ: Documents for in-class assignment (BB, CP)

Feb. 5: Black Women's Clubs and the Crusade Against Lynching
READ: Ida B. Wells, *The Red Record*, excerpt (BB, CP)
FILM: *Ida B. Wells, A Passion for Justice*

WEEK 4

Feb. 10: Discussion of Film and In-Class Essay
NO READING

UNIT 2: THE STRUGGLE FOR THE NINETEENTH AMENDMENT

Feb. 12: Overview Lecture: The Movement for 'Woman Suffrage'
READ: *One Woman*, Intro.

WEEK 5

Feb. 17: Suffrage and Class
READ: *Common Sense*, Ch. 3
Jane Addams document, *One Woman*, Ch. 10 (Optional: rest of chapter)

QUIZ

IN-CLASS DOCUMENT ANALYSIS

Feb. 19: Race, Region, and Ideology
READ: Spruill, "Race, Reform, and Reaction at the Turn of the Century,"
in Jean H. Baker, *Votes for Women* (BB, CP)
One Woman, Ch. 8, Terborg-Penn, "African American Women and the
Woman Suffrage Movement"
One Woman, Ch. 11, Thurner, "Better Citizens Without the Ballot"

WEEK 6

Feb. 24: The 'Final Push' for the Nineteenth Amendment
READ: *One Woman*, Ch. 15, Ford, "Alice Paul and the Triumph of Militancy"
One Woman, Ch. 16, Fowler, "Carrie Chapman Catt, Strategist"
FILM: *Iron-Jawed Angels*

Feb. 26: Film commentary by Darcy Rendon
In-Class Essay

UNIT 3: UNITY AND CONFLICT IN THE PURSUIT OF WOMEN'S EQUALITY, 1920-40

WEEK 7

Mar. 3: Overview Lecture: Beyond Suffrage: Competing Concepts of Women's Rights,
from the 19th Amendment through the Great Depression"
READ: *One Woman*, Ch. 19, Cott, "Across the Great Divide"

Mar. 5: The Birth Control Movement 1
READ: Documents (BB)
IN CLASS: Film on Margaret Sanger and Commentary by Darcy Rendon
QUIZ

WEEK 8

Mar. 10: The Birth Control Movement 2
READ: Assigned Group Documents (WSM)

Mar. 12: Women's Equality and the Federal Government: From Sheppard Towner to the New Deal
READ: *Common Sense*, Ch. 4

******* SPRING BREAK *******

WEEK 9

Mar. 24: Organizing Working Women in the Great Depression
READ: Hall, "Disorderly Women: Gender and Labor Militancy in the Appalachian South," *Journal of American History* 73:2 (Sept 1986) (BB, CP)
Faue, "Gender, Language, and the Meaning of Solidarity, 1936-1939," in *Community of Suffering and Struggle* (BB, CP)

Mar. 26: One women's movement or many?

NO READING
Film Clip from *With Babies and Banners*
IN-CLASS ESSAY

UNIT 4: WOMEN'S ACTIVISM IN WORLD WAR II AND THE COLD WAR

WEEK 10

Mar. 31: Overview Lecture: Framing Women's Activism During and After World War II
NO READING

Apr. 2: World War II: Was everyone a 'Rosie the Riveter'?
READ: Valerie Matsumoto, 'Japanese American Women During World War II,' *Frontiers* 8:1 (1984): 6-14 (BB, CP)
Laurie B. Green, "Where Would the Negro Women Apply for Work?"
Gender, Race, and Labor in Wartime Memphis" (BB, CP)

QUIZ

WEEK 11

Apr. 7: Preludes to the 1960s 'Freedom Now!' Movement
READ: *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, Pt. 2
(Pt. 1 is highly recommended but not required.)
DUE: Reflection paper, 1 typed page (Informal paper with thoughts on the reading)

Apr. 9: Not what you expect: Subverting "tradition" in Cold War America
READ Dee Garrison, "Our Skirts Gave Them Courage," (BB, CP)
Wini Breines, "The 'Other' Fifties (BB, CP)
IN CLASS: Short video, "Are You Popular" (1947)

WEEK 12

Apr. 14: Lesbian Lives before Stonewall

READ: Marcia Gallo, *Different Daughters: A History of the Daughters of Bilitis and the Rise of the Lesbian Rights Movement* (BB)

FILM CLIPS: *The Word Is Out: Stories of Some of Our Lives*

Apr. 16: Women, Labor and Politics

FILM CLIP *Step by Step*

IN-CLASS ESSAY

UNIT 5: A SYMPHONY OF MANY VOICES: FEMINISM AND WOMEN'S LIBERATION

WEEK 13

Apr. 21: Overview Lecture: Why We Are Not Using a Book

Apr. 23: Different Roads to 1960s Feminism

READ: Friedan, "The Problem That Has No Name" (BB)
Casey Hayden and Mary King, "Sex and Caste" (BB)
Other documents (BB)

IN CLASS: DOCUMENT ANALYSIS

QUIZ

WEEK 14

Apr. 28: Women and the Black Freedom Movement

READ: *Coming of Age*, Pt. 3-4

DUE: Reflection paper, 1 typed page (Informal paper with thoughts on the reading)

Apr. 30: Women's Liberation and its Many Voices

READ: Orleck, *Rethinking American Women's Activism* (excerpt) (BB)
Lakota Woman, BEGIN READING

WEEK 15

May 5: Gender and the Black, Brown and Red Power Movements

READ: *Lakota Woman*, complete to Ch. 11

DUE: Reflection paper, 1 typed page (Informal paper with thoughts on the reading)

May 7: Women and Social Movements: A Return

IN-CLASS ESSAY

Summing Up

FINAL EXAM TIME: SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2 – 5 p.m.

Take-home exam due not later than 5 p.m., typed and emailed.