GENDER & WOMEN’S STUDIES
2017 SPRING GRADUATE COURSES

GWS 595-001: Issues in GWS: How the Mass Media Shapes Our Lives: The title of this course (if I had room) actually should be "How the mass media has changed and how those changes have affected us." My interest is in exploring how television, advertising, journalism, and the Internet have evolved over the past half-century, and how that evolution has changed our perception, expectations, judgment, and behavior. Among the topics we will consider: the blurring of entertainment and information in news reporting, the role of digital technology in advertising, the emergence and evolution of "reality" television, uses and abuses of the Internet. Some special interests of mine: how the media dominated and shaped the 2016 election, how computer technology has altered our ideas of what constitutes a "normal" body, reality television and the normalization of interpersonal aggression, the cultural replacement of fact with "optics" and "narrative," the role of mass popular culture in progress (and resistance to change) regarding race, gender, and sexuality. Those are my particular interests; we will leave plenty of time to focus on yours, too, as the course will be a learning community in which I expect you--the students--to often have as much expertise as I. Together, we will share the differences in our experience to come to a historically informed understanding of some of the most profound changes that have taken place in our lifetimes. This course counts toward requirements for the GWS major, minor, graduate certificate, and other degrees as appropriate. Susan Bordo, MW 4:30-5:45pm.

GWS 650-001: Feminist Theory: This is an advanced seminar in Gender and Women’s Studies. Instead of a historical overview of feminist theory, this class is designed as an exercise in learning to evaluate the methods and theories that feminist scholars from various (especially non Euro-American) backgrounds utilize to make their arguments and help students develop a solid theoretical foundation for analysis of issues that are key to the field. These issues include (but are not limited to) the critical concepts of gender and women, intersectionality, feminist knowledge production, media and popular culture, masculinities, colonialism, post colonialism, and neocolonialism, decolonization and indigeneity, science and technology, nationalism and transnationalism, globalization and neoliberalism, labor, migration, and economic inequalities, environmental justice, and women’s human rights. We will be reading a selection of core theoretical essays, examining the historical development of theories, their political connotations, and their analytical strengths and weaknesses. Charlie Zhang, R 4:00-6:30pm. This course is required for students pursuing a PhD in GWS and counts toward requirements for the GWS graduate certificate and other degrees as appropriate.

GWS 690: Research in GWS: Independent Study: This course requires students to work out a project with GWS faculty/affiliated faculty and fill out the necessary independent study contract. Prior to enrollment in the course, the student and faculty need to sign the contract and submit it to michelle.deltoro@uky.edu. Contracts can be obtained on the GWS webpage (http://gws.as.uky.edu/gws-documents-and-forms) or at the GWS office, 112 Breckinridge Hall. Once the contract has been approved, you will be notified how to register. This course will count toward requirements for the GWS graduate certificate and other degrees as appropriate.

GWS 700-001: Seminar in GWS: Narrative: Before and After: Like an unauthorized biography, GWS 700 is offered as an unofficial companion course to the 2017 Narrative conference held here in Lexington on March 23-26. We will sample writings by plenary speakers Judith Butler and Linda Williams as well as selections from Narrative Theory Unbound: Queer and Feminist Interventions, edited by Robyn Warhol and Susan S. Lanser, and augment these pieces with some feminist and queer fiction. The course will operate as a seminar, not a survey or lecture course. Carol Mason, T 2:00-4:30pm This course will count toward requirements for the GWS graduate certificate and other degrees as appropriate.

OTHER COURSES FOR GWS CREDIT

KHP 678: Sexual Health Promotion: This course is an intensive seminar on contemporary sexual health issues. Research, theoretical, and substantive issues relevant to studying sexual health will be covered. Students will critically evaluate sexual health education programs in school and community settings, sexuality research, develop depth and breadth of understanding key issues in sexual health promotion, and learn the various forms of inquiry used in the study of human sexuality. Kristen Mark, T 4:00-6:30pm. This course will count toward requirements for the GWS graduate certificate and other degrees as appropriate.
EPE 525/773: Campus Activism and Educational Justice: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives: This course will consider the dynamics of political protest on campuses. We will examine a variety of precursor and contemporary student movements that have challenged gendered and racial injustice and violence on campus; U.S. militarism; apartheid; political and religious repression; university investments and budgets, and workplace issues; governance, and diversity policies; gender, race, and class inequities; tuition hikes, student debt, and privatization; LGBTQ rights, and academic speech, etc. We will also consider the struggle to establish resource centers, to expand access, and to develop area and ethnic studies. We will examine student mobilizations in a variety of locales within and outside of the U.S such as the 1930’s New Negro Campus Movement, Students for a Democratic Society, and Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee as well as student movements in Chile, Mexico, France, China, and Iran. We will also probe organizational linkages and legacies for contemporary movements such as Black Lives Matter. We will analyze various forms of protest including teach-ins, occupations, Die-ins, strikes, and international solidarity work-study brigades. We will use the following questions to guide our discussions: How have students, faculty, and staff helped to remake the university? How have the politics of race, gender, class and sexuality shaped campus movements? What international, national and local events, identity politics, student cultures, and university policies have produced or silenced campus protest and discontent? What strategies, ideologies, alliances, and official and state repression characterize or accompany student mobilizations? Karen Tice, T 4:00-6:30pm. This course will count toward requirements for the GWS graduate certificate and other degrees as appropriate.

HIS 563: Women and Gender in Latin America: Although Latin America is known as the land of machismo, ten women have already served as president in different countries. The paintings of Frida Kahlo, the Mexican artist, go for the highest price of any female artist in all of the Americas. The seventeenth-century Mexican nun, Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, was the hemisphere’s pioneer in the struggle for women’s rights and the mothers of the Plaza de Mayo were instrumental in the overthrow of the military dictatorship in Argentina in 1983. This class will explore femininity, masculinity, and gender relations south of the border, and deconstruct common stereotypes along the way. We will use a rich variety of readings (testimonials, literary works, and biographies), documentaries, and films in order to understand how people’s lives have changed over time. The class meets once a week for 2 ½ hours so that we can view and critique certain documentaries and films that are longer than one hour. Francie Chassen-Lopez, T 5:30-8:00pm. This course will count toward requirements for the GWS graduate certificate and other degrees as appropriate. This course fulfills the cross-cultural requirement for the GWS graduate certificate.

LAS 601: Interdisciplinary Seminar in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino/a Studies: This interdisciplinary topical seminar examines current issues, trends, and methods of scholarly interest in the fields of Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino/a Studies. The seminar will include guest appearances by LACLAS affiliated faculty with various areas of expertise as part of our discussions on the state of research from multiple fields and perspectives. For Spring 2017, featured topics include social inequalities, transnational migration, gender, racialization and racism, violence, the body, and health. This is a required course for the Certificate in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino/a Studies. Cristina Alcalde, W 2:00-4:30pm. This course will count toward requirements for the GWS graduate certificate and other degrees as appropriate. This course fulfills the cross-cultural requirement for the GWS graduate certificate.

SOC 735: Seminar in Inequalities: Masculinities: This course provides an introduction to sociological research and theory on masculinity. While the majority of scholarship in gender has focused on women, this course critically interrogates men and the constitution of masculinity. This tack is crucial to understanding gender inequality because men as a group benefit from the gender order, and enactments of masculinity tend to reproduce power and dominance. At the same time, we will consider how intersections with other dimensions of inequality such as class, race, place, and sexuality complicate masculinities and position men differently in relationship to gender dividends. The course is organized to examine: 1) masculinity in theoretical and historical context, 2) learning and representing masculine identities, 3) the social enactment of manhood and its consequences, and 4) the future of masculinity research and praxis. We will cover topics such as the theory of hegemonic masculinity and critiques; intersections of masculinity with other categories of difference; linkages between violence and masculinity; and masculinity in venues such education, sport, popular culture, and criminal justice. Edward Morris, W 4:00-6:30pm. This course will count toward requirements for the GWS graduate certificate and other degrees as appropriate.

For a full list of GWS graduate courses please visit our website:
https://gws.as.uky.edu/spring-courses