

WMST201 L01
Introduction to Women's Studies
Fall 2012
T/Th 11-12:15

Instructor: Christine Mains
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Course Description

This course is an introduction to the discipline of Women's Studies and the study of feminism from its origins through the transformations and challenges that continue into the 21st century. This course will explore cultural notions of sex and gender, and intersections with other markers of identity, with a focus on seeing such issues from a variety of perspectives.

Objectives of the Course

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Connect theory to practical and political implications in women's lives.
- Recognize and critique assumptions about sex, gender, race, sexuality, class, ability and feminism.
- Articulate arguments about feminist concepts in oral and written forms.

Textbook

Shaw, Susan M. and Janet Lee. *Women's Voices, Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings*. 5th ed. New York: McGraw Hill, 2012.

All students are responsible for reading the assigned readings (see Schedule of Readings below) by the date listed. The assigned readings will be the focus of class discussion, small group presentations, and exams. Other readings in the textbook, not listed on the schedule below, will be the focus of the essay assignment; students will choose a few of the additional textbook readings, depending on their essay topic. No other readings are required.

Assignments and Evaluation

Midterm Exam	Oct. 23	20%
Small Group Presentations	Throughout term	20%
Critical Essay	Nov. 15	30%
Final Exam	Registrar-scheduled	30%

Midterm Exam: The midterm exam will be held in class. The exam will be closed-book, with short answer and multiple choice components. Questions will relate to the textbook readings and presentations covered by the date of the midterm.

Small Group Presentation: Students will join small groups formed around chapter topics (see the Schedule of Readings). Each group will introduce and explain a few key terms and concepts covered by the textbook chapter, and illustrate those terms and concepts with examples of their own. Each group member should expect to speak for 3-5 minutes.

Critical Essay: This assignment is an essay of ~1200-1500 words, developing and supporting the student's own argument with no additional research beyond the textbook readings. Students will select two-three readings from the textbook and undertake a critical analysis of those readings in relation to a topic or theme. The essay must be well organized, well edited, and properly cited using MLA.

Final Exam: The final exam will be scheduled by the registrar's office at any time during the exam period of December 10-19; students are advised not to make travel plans until the exam schedule is posted. The exam will be closed-book, with short answer, multiple choice, and a brief essay component. Questions will relate to the textbook readings and presentations covered by the end of term, with an emphasis on material covered after the midterm exam.

All written assignments (essay and PowerPoint slides) will be submitted through Digital Dropbox on Blackboard. No assignments will be submitted in hardcopy, whether handed to the instructor, dropped at the main office, or slid under office doors, nor will assignments be accepted through email attachment. It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment, and to check email regularly for notices of missing assignments.

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: Yes.

Policy for Late Assignments

Assignments are due through Digital Dropbox on the stated due date. Assignments may be submitted after the deadline only with the emailed permission of the instructor, and may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, students should identify themselves on all written work by using their ID number. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam.

For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

Grading System

In this class, you will receive grades in the 4-point GPA scale *rather than* percentages.

	Grading Scale	GPA
A+	96-100	4.0
A	90-95.99	4.0
A -	85-89.99	3.7
B+	80-84.99	3.3
B	75-79.99	3.0
B-	70-74.99	2.7
C+	65-69.99	2.3
C	60-64.99	2.0
C-	55-59.99	1.7
D+	53-54.99	1.3
D	50-52.99	1.0
F	0-49	0

Writing Skills Statement

All written assignments (including written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented, using MLA style correctly and consistently.

If you need help with your writing, you may use the Writing Centre. Tutors will help you to organize your ideas, teach you how to edit your work for common errors, and explain citation and documentation. Visit the website for more details: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Date		
Sept. 11 13	Introduction to Women's Studies pp.1-22 "Feminist Politics: Where We Stand" pp. 33-36 "Still Needing the F Word" pp. 39-40	
18 20	Chapter 2: Privilege & Inequality pp. 42-59 "Toward a New Vision" pp. 59-67 "White Privilege and Male Privilege" pp. 75-82	
25 27	Chapter 3: Learning Gender pp. 105-120 "The Five Sexes, Revisited" pp. 121-125 "Unraveling Hardwiring" pp. 129-134	
Oct. 2 4	Chapter 4: Sex, Power & Intimacy pp. 164-181 "The Cult of Virginity" pp. 182-185 "What is Bisexuality?" pp. 189-194	
9 11	Chapter 5: Gendered Bodies pp. 213-233 "Breast Buds and the 'Training' Bra" pp. 234-238 "Love Your Fat Self" pp. 265-268	
Oct. 16 18	Chapter 6: Health and Reproduction pp. 279-309 "A Global Health Imperative" pp. 326-332 "Rethinking Radical Politics" pp. 333-339	
Oct. 23 25	Midterm Exam Chapter 7: Families pp. 354-371 "Marriage and Love" pp. 372-374 "Who Wants to Marry a Feminist?" pp. 374-376	Midterm Oct. 23
Oct. 30 Nov. 1	Chapter 8: Women's Work pp. 391-413 "Maid to Order" pp. 429-434 "Power Plays" pp. 436-438	
Nov. 6 8	Chapter 9: Women & Culture pp. 450-472 "Enlightened Sexism" pp. 479-483 "Sexting" pp. 493-497	
Nov. 13 15	Reading Break Chapter 10: Violence against Women pp. 503-524 "Betrayed by the Angel" pp. 534-537 "Textual Harassment" pp. 540-542	No Class Nov. 13 Essay Due Nov. 15
Nov. 20 22	Chapter 11: Law & Social Policy pp. 548-569 "Delinquent Girls" pp. 577-581 "From Rescue to Recognition" pp. 585-592	
Nov. 27 29	Chapter 12: Religion & Spirituality pp. 595-608 "Fundamentalism and . . ." pp. 610-614 "Feminist Questions of Christianity" pp. 628-636	
Dec. 4 6	Chapter 13: Activism and Change pp. 640-654 "Fear of Feminism" pp. 655-658 "Real Men Join the Movement" pp. 662-666	

Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources.

Please consult your instructor if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

Internet and electronic communication device information

Students may use laptops to take notes, but not to do any other personal work (such as Facebook or checking email). At no time may students use cell phones for any reason whatsoever.

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and the consequences thereof please see the current University of Calgary Calendar at the following link;
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Academic Accommodation Policy

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre (220-8237) and discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course. For further information, please see
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/46>

Emergency Evacuation and Assembly points

Please note the evacuation points for this particular classroom. All classrooms on campus exit to specific places in case of emergency. The emergency assembly points differ depending upon where your classroom is located. For information on the emergency evacuation procedures and the assembly points see
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

"SAFEWALK" Program

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night -- call 403-220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot booths.

Student Representation

There are now four Arts reps because of the amalgamation, with the email addresses being arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, and arts4@su.ucalgary.ca. Please contact if you have questions related to Students Union matters, events, or concerns.

For your student ombudsman, please see

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.