



WOMEN, GENDER
& SEXUALITY STUDIES

Spring 2022 Course Descriptions

(Please refer to the schedule of classes for the most current course information.)

GNDR 2110 001: Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Offered: MWF- 1000-1050, DSH 333/ Full term

Instructor: Alana Bock, ajbock@unm.edu

GNDR 2110 002: Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Offered: TR- 1100-1215, DSH 233 / Full term

Instructor: LeRoy Saiz, saizleroy@unm.edu

This course introduces students to key concepts, debates, and analytical tools informing women, gender, and sexuality studies. As an interdisciplinary field of study, women, gender, and sexuality studies employs academic perspectives from a range of disciplines and theoretical approaches. It also incorporates lived experience and social location into its object of analysis. Though content will vary according to the expertise and focus of the instructor, this course will develop tools through readings and assignments that critically analyze how gender and sexuality are shaped by different networks of power and social relations and demonstrate how the intersections of race, class, disability, national status, and other categories identity and difference are central to their understanding and deployment. In addition to feminist thought, areas of focus might include gender and sexuality in relation to social, cultural, political, creative, economic, or scientific discourses. This class is recommended for those with a general interest in the topic area as well as for those seeking a foundational course for further study.

WMST 304 001: Feminist Theories

Offered: TR 1230-1345, TBA/ Full term

Instructor: Andrea Mays, amays@unm.edu

This course takes a transhistorical approach to examine bodies of knowledge which comprise feminist theory. The goals of this course include (but are not limited to) interrogating the origins of feminist theories; assessing social and political impacts of feminist theories as lenses of critical and intellectual analysis, and as tools of feminist praxis and activism; and developing understandings of feminist theories as tools of cultural and political change.

Through a variety of feminist theories—Liberal, Freudian, Radical, Post-Colonial, Marxist, Post-Modern, Transnational, Ecofeminist, and Women of Color, Third Wave Feminist lenses—we will build a base of critical skills through which we will examine formations and arrangements of societal power related to women, and other variably gendered persons, their social, political, and sexual identities, and their attenuated rights and material experiences.

WMST 323 001: Feminist Economics**Offered: Online/ Second Half Term****Instructor: Rinita Mazumdar, rinita@unm.edu**

In this course we will start with a brief study of Aristotle's theory of Politics and the household and then move onto Malthus's theory of population and scarcity, Smith theory of wealth, Marx's theory of alienated labor, Sen's theory of rational fools. Next, we will study the contribution of women in domestic and care labor and the creation of surplus value by women nationally and globally. We will also study important articles pertaining to globalization, women's labor, scarcity, immigration, social exclusion; we shall also discuss important issues pertaining to the politics of fertility, population control, women's role in population control and the State.

Further, we will study the concept of famines, poverty, and capability deprivation in the work of Amartya Sen and Martha Nussbaum. We will end the course by studying the works on the economics of poor by Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee and Esther Duflo.

WMST 325 001: Race Class & Feminism**Offered: TR 0930-1045, TBA/ Full term****Instructor: Andrea Mays, amays@unm.edu**

This upper-division seminar-styled course draws on several bodies of scholarship including Women of Color Feminism, and Race, Class and Ethnicity Studies for a historically grounded intersectional approach to examining issues of race, class and gender within feminist scholarship and politics. Race, class, ethnicity and gender are key organizing identities within U.S. social and cultural politics that have influenced both early and contemporary feminist politics and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies scholarship. This course acknowledges this fact and investigates how lives, experiences and social positionality have been, and are, simultaneously shaped by these categories of identity. This course examines how women and other marginalized groups have attempted to negotiate gender oppression and racial differences both within alliances of feminist politics and in broader anti-racists and anti-gender oppression struggles.

WMST 337 001: Transgender Studies**Offered: R 1600-1830, TBA/Full term****Instructor: Francisco Galarte, galarte@unm.edu**

This course examines the emerging field of Transgender Studies in the U.S, a field that centers transgender scholarship, trans-identified scholars, and trans people's experiences. The "trans" in transgender studies not only refers to a specific identity and political collective, "trans" also reflects the potential transgressive movement across all sorts of boundaries within the field. Through the optic of trans-, this field offers innovative analyses of sex, gender, identity, and the body and their normative enforcements in theory, culture, science, and law. And more recently, the field has turned its attention towards analyzing operations of colonialism, empire, white supremacy, and other systems of oppression.

WMST 339 001: Women & Cultural Violence**Offered: T 1600-1830, TBA/ Full term****Instructor: Elisabeth Stone, eastone@unm.edu**

This class will examine forms of violence on a community and structural level, with a focus on ways that violence becomes sanitized, normalized and accepted. We'll examine community displacement, public monuments, and other forms of violence that are embedded in daily life. We'll also examine how this creates and enforces differential access to resources, power, and visibility in community life.

Students will do reflective writing, an in-depth research and analysis project on a topic of their choosing, and engage in class discussions. We will explore the history of embedded violence and examine policy and advocacy approaches to revealing and combatting cultural violence.

WMST 379 001: T: The Atomic Bomb & Feminism**Offered: TR 1100-1215, TBA/ Full term****Instructor: Eileen Shaughnessy, eileens@unm.edu**

The atomic bomb was invented, tested, and manufactured in New Mexico. . . and it continues to be made here today. What does an analysis of the nuclear weapons industry that is attuned to gender and sexuality reveal? This class will take a queer feminist approach to analyzing the social and environmental impacts of nuclear weapons in our world.

In "The Atomic Bomb and Feminism," students will explore topics like the hetero-patriarchal nuclear family, notions of apocalypse, anti-nuclear activism, environmental racism, nuclear colonialism, and more. We will explore these topics through field trips, community experts, and creative, interdisciplinary approaches.

WMST 379 017/579.001: T: Women, Medicine & Health**Offered: Online/ Full term****Instructor: Adrianna Trott, arianna8@unm.edu**

Ever wonder how one-size-fits-all clothing could actually work for someone 5' tall weighing 100 lbs., 5'5" tall at 185 lbs. and someone 6'4" tall weighing 160 lbs.? Well, the same question can be asked of medicine and the health care system. The answer is simple: It doesn't! This course will trace the history of women's health and explore how both sex (genetics) and gender (social determinants of health) affect health. Although this course explores the intersection of sex and gender in any individual, it will mostly focus on examples of female biology (individuals with XX chromosomes) raised with assigned gender roles as girls/women. Using examples of sex and gender differences in health care - in prevention, screening, diagnosis and treatment students will discuss the implications of sex and gender for health, health care policy, programs, services, products, practice and research, as well as education. Readings, videos and discussions will focus on the paradigm of thinking that has led to current women's health care practices, and a new paradigm of thinking that can lead to a deeper understanding of women's health and improve health care for everyone.

WMST 479 001: Adv T: Postmodernism (Identity after Postmodernism)

Offered: TR 1100-1215, Online Remote Scheduled/ Full term

Instructor: Scarlett Higgins, shiggins@unm.edu

This course takes as a point of departure bell hooks's 1991 essay, "Postmodern Blackness" in which hooks voices one succinct response to the postmodern critique of identity: "'Yeah, it's easy to give up identity, when you got one.'"

We will begin with an overview of some of the literary, critical, and theoretical texts of postmodernism, as well as those that have attempted to, as hooks describes, find the relevance of "the postmodern critique of 'identity'. . . for renewed black liberation struggles," even as it is "posed in ways that are problematic." How, that is, can postmodernism's critiques of identity, the subject, and essentialism be a source of strength for the liberation struggles of oppressed groups? (Can they?)

The second half of the course will examine in detail one imaginative trope found across post (and post-post)modernism, that of the metaphysical detective, whose search for the truth ends up being a search for the self. The detective story has been a persistent feature of literature since the nineteenth century, as well as film and television during the twentieth, and into the twenty-first. Our continuing fascination with mysteries, and particularly with those who attempt to solve those mysteries, has provided an apt vehicle for a variety of creative explorations of the very conundrum concerning identity that hooks describes. In this, the prototypical question of the detective story, "Who dunnit," or "what is the identity of the criminal," is transformed into the question, "who am I," or, "am I that criminal that I have been searching for?"

WMST 498 001: Feminism in Action

Offered: M 1600-1830, MITCH 107/ Full term

Instructor: Eileen Shaughnessy, eileens@unm.edu

[WMST 498 is open to non-WMST major/minor students. No pre-requisite restrictions.]