

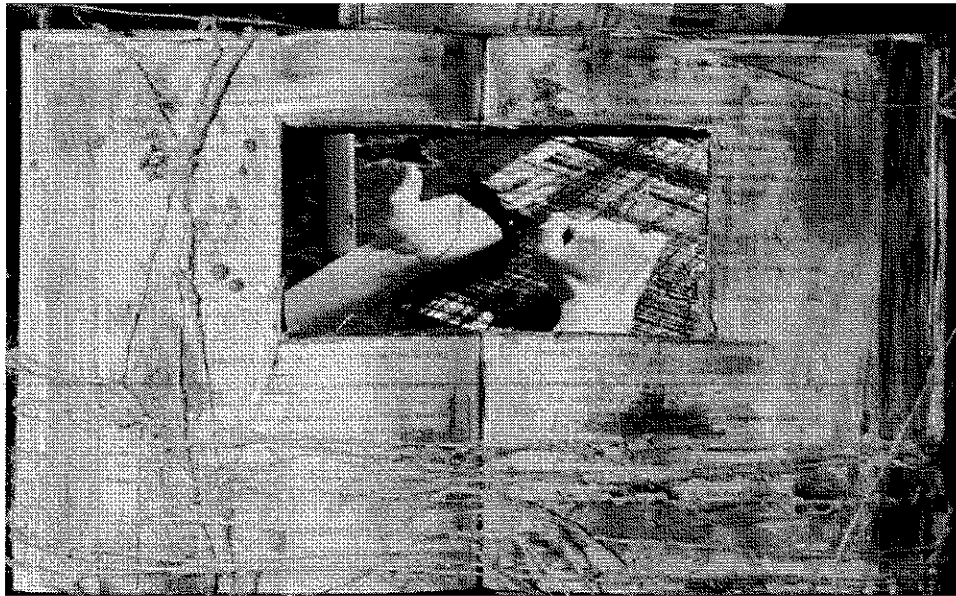
Cultural Analysis and Theory Department

Women's and Gender Studies

Graduate Certificate

Core & Elective Courses

Spring 2015



Late Night Readings (2005) Amy Bagshaw



**Stony Brook
University**

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES CORE COURSES

WST 600.S01

Feminist Interdisciplinary History

Ritchie Calvin

Rather than begin with an exploration of “the” feminist methodology in Women's and Gender Studies, or an account of “the” history of feminism, this course will explore what counts as “history,” as “method,” and as “evidence” in feminist scholarship. Since its emergence as distinct knowledge project within the academy, feminism has raised questions about how we know what we know, who gets to speak and for whom, and what are legitimate fields of inquiry. Our goal will be to trace some of the ways in which feminist scholars have sought to intervene in debates about disciplinary as opposed to interdisciplinary forms of knowledge, objective as opposed to “situated” knowledge, evidence versus experience, history versus fiction, etc. A central part of the feminist project for many scholars has been an engagement in the self-reflexive questioning of the status, history, methods, and goals of feminist scholarship. This course will attempt to continue that practice. To that end, students are encouraged to engage with the material with their own projects in mind, and to use the course in order to be self-reflexive about the methods, materials, and theories they intend to use in their graduate and post-graduate work. In order to begin the self-reflexive (re)examination, we will turn to concepts such as “knowledge,” “rational,” “irrational,” “experience,” and “evidence.”

Wednesdays

4:00-6:50pm

Humanities 2052

WST 698.S01

Practicing Women's and Gender Studies

Mary Jo Bona

Practicing Women's and Gender Studies unites theory and practice in an effort to explore three intersecting spaces: the classroom, the disciplinary field, and the academy. We will examine practical pedagogical strategies alongside institutional structures; the evolving practices and object(ive)s produced by feminist knowledge and its pedagogies; the changing politics and economics of the academy; and the impact of the wider academic milieu on how knowledge is produced and the effects of its dissemination. This practicum is designed for students who anticipate teaching courses in Women's and Gender Studies and within multiple disciplinary fields in the humanities and social sciences. Students will observe teaching in action, will construct introductory and upper-level syllabi in Women's and Gender Studies, and will design assignments with diverse learning outcomes. We will discuss genealogies of Women's Studies: where did the field emerge? Where is the field heading? What kinds of inter- and transdisciplinary approaches have been enacted within the field of Women's and Gender Studies and where do you think the field is headed in the future?

Mondays

1:00-3:50pm

Humanities 2052

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES ELECTIVES

EGL 586.S01

**Queer Studies: Theorizing Race, Gender,
and Sexuality in Literature and Film**

Jeffrey Santa Ana

This course examines sexual orientation and gender identities with emphasis on contemporary queer cultural criticism. The term “queer” in a political context expresses a political practice based on transgressions and critiques of the normal and normativity rather than a straight/gay binary of the heterosexual/homosexual identity. Many of today’s works in queer literature and film can be traced to the politics of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) activism in the 1980s, as well as the writings of lesbians, bisexuals, and transsexual people in the 1960s, 70s and 80s. In this course, we will read writings in the fields of LGBT studies, feminist criticism, and postcolonial studies to understand how these works express and challenge (or depart) from the cultural practices of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people of the past two decades. To what extent, we will ask, do today’s queer writings and films theorize ways of both accommodating and resisting a normative gender and sexuality? Under what social and political conditions do these works challenge a cultural politics that relies on sameness and the exclusion of differences?

To address these questions, the course will explore a range of gender and sexuality issues primarily in recent U.S. literature and film, such as the simultaneous construction of gender, sexuality, ethnicity/race, culture and class; heterosexual, homosexual, and bisexual projects; formations of gendered and racialized subjects in both domestic and transnational (global) contexts; ideological inscriptions on the body; gender and sexual transgressions; transgender subjectivity and identity; family relations (nuclear, extended, and affiliative); and inventions of matrilineal and patrilineal traditions, as well as resistance to these customs and norms.

We will also be locating queer studies as a field of knowledge production. The initial weeks will serve as an introduction and historical foundation for those students without prior experience in the field. By the end of semester, we will be working at an advanced level with texts that use theory to open new ways of seeing—and representing—race, gender, sexuality, and queer modes of being in both a non-Western context and a globalized world.

Tuesdays

4:00-6:50pm

TBA

HAX 667.S01/EGL 592
Disability Studies in Language, Narrative
and Rhetoric

Michele Friedner

This course focuses on how language and rhetoric frame how disability is perceived, experienced, and treated. It will include critical and rhetorical analysis of professional discourses as well as personal disability narratives and memoirs. The Society for Disability Studies, an interdisciplinary organization, says in its mission statement, “disability is a key aspect of human experience.” So is language. It will explore the interdisciplinary nature of disability studies and the roles language and rhetoric play in representations of disability. Some questions to be explored include: In what ways do clinical or professional discourses and personal narratives reveal experiences of power and powerlessness? How is the bodily experience of disability described in professional contexts as compared to personal narratives? How does description and perception influence the practice of professionals and quality of life for people with disabilities? What assumptions about disability are revealed through rhetorical analysis? These questions will help frame our attention in this course to representations of disability in a variety of texts: academic, professional, literary, clinical, personal, and visual.

TBA

TBA

HAX 6__
Disability, Occupation and Community

Pamela Block

Inspired by disability justice and “Disability Occupy Wall Street/Decolonize Disability” movements in the US and related activism elsewhere, we are interested in politically engaged critical approaches to disability that intersect academic fields—principally occupational therapy, disability studies and anthropology—as well as community organizing and the arts. Broader than a medical category, disability identity recognizes the political and economic dimensions of disability inequity as it intersects with other forms of inequality and disadvantage. Themes include: all permutations of the concept of “occupy;” disability justice/decolonization; participation and training for collaboration; marginalization and minoritization; technology; struggle, creativity, and change.

TBA

TBA

WST 512.S03/SOC 519.S03
Gender and Culture
“Gender and International Development”

Kathleen Fallon

In this course, we will begin by examining how the field and terms of development emerged, with specific attention given to the role of colonization as it shaped gender roles. We will then explore how theories evolved over time, how they attempt to explain gendered patterns, where men and masculinities fall within these theories, and the confining notions of a gender binary. Those first few weeks will provide a framework for the rest of the course. For the remainder of the course, we will be focusing on substantive issues, ranging from health, to economics, to politics, to other areas of interest. As we critically examine these issues, we will simultaneously explore and discuss possible means of moving forward.

Mondays

10:00am-1:00pm

SBS N403

**WST 610.S01/
CLT/CST 609.S03
Advanced Topics in Cultural Theory
“The Postcolonial Moment and After”**

E.K. Tan

Where are we now with postcolonial studies? Has the field been subsumed under newer academic trends of globalization, transnationalism and neo-liberalism. If postcolonial studies had transformed over the years, what would be some of its recent mutations? Our seminar will first survey some of the foundational texts in postcolonial studies and then proceed to examine its disciplinary shifts and ongoing epistemological evolution. We will pay special attention to issues relating to diaspora and migrancy, race and ethnicity, gender and sexuality, and the politics of multiculturalism and contemporary identity. Texts include works by Ahmad Aijaz, Benedict Anderson, Roland Barthes, Homi Bhabha, Aimé Césaire, Dipesh Chakarbarty, Kuan-hsing Chen, James Clifford, J.M. Coetzee, Jacques Derrida, Mahasweta Devi, Marguerite Duras, Brent Edwards, Johannes Fabian, Frantz Fanon, André Gide, Paul Gilroy, Édouard Glissant, Amitav Ghosh, Gayatri Gopinath, Sneja Gunew, Stuart Hall, Wen Jin, Jhumpa Lahiri, Eng-Beng Lim, Francoise Lionnet, Anne McClintock, Rigoberta Menchú, Walter Mignolo, Chandra Mohanty, Chatterjee Partha, Mary Louise Pratt, William Safran, Edward Said, Naoki Sakai, Marjane Satrapi, Shu-mei Shih, Ella Shohat, Zadie Smith, Gayatri C. Spivak, Robert Stam, Ann Laura Stoler, etc.

Tuesdays

1:00-3:50pm

Humanities 2052