

Fall 8-15-2001

## WST2309-001: Women, Men, Culture

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**WST 2309: Women, Men, and Culture**  
**Fall 2001, CH 202 from 3:30-4:45 T/R**

Instructor: Dr. Robin L. Murray  
Phone: 581-6985  
Office Hours: T/R 1:30-3:30 and by appointment

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**Course Description:**

This course examines gender roles and development in an historical context from a variety of theoretical and multidisciplinary perspectives within a variety of frameworks: political, economic, cultural, religious, and social.

This course is **writing intensive**. That means that one of the papers for your Electronic Writing Portfolio may be submitted from this class. I will talk more about this process in class, as soon as information about on-line submissions is available.

**Texts:**

Costello, Karin Bergstrom. *Gendered Voices: Readings from the American Experience*. New York: Harcourt Brace and Company, 1996.

Kesselman, Amy, et al. *Women, Images and Realities: A Multicultural Anthology*. Second Edition. Mountain View, CA: Mayfield, 1999.

Selected readings from various texts in hand-out form

**Student Learning Objectives:**

After successfully completing WST 2309, students will

1. develop a sense of social responsibility by reading, analyzing, and responding to multi-disciplinary and multicultural course materials about gender issues (citizenship, critical thinking, writing and speaking).
2. develop an understanding of the historical framework of gender issues by reading and analyzing course materials with a historical focus and by engaging in other classroom activities that emphasize the historical context(s) of gender issues (citizenship, critical thinking).
3. develop writing, research and speaking skills by writing research papers about gender issues which students will also present to their classmates (critical thinking, writing and speaking).
4. develop critical thinking skills by analyzing and synthesizing information and ideas from course materials, discussions, lectures and other activities for short writes and exams (critical thinking, writing).

5. engage in dialogue with classmates about important social issues as they pertain to gender (speaking, citizenship).

**Assignments and Grading:**

Two regular exams:	20%
One final exam:	15%
One inter-generational oral history paper of 5-7 pages: (going through the writing process)	20%
One inter-cultural paper of 5-7 pages: (going through the writing process)	20%
One presentation: either the inter-generational or inter-cultural paper information:	10%
In-class short writes and quizzes:	15%
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	100%

Exams cover readings and class discussion and are short answer and short essay. The final is the third exam, covering a little more material than the other two, but it is not comprehensive. No make up exams are possible unless we agree on a legitimate excuse **beforehand**.

The oral history papers involve an interview of at least two people concerning the way they see the roles of men and women. One focuses on someone from another generation (at least 20 years older than you). The other focuses on someone from another culture than your own. We will discuss what we mean by “culture” early in the course, and you will be given latitude to define it in your paper. You will also be given handouts on what is expected in these papers. One of these papers should also include a research component where you examine the time period and/or culture from which your interviewee(s) come.

Each of these papers will go through the writing process, so comments from both peers and myself will be provided to improve your writing. Completed rough drafts must be submitted for this process to be effective. Check out the course calendar for due dates. These drafts count as part of the paper and will figure into the paper’s grade. No late rough drafts can be accepted.

Late papers without acceptable excuses will lose one half letter grade for each class period they are late. Please have a friend hand them in if your are absent. You will be allowed to rewrite your papers. The rewrites will be due one week after I return the papers to the class. No late rewrites can be accepted.

Your presentation will simply be a way for you to share information from one of your papers with the rest of the class (you choose which one).

### **Attendance and Participation:**

Attendance is important for working through the ideas in the texts. If you miss class when we have a quiz or in-class writing assignment, you cannot make up that work. You must also attend all presentations and be in attendance for all exams. I look forward to your participation in class discussions and peer reviews for writing assignments, as well. If you show up, pay attention, follow assignment directions and complete them, study for tests, take them and participate—and if you complete all drafts and rewrites, you will not fail this class! We will learn much together. I am excited to hear your comments.

### **Other Policies:**

I follow the following plagiarism policy: Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—“the inappropriate imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one’s original work”—has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of “F” for the course.

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Ambitious students who wish to perfect their writing should seek the help of tutors in the Writing Center in CH 301. The Center is open from 9-3 and 6-9 Monday through Thursday and from 9-1 on Friday throughout the fall session. Please take advantage of this free tutorial service. The number there 581-5929—twelve dedicated graduate students are there waiting and willing to help you!

## Fall 2001 WST 2309.01 Tentative Course Calendar, Subject to Change

### August

Introduction to the field of Women's Studies in the context of the history of the Women's movement in the U.S.

T 21 Gendered Voices: Section 2, History and Vision, pp.59-80 for Thursday

R 23 GV pp.81-99 for Tuesday

T 28 GV pp. 100-134 for Thursday

R 30 Women Images and Realities pp.532-562 and 7-38 for Tuesday

### September

Introduction to the relationship between various multi-cultural and gender issues

T 4 WIR pp.43-64 for Thursday

R 6 WIR pp.65-86 for Tuesday

T 11 WIR pp.87-107 for Thursday

R 13 GV 135-159 and WIR 355-366 for Tuesday

Introduction to the construction of masculinities, the role of men in the Women's Movement, and other gender issues that affect men

T 18 Review for exam

R 20 **Exam I**

T 25 Hand-outs on Masculinities for Today and Thursday (receive on Thursday)

R 27 Complete rough drafts for Tuesday

### October

Exploration of a variety of perspectives on gender and biology, especially on the question of nature vs. nurture, considering different theories about the roles of biology and socialization in the establishment of gender differences

**T 2 Rough Draft, Paper I due for peer review and in-class conference! You must bring this in order to get a grade on your final paper.**

R 4 GV 1-35 for Tuesday

T 9 GV 36-58 for Thursday

R 11 Complete final draft for Tuesday

Examination of cross-disciplinary gender issues from several perspectives, beginning with discussions of family and gender, child care responsibilities, family roles, and domestic violence

**T 16 Final Draft, Paper I due**

R 18 WIR 232-250 for Today and WIR 251-267 for Tuesday

T 23 WIR 423-440 and 188-209 for Thursday

R 25 Review for Exam II

**T 30 Exam II!**

Exploration of gender roles in the workplace, women in education, women in law and politics and women's health issues

### **November**

R 1 GV 290-310 for Tuesday

T 6 GH 501-510 and 530-542 for Thursday

R 8 Choice of three articles on Women in law and politics and women's health issues for Tuesday

T 13 work on rough drafts for Thursday

**R 15 Rough Draft, Paper II due**

20 Thanksgiving Break—no class

22 Thanksgiving Break—no class

Examination of images of women in the media and about how those images affect women—body image, ageism, racism, etc.—and of women in art and literature, including the lives of women artists and writers and depictions of women in the arts

**T Final Draft, Paper II due;** 27 Choose about 20 pages of your own from ch. 9 GV or part III in WIR for Thursday

R 29 Choose about 20 pages from part V in WIR for Tuesday (+Lit/art handouts)

### **December**

T 4 Presentations

R 6 Presentations; Review for Final Exam

Final Exam during final exam week