FALL 2008
Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies

Gateway Courses

At least one gateway course is required for the major or minor.

- **CAST 100 - Introduction to Comparative American Studies**
  The course will introduce students to the complexity of American social and cultural formations, with particular emphases on sexuality, race, ethnicity, class, and gender, and to various methodologies of comparative analysis.
  Instructor: M. Raimondo

- **CLAS 219 - Sexuality in Ancient Greece and Rome**
  Study of the construction of gender and sexual identities in ancient Greece and Rome. Emphasis will be on primary texts that demonstrate notions of sexual practice and/or identity, such as Aristophanes' Thesmophoriazouzai, Plato's Symposium, Lucian's Dialogue of the Courtesans, Aeschines' Against Timarchos, Catullus, Martial, Juvenal. We will also read modern critical theorists (Foucault, Halperin, Richlin, Rubin), and will interrogate the accuracy of their arguments.
  Instructor: K. Ormand

- **FYSP 110 - Black Women and Liberation**
  This seminar investigates the various ways that Black women of the 1960's and 1970's in the United States and South Africa have led their communities and their freedom movements (e.g., civil rights, anti-apartheid) with an important array of skills, resources and vision. Students will be asked to think critically about the properties of women's leadership and political consciousness. We will use autobiographies and other secondary sources, develop research skills, and explore the bridge between community-based activism and intellectual life.
  Instructor: P. Brooks

- **SOCI 233 - Gender, Social Change, Social Movements**
  This course focuses on theoretical debates about processes of social change and social reproduction at the individual, cultural, and social movement levels, with particular focus on gender identities and status. Attention will be paid to how the 'modernity/tradition' construct, and race, class, nation, and sexuality (as 'differences' and as sources of inequality) impact these debates and influence definitions of self and representations of others.
  Instructor: F. Hasso

Elective Courses

Of the approximately 18 elective course credits, students must take courses in at least two different departments or programs.

- **AAST 228 - Katrina and the Black Freedom Struggle in Louisiana**
  This course situates August 29, 2005 and the meaning of the Katrina disaster in the history of Black Struggle in Louisiana and the surrounding region. Using texts such as Adam Fairclough's *Race and Democracy*, Spike Lee's *When the Levees Broke*, and
Hartman and Squires's *There Is No Such Thing As A Natural Disaster*, students examine the historical interplay of race, gender, poverty, and the politics of resistance in a unique area of the U. S. South.
Instructor: P. Brooks

- **CAST/EAST 241 - Living with the Bomb**
  This team-taught course will examine the moral, ideological and historical complexity of the explosion of the atomic bomb during World War II, and subsequent responses in both the United States and Japan. Feminist theories, studies of nationalism, and critical race theory will shape our comparative analyses of political, military, and scientific decisions, as well as cultural texts in Japan and the United States. Course materials include literature, film, visual arts, government documents, survivor narratives, and recent historical analyses.
  Instructor: W. Kozol, A Sherif

- **CAST 321 - Transnational Sexualities: National Borders, Global Desires**
  How does the globalization of sexuality shape the study of sex in national contexts? This interdisciplinary course uses the United States as a starting point to consider sexual identities and practices in a transnational perspective, addressing topics such as reproduction, migration, AIDS, sex work, tourism, and militarization. We will examine the production of gendered, raced, and classed bodies and explore the significance of transnational analysis of sexuality to social justice work.
  Instructor: M. Raimondo

- **ENGL 388 - Selected Authors: Salman Rushdie**
  This course will focus on the fictional and non-fictional oeuvre of one of the most prominent Anglophone writers of our time -- Salman Rushdie. Class discussions will seek to contextualize (and be contextualized by) a host of theoretical/cultural concepts deriving from postcolonial studies -- like hybridity, mongrelization, migration, cosmopolitanism, national allegory-- with which Rushdie's work is associated or seen as exemplifying in particularly accurate and cogent ways. The course will be reading intensive and require significant student engagement.
  Instructor: A. Needham

- **FYSP 103 - Bridging the Body/Mind Divide**
  Before Rene Descartes arrived at his famously statement, 'I think therefore I am,' he systematically cut himself off from all his embodied senses of sight, smell, sound, touch, and taste. This allowed him 'to be' without 'being-in-the-world.' This course will team philosophical inquiry (thinking and writing) with somatic exercises (developing our bodily knowledge) in order to ask: 'How can we learn from our bodies' and, 'How do we learn with our bodies?'
  Instructor: A. Cooper-Albright

- **FYSP 141 - Women and Their Writings in Japanese Culture**
  This course traces the changing position of women in Japanese history through their literary and other writings. In classical times, narratives and poems by women were among the 'bestsellers' of their day. In later centuries, women's literary voices were muted even as their social roles proliferated. In modern times women in Japan have again figured prominently in the creation of literary and political writing, including essays, novels and manga. Class format is discussion.
  Instructor: S. Gay
• **FYSP 146 - HIV/AIDS in America**
  What is the state of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States? Why has HIV infection disproportionately affected particular groups and localities? What is the role of the United States in the global AIDS pandemic? This interdisciplinary course answers these questions by considering perspectives from the sciences, social sciences, public policy, education, medical care, media and the arts, and activism.
  Instructor: M. Raimondo

• **FYSP 154 - Freud's Vienna**
  The Vienna where Freud penned the founding texts of psychoanalysis was the site of unprecedented intellectual and cultural ferment. It was also the birthplace of modern anti-Semitism and the home of the dictator who would destroy much of Europe: Adolf Hitler. How do we connect this political turmoil and intellectual and artistic creativity? In this class, we will explore the politics, culture, and intellectual life of this extraordinary city at this extraordinary moment in history.
  Instructor: A. Sammartino

• **HISP 338 - Tango: A Cultural History**
  This course examines the social, political, and aesthetic dimensions of tango. By looking at dance, music, lyrics and other tango manifestations, students will explore how communities encode their traditional values in expressive forms, how these forms operate subversively in popular culture, and how they officially represent the nation. Films, recordings, and printed documents complement the readings in this course, as will guest speakers. Includes the option of a dance or music practicum. Taught in Spanish.
  Instructor: A. Cara

• **HIST 270 - Latina/Latino Survey**
  What historical forces have brought together diverse groups including Chicanos from Los Angeles, Cubans from Miami, and Dominicans and Puerto Ricans from New York City? From the 16th century to the present, we map the varied terrains of Latina/o history. Major themes include: conquest and resistance, immigration, work, and the creation of racial and sexual differences within and between Latino/a communities. We survey Latina/o writers from Cabeza de Vaca to Jose Marti to Gloria Anzaldua.
  Instructor: P. Mitchell

• **POLT 303 - Seminar: Equal Protection and Implied Fundamental Rights**
  This course is an exploration of the constitutional rights of gay citizens under the Equal Protection and Due Process Clauses of the 14th Amendment. Topics include: same sex marriage; Don't Ask, Don't Tell in the military; gay rights in the workplace, equal protection versus a right of privacy basis for gay rights; sameness and difference under the law -- gender, race and sexual orientation; relationship of equal protection, due process, and freedom of speech and association, and impact of Supreme Court on social change. Students may choose widely in selecting paper topics. This is a core research seminar in the Law and Society Program.
  Instructor: Mr. Kahn

• **RELG 108 - Introduction to Religion: Women and the Western Traditions**
  An introduction to Judaism, Christianity and Islam that focuses on women's experiences and gender roles. This course will examine representations of women in sacred texts; primary sources by and about women from various historical periods, and contemporary
feminist voices within each religious tradition. Topics to be investigated include: rabbinic teachings on biblical women, the role of women in early Christian heretical movements, discourses of the veil in Islam.

Instructor: M. Kamitsuka

- **RELG 261 - Gender Theory and the Study of Religion**
  This course will examine the various ways in which feminist scholars bring gender issues to the academic study of religion. Topics to be addressed will include: feminist critiques of androcentrism in 'classic' theories of religion; methods for the historical retrieval of suppressed women's voices in historical texts; sociological and ethnographical approaches to investigating women's marginalized ritual practices; feminist approaches to philosophy of religion and theology.

  Instructor: M. Kamitsuka

- **SOCI 203 - Desire to be Modern: Sociology of Sexuality**
  Sociologists study the social origins of sexuality; how shared beliefs shape what we desire, what is taboo or what shames us. Historical and cross-cultural research illuminates the emergence of modern sexuality and the ways it transformed systems of dating, marriage, homosexuality, government and racial classification. Learn why sociologists are skeptical of essentialist explanations that rely on biology and favor theories that recognize sexuality as a diverse, ever-changing function of cultural institutions.

  Instructor: G. Mattson

- **SOCI 450 - Beyond Us vs. Them: How We Manage Contradictory Categories**
  We frame people as divided into competing groups (e.g. poor vs. rich, immigrant vs. American). But this is too simplistic, for we frequently inhabit contradictory categories (e.g. mothers in high-status careers, mixed races, gay Christians). This course advances current theories of group hierarchies and individual agency by examining how people manage conflicting statuses. We incorporate multiple disciplines, not only sociology. Students will research whichever groups interest them for a final project. Consent of the instructor required.

  Instructor: P. Dhingra

**Feminist Research Methodologies**

This is a required course for majors and will be offered once a year. SOCI 305 - Feminist Research Methodologies

- **SOCI 305 - Feminist Research Methodologies**
  This course traces the historical and dialectical impact of feminist epistemologies on disciplines of the social sciences and humanities. We will explore feminist approaches to research practices including oral history, case studies, archival research, visual and literary criticism, survey/content analysis, and field work. Throughout the semester, each student works on an individual research proposal that incorporates interdisciplinary methods and includes a literature review. Consent of the instructor is required.

  Instructor: F. Hasso

**Advanced Seminars**

At least one advanced seminar is required for the major. Students can petition to have a seminar count for this requirement that is not on this list.
• \textit{CAST 407 - Seminar: Picturing War: American Visual Culture, Militarization and Crises of Identity}

This seminar examines how American visual culture has represented the nation’s military actions since World War II. Ideals of gender, race, and nation often justify militarism, yet visual depictions also provoke anxieties about masculinity and femininity, home and nation, self and other. We will analyze photographs, television and film to consider such issues as the symbolic value of female bodies in narratives of national defense and how racial ideals secure or undermine the authority of the male body under attack. Students are required to write a research paper based on secondary and primary source material. Consent of instructor required.

Instructor: W. Kozol