

WS 100-2B
Introduction to Women's Studies

Fall Semester, 2003
Trigg

Office Hours: M/W 11:15am - 12 Noon
T/TH 8:30am - 9:15am
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Course

Description: Interdisciplinary course covering women's issues from social, political, economic, philosophical, historical, cross-cultural and biological perspectives.

Objectives:

- 1) To provide an introduction to the various academic disciplines involved in Women's Studies and to the discipline of Women's Studies itself.
- 2) To increase students' awareness of the role of women in society, how that role has developed over time, and to envision women's roles in the future.
- 3) To examine the status of women within American culture as compared to women in other nations.
- 4) To promote an understanding of research methods and encourage critical thinking and assessment of various issues affecting women.

Requirements: Attendance at all classes is **REQUIRED**. The format of this class will be discussion. Students **MUST** read the material **BEFORE** class and be prepared to participate.

Marking

Structure:	Attendance	30 points (10%)
	Pop Quizzes	60 points (60%)
	Class Participation	60 points (20%)
	Essay	50 points (16.66%)
	Mid-Term	50 points (16.66%)
	Final	50 points (16.66%)

You must attend the **full** class meeting to receive credit for **attendance**. If you are not present at role call or if you leave early - you will be marked absent for the day - don't be late!

There will be six **pop (unannounced) quizzes** worth 10 points each (3 before mid-term / 3 more before finals). These quizzes will cover the assigned readings for that week and will always be given on Tuesday. This should serve as incentive to keep up with your reading assignments and perhaps, as a result, improve your participation grade.

Class Participation is based on your instructor's evaluation of your contributions to class discussion. Criteria include: evidence of having read the assigned material, complexity of understanding, ability to analyze and synthesize the reading material, thoughtfulness and insight, relevance to the assigned topic, and respect for others. This will not be calculated as a daily grade but rather as an overall indicator of participation in this course. Obviously, you can't participate if you are absent or chronically late.

Each student will be required to write a four-page **essay** on a topic chosen in conjunction with the instructor. You will have the opportunity for two re-writes on this essay.

The **mid-term and final** are take-home exams. Each will consist of essay questions covering the material from class and your readings. They **must** be typed and returned by the due date. You will be docked for lateness and exams not typed will **not** be accepted.

Required Text: Rothenberg, Paula S. (ed.) 2004. Race, Class, and Gender in the United States. (6th Ed.) Worth Publishers, New York, N.Y.

Malette, Louise and Marie Chalouh (ed.) 1991. The Montreal Massacre. gynergy books, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

hooks, bell 2000. Feminism is for Everybody. South End Press, Cambridge, MA.

THE SCHEDULE AND PROCEDURES IN THIS COURSE ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE IN THE EVENT OF EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Cell phones and pagers are **not** allowed in the classroom except on "vibrate/silent mode" or if turned off. They are disruptive to the instructor and your fellow classmates.
- If you wish to withdraw, you **must** fill out an official slip from the registrar's office. Failure to do so will result in an "F" for the course. The last day to withdraw from classes this term is October 21st. After this date you will receive a grade for the course.
- All graded material will be graded, recorded and returned within 2 weeks or less. Please remember, I have 4 other classes with approximately 450 total students. Grading takes time and grading with comments takes more time.
- All written material must be **typed**. Any assignment not typed (except those done in class) will not be accepted.
- Grades are not to be posted nor given out over the telephone. Your instructor will post the final grades with the registrar's office in a timely manner. You may **ACCESS** your grades from the WS100 course web site at any time or from the registrar's office on Dec. 17th. Monday, Sept. 1st and Wednesday, Nov. 26th – Sunday, Nov. 30th are official university holidays. The university will be closed in observance of the Labor Day Holiday and Thanksgiving.

Blackboard Website Information

One of the requirements of this class is to participate at and regularly check (at least once a week) the course website on Blackboard. The following information will assist you in accessing and using the website.

Getting Started

The web address for the Blackboard 5 gateway page is: <http://bcourses.uab.edu>
Click on the login button on the left.

Your login will be one of the following:

- Your Blazer I.D. (your UAB email address) For example, a student's UAB email address is: aroralee@uab.edu. Her Blazer I.D. is aroralee.

Or

- If you do not have a Blazer I.D., your login will be your last name and the last four digits of your student number. For example: Jane Smith, whose last four digits of her student number are 1111, would log in as smith1111.
- Your password will be your student number. Do **not** change your password! If you change your password and forget it, it is *extremely* difficult to retrieve, as we will not have access to your new password.

Once you have logged in, click on the course for which you are enrolled.

AT THE COURSE WEBSITE

You will always enter the website on the Announcements page. You will need to check this at least twice a week for announcements regarding assignments, etc.

****NOTE****

The first time you log on to the website, you must update your personal information:

On the left side of the screen, there is a series of buttons.

Click: TOOLS.

Click: personal information.

Edit personal information. You are required to enter your first name, last name, and *correct* email address. Other information is strictly optional. If your email is listed as “fakeuser” be certain to change your email address to a valid email address. A valid email address is required for maximum communication between instructor and students.

Once you have updated your information, click submit at the bottom of the page. This will carry you back to the Personal Information page – click “ok” at the bottom of the page to return to tools. Or you may press any of the buttons on the left of the screen.

Here is a brief description of the areas you can access by clicking on the buttons on the left of the screen:

<u>Announcements</u>	Any announcements posted regarding assignments, study sessions,
<u>Course Information</u>	Syllabus.
<u>Staff Information</u>	Contact information for your instructor (office hours and location, email address, etc). You can email your instructor from here or the Communication Center.
<u>Course Documents</u>	Usually contains learning materials and lesson aids. Handouts are usually placed here.
<u>Assignments</u>	Provides link to on-line quizzes and assignments.

Communication

The Communication Center allows you to:

- Send email to your instructor, teaching assistant, or other classmates who are registered for this course
- Read and post messages to discussion boards
- Enter the virtual classroom

Note: If you email your instructor from the course web site, please be sure to include your active email address. This will allow the instructor to respond to your email.

External Links Provides a hyperlink to optional and required supplemental materials.

Tools

Includes Digital Dropbox, Edit Home Page, Personal Information, Course Calendar (has relevant dates listed), Check Grade, Manual for Blackboard, and Electric Blackboard. To use the check grade or electric blackboard features: from the announcements page, click on tools button. Select the feature you wish to use.

Resources Accesses the Blackboard 5 Resource Center.

Course Map Map for the website.

Weekly Course Outline

8/21 Introduction to Course

8/26 Introduction to Women's Studies (lecture)

8/28 READING: Rothenberg – Introduction (pp 1–4)

9/2 The Social Construction of Difference

9/4 READING: Rothenberg Part I Introduction & Articles 1,5,6,7,8,9, & 11

EXTERNAL LINK: The Second Sex by Simone de Beauvoir Conclusion

9/9 Understanding Racism, Sexism, Heterosexism, and Class Privilege

9/11 READING: Rothenberg Part II Introduction & Articles 12,16,17,18,19, & 20

Audre Lorde “The Uses of Anger: Women Responding to Racism”

Karen L. Adams and Norma C. Ware “Sexism and the English Language: The Linguistic Implications of Being a Woman”

bell hooks “Talking Back”

EXTERNAL LINKS: “Men, Feminism and Men’s Contradictory Experiences of Power”
by Michael Kaufman

9/16 Discrimination in Everyday Life

9/18 READING: Rothenberg Part III Introduction & all articles

9/23

9/25

9/30 Economics of Race, Class, and Gender in the U.S.

10/2 READING: Rothenberg Part IV Introduction & Articles 47,53,54,55,56,57

10/7 Many Voices

10/9 READING: Rothenberg Part V Introduction & all articles

Mid-Term Available

10/14 Race and Gender Issues in U.S. Law

10/16 READING: Rothenberg Part VI Introduction & 86,87,88,89,91,92,93,
99,102,103,104,105

*****October, 14th Mid-Term Due (9:30)*****

10/21 Maintaining Hierarchies Through Social Control

10/23 READING: Rothenberg Part VII Introduction and all articles

10/28 Making a Difference

10/30 READING: Rothenberg Part VIII Introduction & article 116
hooks, bell Feminism is for Everybody Introduction and
Chapters 1-10

11/4 Feminism is for Everybody

11/6 READING: hooks, bell Feminism is for Everybody Chapter 11-19

11/11 Montreal Massacre

11/13 READING: The Montreal Massacre publisher's note – 87

11/18 Montreal Massacre

11/20 READING: The Montreal Massacre pp 88-181

Final Draft of Essay Due

Final Exam Available

11/25 Class will not meet in lieu of attendance at the Fall Women's Studies
Pot Luck (This will be a Sunday evening - date to be announced)

11/27 Thanksgiving Holiday

12/2 Essay Presentations

12/4 Essay Presentations

*****December 11th Final Due (8am)*****
