

WGS 353W: Feminist Theory(ies)

Dr.

anticipate spending 6-9 hours outside of class engaged in course-related activities. Examples include study time, reading and homework assignments, research projects, and group work.

Attendance

Attendance is crucial. Because this course relies upon collaborative discussion, *more than three unexcused absences will lower your participation grade by one full letter unless appropriate justification is given before the missed class session.* Your participation in in-class draft workshops will also be crucial to your grade, so these days are not to be missed.

Tardiness

I will close the classroom door at *precisely* 2:30 pm. If you come in after the door is closed, you will be considered tardy. *Three tardies translates into an unexcused absence that will affect your grade.* Please be on time.

Classroom Etiquette

All electronic messaging devices (cell phones, etc) must be off or in the silent position. Use of computers is strictly limited to note-taking; machines used for other purposes will be confiscated for the duration of the class period. Be respectful of each other and always listen to differing opinions and ideas with an open mind. Obviously, do not sleep in class.

Writing Center and Peer Review

Please use Willamette's Writing Center. It is a valuable resource that offers writing guidance, peer tutoring, paper feedback, and assignment advice and preparation. Find more info at: <http://www.willamette.edu/dept/wcenter/>

You will be expected to engage in stimulating, committed, and productive peer review of each others' papers. Review will take place in class on pre-determined days noted on the syllabus. Any absences, other than emergency, will not be tolerated on these especially important days.

Text Notation

I will spontaneously check your readings for evidence of careful annotation. You will receive participation credit for documenting skillful reading practices.

Discussion Questions and Newspaper Postings

You are expected to engage in class participation through 2 daily discussion questions about our reading, one of which should be answered in 150-200 words. **Bring your questions (and answer) typed on a sheet of paper.** I will often use these responses to facilitate discussion, and you will receive credit for turning them in. Questions are meant to help the class contemplate the reading we've done, practice our close-reading skills, expand and/or refine our intellectual ideas, and incite thought for future paper writing. Questions and answers should be original and provocative; please do not merely regurgitate premises we have already covered in class, repeat in different words your peers' ideas, or "borrow" your questions from elsewhere.

For newspaper postings:

(FYI: *The New York Times* is available for free on-line and around WU's campus. Register at www.nytimes.com.)

Paper Criteria

CP"õCö"rcrgt offers a persuasive, eloquent, stylistically sophisticated argument. It presents

C+ 2.3 Performance at this level is slightly above average. The student demonstrates fair

M Feb 1 Sex & Gender (Group 1 brings news postings)

Kolmar and Bartkowski, "Sexualities," 68-70 (FT)

Fausto-Sterling, "Should There Be Only Two Sexes," 507-513 (FT)

Lorber, "Believing Is Seeing: Biology as Ideology" (WISE Resources)

W Feb 3 (Group 2 brings discussion questions)

MacKinnon, "Sexuality," 415-428 (FT)

Koedt, "The Myth of the Vaginal Orgasm," 196-200 (FT)

Spade, "Purportedly Gendered Body Parts" (WISE Resources)

M Feb 8 Essentialism & Social Construction (Group 1 brings discussion questions)

Kolmar and Bartkowski, "Essentialism/Social Construction/Difference," 57-59 (FT)

Alcoff, "Cultural Feminism versus Post-Structuralism," 376-386 (FT)

Fuss, "The 'Risk' of Essence" (WISE Resources)

W Feb 10 (Group 2 brings news postings)

Wendell, "The Social Construction of Disability" (WISE Resources)

Haney-Lopez, "The Social Construction of Race" (WISE Resources)

Bring a working thesis statement to class as possibility for paper 1

M Feb 15 In class peer review paper 1 (bring a full draft to share)

W Feb 17 paper 1 due in class

M Feb 22 Maternity & Mothering

Kolmar and Bartkowski, "Sexual Division of Labor," 67-68 (FT)

Hubbard, "Who Should and Who Should Not Inhabit the World?" (WISE Resources)

Ruddick, "Maternal Thinking" (WISE Resources)

W Feb 24 out of class group discussions of hooks, *Feminism is for Everybody*

M Feb 29 Intersectionality (Group 1 brings news postings)

Mann, from "Intersectionality Theories" (WISE Resources)

Crenshaw, "Intersectionality and Identity Politics," 484-492 (FT)

Luft, "Intersectionality and the Risk of Flattening Difference: Gender and Race Logics, and the Strategic Use of Antiracist Singularity" (WISE Resources)

W Mar 2 (Group 2 brings discussion questions)

Anzaldúa, "La Conciencia de la Mestiza," 370-375 (FT)

Yamada, "Asian Pacific American Women and Feminism," 316-318 (FT)

Smith, "Native American Feminism, Sovereignty, and Social Change," 543-547 (FT)

M Mar 7 Gender Performativity & Oppositional Sexism

Butler, from *Gender Trouble*, 436-444 (FT)

Halberstam, "Introduction to Female Masculinity," 493-498 (FT) and "Transgender Butch" (WISE Resources)

Serano, "Trans Woman Manifesto," 547-551 (FT)

M Apr 18 Compulsory Able-bodiedness (Group 1 brings news postings)
Garland-Thomson, "Integrating Disability, Transforming Feminist Theory," 515-525 (*FT*)
Erevelles, "Thinking with Disability Studies" (WISE Resources)

Tu Apr 19 Sister Outsider poetry duo; Cat Cavern, 7:30p (attendance required)

W Apr 20 no class; SSRD!

M Apr 25 (Group 2 brings discussion questions)

ELI CLARE COMES TO CLASS!

Clare, "Stones in My Heart, Stones in My Pockets" (WISE Resources)

listening exercise: Mattlin, "Spinal Muscular Atrophy Doesn't Define Me" (WISE Resources)

M Apr 25 Clare lecture, "The Price of Defectiveness," ETN 209, 4:15p
Class participation bonus opportunity!

W Apr 27

Presentation of syllabi: Austen, Blaugher, Clarendon, Coy, Delacy, Hendricks-Key, Kasler, Masei

M May 2

Presentation of syllabi: McKenna, Moreno, Moy, Murata, Okazaki, Pearson, Peterson, Smith, Williams

*****Paper 3 and Syllabus (with revisions and accompanying 2-3 page critical analysis)
due Tuesday May 10 NOON in ETN 214.
Please also post to WISE DropBox.*****