

WST 300: Women & Gender in Contemporary Society ◦ Online (Asynchronous) ◦ Spring 2024 (B Session)

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lgoldma6@asu.edu: This is my direct email, but I appreciate to be emailed directly through canvas.

Zoom Office Hours:

10:00 AM -12:00 PM, Wednesdays, starting 3/13.

You can sign up for office hours [here](#).

Zoom Room: <https://asu.zoom.us/j/5742149616>

Please email me if you would like to schedule an alternative time.

Course overview:

Women & Gender in Contemporary Society is a survey course which examines gendered experiences of sexuality, body image, popular culture, violence, work, and family within the United States. The goal of the course is to critically evaluate and understand the ways in which gender interacts with race, class, sexual orientation, ability, age, and other identity categories to shape both individual and collective experiences. Guided by seminal feminist writings, the course also challenges students to intellectually grapple with structural inequalities and to consider how they are personally situated within systems of power.



<https://www.itsnicethat.com/news/resist-protest-comic-francoise-mouly-nadja-spiegelman-060117>

Course learning outcomes

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Define key terms and concepts and apply them appropriately in context with one another, course material and personal reflections.
- Read course material critically and be able to apply key concepts, terms, and ideas from the lecture to the readings.
- Write analytically, summarizing key themes and theses from the readings, lectures, discussions and course content while critically engaging with and applying personal reflections, opinions, and experiences.
- Recognize, describe, and critique the overarching values embedded in patriarchal, hierarchical, and oppressive social systems.
- Utilize active learning as well as rhetorical listening while writing and speaking.

Course expectations:

Academic Work

This is an “online” (asynchronous) course, meaning that 100% of the class content is delivered online via Canvas learning management system. There is no specified location, day or time in which the class meets collectively. Additionally, this course is condensed and accelerated in # of weeks, however, not in content. In other words, nearly 15 weeks of material is covered in six (6). To be successful in this course you must engage with course content, consistently participate online, review academic readings, watch supplemental lectures and videos, and complete weekly assignments.

As part of each weekly unit, students will complete a homework assignment (which is submitted online via Canvas).

Homework assignments are due by the same time every week: Saturday at 11:55 PM Arizona time. New “modules”

will open in Canvas each week and these modules contain the additional required work materials and assignment instructions. Please do not ask for modules to open early as the need to adjust material may be necessary.

Course Policies

All assignments must be submitted on time; **no late work will be accepted**. If a medical emergency arises and you are unable to complete your assignment, **please contact me as soon as possible** to discuss your make-up options. Per ASU policy, emergencies require appropriate documentation (i.e. a “doctor’s note”).

Please note: Technical issues do not constitute valid emergencies. Students are expected to be working far enough ahead of the homework deadline so that they can accommodate the minor technical mishaps which are characteristic of an online environment. *If you are experiencing a technical issue which will prevent you from submitting your work via Canvas, you must do TWO things in order to not be penalized:* first, you must email me a copy of the completed assignment (either as a MS Word document, or copy and paste the text of your work into the body of your email), and second, you must contact the ASU Help Desk (480-965- 6500), open a tech-issue “ticket”, and then send me a copy of the ticket#.

Grading in WST 300 reflects the expectations of college-level writing and critical thinking. Before submitting your work, ensure that you have followed all assignment guidelines, checked your writing for spelling and grammar errors, and that all of your referenced sources are correctly cited. If you need assistance with citations or writing style please contact ASU’s Writing Center for help (<https://tutoring.asu.edu/student-services/writing-centers>). I also recommend the Online Writing Lab (OWL) from Purdue University for assistance with citations: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

Academic integrity is taken very seriously at ASU. Academic dishonesty, including inappropriate collaboration on tests/quizzes or submitting another person’s work as your own, will not be tolerated in this course. If you are caught plagiarizing, consequences could include asking you to re-do the assignment, failing you on the assignment, or failing you in the class and reporting your conduct to the college. The ASU “Student Academic Integrity Policy” manual defines “plagiarism [as] using another’s words, ideas, materials, or work without properly acknowledging and documenting the source. Students are responsible for knowing the rules governing the use of another’s work or materials and for acknowledging and documenting the source appropriately.”

Please review the full set of policies at: <https://provost.asu.edu/academic-integrity>

Required Texts

- Collins, P. H., & Bilge, S. (2020). Intersectionality. John Wiley & Sons.
- Any additional readings for this section of WST 300 will be available on the course Canvas site.

NOTE: The readings used in this course have been selected because they were written by theorists, social scientists, and public intellectuals who have had a large impact on the field of women and gender studies. To supplement these readings, you will find additional news articles, blog posts, and videos to watch in your weekly unit folders. These additional materials will help students connect the seminal writings to contemporary issues.

Accommodations

This course will cover sensitive material related to sexuality, health, body image, and violence. If you have experienced abuse, eating disorders, etc. and would like to discuss reasonable alternatives for specific units, please contact me via email. At all times students are expected to help maintain a comfortable learning environment for other class participants by demonstrating respect for diverse understandings and experiences. Please review the course policies on “netiquette” which are posted in the “Resources” section on Canvas.

ASU Student Accessibility and Inclusive Learning Services ([SAILS](#)) coordinates accommodations and services for all students who are eligible. If you have a disability for which you wish to request accommodations and have not contacted SAILS, please do so as soon as possible at (480) 965-1234 or follow the links provided on Canvas found in the “Accessibility” section.

Crisis Support

Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, mental health, alcohol or other drugs, identities, finances, etc.

If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help is a courageous thing to do for yourself and those who care about you. If the source of your stressors is academic, please contact me so that we can find solutions together. For personal concerns, please refer to the resources listed below, as well as this student-created list of [resources](#).

Domestic Violence Hotline:

- The National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
1-800-787-3224 (TDD)

Sexual Assault Hotlines:

- Maricopa County Sexual Assault Hotline
1-480-736-4949
- RAINN Sexual Assault National Hotline
1-800-656-HOPE (4673)

Suicide Hotlines:

- HopeLine Suicide National Hotline
1-800-SUICIDE (784-2433)
1-866-604-5350 (TDD)
- Maricopa County Suicide/Crisis
1-480-784-1500
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
1-800-273-TALK (273-8255)

Other Notes:

I encourage students to announce **relevant** academic and extra-curricular events. If you would like me to share information about a campus event, or if you are a member of a campus organization and would like to address the class, please email me through the email function via Canvas. and arrangements can be made for the best course of action.

Communication really is the key to success! Please let me know if/when you have questions about assignments, grades, or other course related issues. I check my email daily, but please work far enough ahead on all assignments that you can accommodate a 48 hour turn around on your inquiry.

Course assignments:

Your grade in this course will be based on the following assignment types:

- Weekly Online Assignments: for each unit (10 in total), you will submit an assignment. Assignment types include discussion boards, a short paper, and quizzes and each assignment will be submitted on Canvas.
Please note that discussion boards can be submitted in a written narrative format or a video submission.

GRADE CALCULATIONS:

- Weekly Online Assignments
 - Discussion Boards: 100 points (5*20)
 - Quizzes: 100 points (5*20)
- Final Paper 40 points

- Course Total: 240 points

Scoring Breakdown:

A+	228-240 points	(95-100%)
A	216-227	(90-94%)
B+	204-215	(85-89%)
B	192-203	(80-84%)
C+	180-191	(75-79%)
C	168-179	(70-74%)
D	144-167	(60-69%)
E	143 or fewer points	(59% and Below)

Course schedule, Readings, and Assignments:

Week	Module	Topic	Assignment
Week 1	0	Welcome to WST 300	"Syllabus Quiz" due by Saturday night at 11:55 PM (3/16)
	1	"What is Feminism?" "What is Women's Studies?"	Assignment #1 (Discussion Board) due by Saturday night at 11:55 PM (3/16)
	2	A Brief History of the U.S. Women's Movement(s)	Assignment #2 (Quiz) due by Saturday night at 11:55 PM (3/16)
Week 2	3	Sex & Gender: What's The Difference? Why Does it Matter?	Assignment #3 (Discussion Board) due by Saturday night at 11:55 PM (3/23)
	4	Norms of Masculinity and Femininity: expectations & limitations?	Assignment #4 (Quiz) due by Saturday night at 11:55 PM (3/23)
Week 3	5	Other Aspects of Social Location: Race, Ethnicity, Nationality & Social Class	Assignment #5 (Discussion Board) due by Saturday night at 11:55 PM (3/30)
	6	Other Aspects of Social Location: Sexual Orientation, Religion, & (Dis)ability	Assignment #6 (Quiz) due by Saturday night at 11:55 PM (3/30)
Week 4	7	Women and Sexuality	Assignment #7 (Discussion Board) due by Saturday night at 11:55 PM (4/6)
	8	Gender-based Violence & Violence Against Women	Assignment #8 (Quiz) due by Saturday night at 11:55 PM (4/6)
Week 5	9	Women and Work: Motherhood and Inequalities in Paid Labor	Assignment #9 (Discussion Board) due by Saturday night at 11:55 PM (4/13)
	10	Representations of Gender, Race and Class in Popular Culture	Assignment #10 (Quiz) Due Saturday night at 11:33 PM (4/13)
Week 6	11	Feminist Theories: Where Do We Go From Here?	Assignment #10 (Final Paper) due by Saturday night at 11:55 PM (4/27) Course evaluation

**I reserve the right to modify this syllabus in the event of university schedule changes, the availability of course materials, or technology updates. If changes must be made to this course contract at any time, students will be notified during lecture and via email/announcements on Canvas.*