WMNST 590  Feminist Thought  Th 4:00-6:40
Fall 2012  Professor Anne Donadey  EBA 443

Office hours: Mon. 3-5 p.m., Th. 1-3 p.m., and by appointment in 305 EBA (formerly Business Administration, now Education and Business Admin) (Tel: 619/594-0815)
E-mail address: adonadey@mail.sdsu.edu
The best way to reach me is by e-mail as I check it every day. Please note that it may take me 1-3 days to reply to your message, sometime less and sometime a bit longer during the busiest times of the semester or if I need to double-check on something before getting back in touch with you.

Course Description
This course surveys theories about the nature, forms, and ways of overcoming women's oppression. A large part of the course focuses on the intersection of oppressions based on gender, race, class, sexual orientation, nationality, colonialism, and globalization. The course explores the rise of feminism within other schools of philosophical thought such as liberalism, socialism, Marxism, psychoanalysis, and postmodernism, and also goes beyond the “brands” to explore some of the conversations feminist theorists have with one another, especially with respect to epistemology (theories of knowledge) and social location.

Student Learning Goals
After taking this class, students will be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of the social construction of gender and sexuality
- demonstrate an understanding of the intersectionality of different dimensions of social organization (gender, race, class, sexuality, culture, etc.) as concepts and as lived experience
- identify mechanisms of oppression and resistance
- analyze the role of social location and power in the production of ideas, theories, and representations
- understand and appreciate multiple perspectives
- write a focused and coherent essay that makes an argument
- demonstrate critical thinking skills

The learning environment should be accessible to all. If you have a disability and need adaptations or accommodations, please register with Student Disability Services and see me after class or during my office hours so that we can make appropriate arrangements. SDSU also makes accommodations for religious holidays, provided the student lets the instructor know within the first two weeks of class.
Classroom behavior: Noisemakers (ringing cell phones and other electronic devices) will not be tolerated. Please remember to turn them off or set them to vibrate before entering the classroom. It is not acceptable to side-talk, read non-class materials, text message, surf the web, update your Facebook page, sleep, etc., during class. All these activities are disrespectful and disruptive to your classmates and the professor.

Conflicts/Issues
Should you have any concerns about the course, please see me during my office hours or make an appointment and we will try to resolve the problem together. If you are not satisfied with the resolution after having discussed the issue with me, you may contact Dr. Huma Ahmed-Ghosh, Chair of the Women’s Studies Department, at ghosh@mail.sdsu.edu or 619/594-6460.

Resources
- SDSU’s Counseling and Psychological Services: 619-594-5220
- San Diego Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault 24-hour Hotline: 1-888-DVLINKS or 1-888-385-4657

Texts Required (available at KB Books):
- Frye, Marilyn. The Politics of Reality (Crossing Press, 1983) (also on library reserve)

Evaluation

| Short essay: 10% | Midterm: 20% |
| Bibliography with list of quotations: 10% | Class participation: 20% |
| Introduction and outline of paper: 10% | Final paper: 30% |

Any assignment that is not turned in at the beginning of class on the date due is LATE. Late assignments will be accepted during the week following the due date with a penalty of two full letter grades. After a week, no late assignments will be accepted for credit.

Format of written work: except for the bibliography with quotations, all assignments must be double spaced. Please spell-check and proofread your work, and use Times New Roman 12 point font with one-inch margins on all four sides. Please paginate (include page numbers) all written work.
Class participation (20%): Missing more than a total of 3 class periods without a documented excuse will result in a score of zero for this portion of the class grade (leaving at the break without a valid excuse is not acceptable). Class participation is absolutely essential to the success of the course. Students must read the assignments carefully before class and be ready to discuss them. Each student should come to class with written questions and comments on the reading. If you do not feel comfortable with class participation, you may turn in your reading notes (typed up before class) at the end of each class period and I will count these toward your class participation grade. This is meant to help you begin participating gradually with the help of some written support, not as a complete alternative to class participation.

Please be attentive to and respectful of all points of view, including those that do not coincide with your own. It is possible to disagree with another perspective and articulate one's arguments in an open, non-confrontational manner. Be aware of power differentials and issues of silencing in classroom dynamics (for example, between undergraduate and graduate students; female and male students; younger and older students; students of color and white students). If you find it difficult to speak up in class, please feel free to come talk to me about it.

One short (2 double-spaced page) essay (10%) on one of the following two topics (uploaded to Turnitin through Blackboard plus hard copy both due Sept. 27):

- Explain the concept of intersectionality in the works of three theorists we have read in class so far.
- Watch a film of your choice outside of class and write a critique of the film (your critique may be positive and/or negative). Use one of the essays we read in class so far as the theoretical framework for your film critique.

The Women's Studies Department encourages students to explore the connections between theory and activism by offering students the option to fulfill a percentage of their course requirements through participation in colloquia, student organizations, and/or community events relevant to Women's Studies. Students who choose this option will attend at least TWO meetings or events that highlight issues of significance for women, and provide a written reflection on each event, which may include (with the approval of the instructor): departmental colloquia or brown bag lunches, meetings of student organizations, and/or lectures or events sponsored by other departments or organizations in the broader San Diego/Tijuana communities. This opportunity will be worth 10% of the final grade (5% for each event and reflection). If you are selecting this option for more than one Women's Studies class per semester, you must attend different events and write different reflections for each class. Turning in the same paper for credit in more than one class is considered cheating. Students may substitute this option for the short essay assignment and must attend and write about TWO events. Write-ups must be two double-spaced pages long, must include a description of the event/lecture as well as a discussion of how the event relates to class readings (if applicable), and must be turned in no later than two weeks after the event.
A midterm (20%): The midterm will be made up of short-answer essay questions on concepts covered in the readings, lectures, and class discussions. Nov. 8.

Bibliography with quotations (10%): You will turn in a bibliography of the research sources you will use for your final paper on Nov. 15. You will need to use the library to identify and obtain a copy of each of your scholarly sources. Read them carefully. In the bibliography, each entry should include full reference and should be followed by 1-3 sentences taken from each source that you think you may want to use in your final paper. You must put the quotations in quotation marks and include the page number after each quotation. You must include at least 2 scholarly books and at least 3 scholarly articles (taken from academic journals or academic book collections). Two of the 5 must be primary sources—i.e., books or articles written by your theorist or by participants in the movement you are studying). Any non-scholarly sources (e.g., magazines such as Ms. or websites) will be in addition to your 5 scholarly sources. For web-based sources, you must provide the complete reference, including web address and date last accessed.

Final paper (30%): Students will write a 7-9 page research paper (graduate students 12-15) on one specific feminist theorist or movement (graduate students may write on an issue instead). Only one student may sign up for each theorist or movement so you should register your choice with me as soon as you decide (see suggested list of theorists on pp. 6-7). The last day to have the instructor approve your topic is Oct. 4. This paper should reflect personal thinking and careful analysis, as well as personal research done in the library, so the earlier you start the better! Document your sources carefully and consistently, making sure you do not plagiarize. Pay attention to the articulation of your ideas, as well as grammar and spelling. Since content can only be grasped through form, both aspects will be taken into account in the grading. I will be available to read rough drafts, notes, and to further discuss your ideas for the paper before it is due. You will turn in a preliminary bibliography of at least 5 scholarly sources by Oct. 18 (see above for details). You will also turn in an introduction and detailed outline of the paper by Nov. 29 (10% of the final grade). The final paper is due Dec. 14 (uploaded to Turnitin through Blackboard plus hard copy).

Important deadlines
Sept. 6  Plagiarism tutorial due
Sept. 10 at 6 p.m.  Last day to drop classes
Sept. 12 at 6 p.m.  Last day to add classes or change grading basis
Sept. 27  Short essay due (10% of grade)
Oct. 4  Last day to obtain instructor approval for final paper topic
Oct. 18  Last day to turn in preliminary bibliography for the final paper
Nov. 8  Midterm (20% of grade)
Nov. 15  Last day to turn in bibliography and quotations (10% of grade)
Nov. 29  Introduction and detailed outline of paper due (10% of grade)
Dec 13 by 4 p.m.  Final paper due to Turnitin through Blackboard plus a hard copy under my door (EBA 305) (30% of grade)
**Academic Honesty**
You are free to discuss ideas and strategies for approaching assignments with others, but with the exception of in-class group work, students must complete their own work individually. Using other people’s work in any form and passing it off as your own will result in disciplinary action. You must always give credit for ideas from other sources (including the Web), even if you are not citing word for word. My standard course of action is to report students whom I believe have cheated to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibility. In addition to the academic penalty (usually a zero for the assignment), the Center for Student Rights and Responsibility may decide upon additional sanctions.

**Cheating and Plagiarism**

Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses. You are plagiarizing or cheating if you:

- for written work, copy down or cut anything from a book, article or website and add or paste it into your paper without using quotation marks and providing the full reference for the quotation, including page number
- for written work, summarize / paraphrase in your own words ideas you got from a book, article, or the web without providing the full reference for the source (including page number in the humanities)
- for an oral presentation, copy down or cut anything from a book, article, or website and present it orally as if it were your own words. You must summarize and paraphrase in your own words, and bring a list of references in case the professor asks to see it
- use visuals or graphs you got from a book, article, or website without providing the full reference for the picture or table
- recycle a paper you wrote for another class
- turn in the same (or a very similar paper) for two classes
- purchase or otherwise obtain a paper and turn it in as your own work
- copy off of a classmate
- use technology or smuggle in documents to obtain or check information in an exam situation

In a research paper, it is always better to include too many references than not enough. When in doubt, always err on the side of caution. If you have too many references it might make your professor smile; if you don’t have enough you might be suspected of plagiarism.

If you have any question or uncertainty about what is or is not cheating, it is your responsibility to ask your instructor.

**Take the tutorial:**
Test your knowledge of what constitutes plagiarism through a tutorial offered by the SDSU Library. To access the tutorial go to: http://infotutor.sdsu.edu/plagiarism/

Consequences of cheating and plagiarism

SDSU instructors are mandated to report all instances of cheating and plagiarism to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibility. Consequences are at the instructor’s and the Center for Student Rights and Responsibility’s discretion. They may include any of the following:

- failing the assignment
- failing the class
- warning
- probation
- suspension
- expulsion

For more detailed information, visit the following website http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml and talk to your professors before turning in your paper or doing your oral presentation. The University of Indiana also has very helpful writing hints for students, including some on how to cite sources. Please visit http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets.shtml for more information.

Turnitin (integrated within Blackboard) will be used in this course for the short essay and the final paper. Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. You may submit your papers in such a way that no identifying information about you is included. Another option is that you may request, in writing, that your papers not be submitted to Turnitin.com. However, if you choose this option you will be required to provide documentation to substantiate that the papers are your original work and do not include any plagiarized material.

Some possible theorists for your WMNST 590 final paper

Abu-Lughod, Lila (women, Islam, popular culture, and cultural feminist anthropology)
Alarcón, Norma (Chicana feminism)
Alexander, M. Jacqui (sexuality in the Caribbean; postcolonial feminism and social justice)
Althaus-Reid, Marcella (feminist liberation theology, Latin American Catholicism, sexuality)
Chesler, Phyllis (feminist psychology; Jewish feminism)
Chow, Rey (Chinese American feminism; transnational feminism)
Dill, Bonnie Thornton (African American women and work; intersectionality and sociology)
Faderman, Lillian (lesbian histories)
Frankenberg, Ruth (feminism and race; social construction of whiteness; spirituality)
Fregoso, Rosa Linda (Chicana feminism, film, and border studies)
Friedman, Susan Stanford (modernism and feminism; women’s studies; Islam and feminism)
Gaspar de Alba, Alicia (Chicana feminism; Chicana art and poetry)
Grewal, Inderpal (women’s studies; postcolonial literary feminism; women in India)
Hammonds, Evelynn M. (feminist science studies; race, gender, and sexuality)
Hunt, Mary E (feminist theology)
Jung, Patricia Beattie (Catholicism, feminism, abortion, sexuality)
Kaplan, Caren (women’s studies; postcolonial literary feminism; transnational issues)
Katzenstein, Mary Fainsod (women in the military and the Catholic Church; international women’s movements)
Keating, AnaLouise (Chicana feminism; feminist pedagogy)
Kim, Elaine (Korean American feminism)
Lorde, Audre (African American feminism; lesbian feminism)
Matsuda, Mari (Asian American feminism; critical race feminism)
Morales, Aurora Levins (Cuban-American and Jewish feminism; decolonial feminism; history and healing)
Morris, Jenny (feminist disability studies)
Nayarani, Uma (anti-colonial feminism; epistemology)
Roberts, Dorothy (African American feminism; reproductive justice)
Rodriguez, Jeanette (Latina feminist theology, Catholicism)
Scott, Joan Wallach (feminism and history; postmodern feminism)
Shanley, Kathryn (American Indian feminism)
Sharpley-Whiting, T. Denean (women of the African diaspora in the US and France)
Shohat, Ella (anti-colonial feminism; media criticism; Arab Jews)
Smith, Andrea (American Indian feminism)
Tadiar, Neferti (Filipina feminism; transnational feminism)
Thomson, Rosemarie Garland (feminist disability studies)
Trujillo, Carla (Chicana lesbian feminism)
Wittig, Monique (French feminism; lesbian feminism)
Young, Iris Marion (feminist ethics and justice; political philosophy)
Zimmerman, Bonnie (lesbian feminist literary criticism)

**Syllabus:**

1) Aug. 30 Introduction

2) Sept. 6 Basic Concepts

**Complete the SDSU library tutorial on plagiarism** at
[http://infotutor.sdsu.edu/plagiarism/index.cfm](http://infotutor.sdsu.edu/plagiarism/index.cfm) before class and turn in a printout of your pre-quiz and post-quiz scores to the instructor
- Collins, chapter 1
- Frye, “Oppression” and “Sexism”
- Lorde, chapter 28, reader
- Combahee River Collective, chapter 13, reader

Monday, Sept. 10 at 6 p.m.  Last day to drop classes
Wed., Sept. 12 at 6 p.m.  Last day to add classes or change grading basis

3) Sept. 13  Theories of Intersectionality
   - Martinez, chapter 4, reader
   - hooks, chapter 6, reader
   - Matsuda, chapter 30, reader
   - Collins, chapter 2
   - Rushin, chapter 24, reader

4) Sept. 20  Liberal Feminism; Radical Feminism
   - Tong, chapter 1
   - Frye, “The Problem That Has No Name”
   - Tong, chapter 2

5) Sept. 27  Marxist & Socialist Feminism; Class, Gender and Race
   Last day to turn in short essay
   - Tong, chapter 3
   - Collins, chapter 3
   - Hartmann, chapter 18, reader

6) Oct. 4  Global Feminisms
   Last day to obtain instructor approval for final paper topic
   - Basu, chapter 8, reader
   - Salazar-Parrenas, chapter 19, reader
   - Correa and Petchesky, chapter 15, reader

7) Oct. 11  Homophobia
   - Pharr, *Homophobia* (all)

8) Oct. 18 Psychoanalytic and French Feminism; Over-Determination and Re-Definitions
   Last day to turn in preliminary bibliography for the final paper
   - Tong, chapter 4
   - Collins, chapters 4 and 8
   - “Plagiarism” (chapter on Blackboard)

9) Oct. 25  Postmodern Feminism; Ecofeminism; Third Wave Feminism
   - Bartky, chapter 38, reader
   - Marcus, chapter 40, reader
   - Tong, chapters 7 and 8
10) Nov. 1 Feminist Epistemology
   - Hartsook, chapter 31, reader
   - Collins, chapter 11
   - Narayan, chapter 32, reader

11) Nov. 8 MIDTERM

12) Nov. 15 Feminism and Nation
    Last day to turn in bibliography and quotations
    - Sinha, chapter 21, reader
    - Kandiyoti, chapter 9, reader

NOV. 22-25 Thanksgiving holiday

13) Nov. 29 Politics of Location
    Turn in a fully written introduction and a detailed outline of your final paper
    - Mani, chapter 37, reader
    - Jordan, chapter 17, reader

14) Dec. 6 Gender, Sexualities, and Nations
    - Connell, chapter 22, reader
    - Cantu Jr. et. al., chapter 29, reader
    - Ong, chapter 44, reader

Final paper to be uploaded to Turnitin through Blackboard plus a hard copy
turned in on Thursday, December 13 by 4:00 p.m. at the latest in EBA 305 (under
my office door).

Have a great Winter break!