GENDER AND SEXUALITY: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES in Fall 2019 (GS2016)

Course Code | GS2016
Prerequisites | None
Class Schedule | TF: 13:45-15:05 in C-103

Professor(s) | Lissa Lincoln
Office Number | Grenelle 4th floor
Office Hours | 

Credits | 4
Semester | Fall 2019

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Course Description

GENDER AND SEXUALITY: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

How do sex, gender and sexuality structure human societies, cultures and institutions? What is the relationship between embodiment and the circulation of power? How do differing cultural conditions create distinct differences in what it means to be a ‘man’ or a ‘woman’ and determine the power of individuals who are defined by them? Through an examination of the ways in which race, caste, class, gender, sexuality, ethnicity and geopolitical location structure the cultural and political experiences of individuals across the globe, we will investigate how these various assemblages of power forge and even govern their lives. Interrogating the concepts of ‘masculinity’ and ‘femininity’ from a comparative, global perspective, and drawing from multiple disciplines such as anthropology, ethnography, philosophy, sociology and history, students will engage with questions of inequality, social justice and diversity as they are mapped onto and played out in institutional, political and socio-cultural power relations.

Course Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to read and critique literature on sex and gender in the social sciences and the humanities
Students will be able to identify, compare, critique and analyze the historical, social and cultural specificity of different conceptions of gender and sexuality
Students will be able to demonstrate familiarity with the developmental, social, theoretical and historical frameworks that define the academic study of gender and sexuality
Students will be able to apply their knowledge of gender and society to a globally informed understanding and evaluation of the pressures, politics and debates of representations of gender and sexuality, particularly those bearing upon legal rights and social justice
General Education

Course Outline

The goal of this class is to familiarise you with some of the key debates in the literature around gender and sexuality from a global/transnational perspective and to engage you in critical discussion.

Course Outline

Week 1

Tuesday Sep 3: Introduction to Course, bell hooks “marginality as a site of resistance”

Friday Sep 6: Concepts and Definitions, Adrienne Rich “Some thoughts toward a politics of location”

Week 2

Tuesday Sep 10: History and Contextualization of Gender Studies, Anthropological Dichotomies - overview, Louise Lamphere “The domestic sphere of women and the public world of men”

Friday Sep 13: Sex and Temperament: Nature or Nurture, Margaret Mead “Sex and Temperament in Three Primitive Societies”

Week 3

Tuesday Sep 17: History and Contextualization of Gender Studies (II), West and Zimmerman “Doing Gender”

Friday Sep 20: Recognizing and Defining Gender, Anne Fausto-Sterling “The Five Sexes”, “Dualling Dualisms”

Week 4
Tuesday Sep 24: GROUP PRESENTATIONS, Michelle Rosaldo “The uses and abuses of anthropology” Chandra Mohanty “Under Western Eyes”

Friday Sep 27: Difference and Power, Roberta Hamilton “Feminist Theories”, Marilyn Frye “Some Reflections on Separation and Power”

Week 5

Tuesday Oct 1: Difference and Power, bell hooks “Postmodern Blackness”

Friday Oct 4: GROUP PRESENTATIONS, Joan Scott “Gender – still a useful category of analysis?”, Judith Butler “Acting in Concert”

Week 6

Tuesday Oct 8:

Friday Oct 11: **Mid-Term Exam**

Week 7


Friday Oct 18:

Mid-semester grades due

Week 8

Tuesday Oct 22: Intersectionality

Week 9


Friday Oct 30 : Oct 30 – Nov 3 FALL BREAK

Week 10

BINARY SYSTEMS AND STRUCTURES OF DIFFERENCE

Tuesday Nov 5 : Hegemonic Masculinity, Connel and Messerschmidt “Hegemonic Masculinity: Rethinking the Concept”

Friday Nov 8 : Michael Kimmel “Masculinity as Homophobia”

Week 11

Nov 11-12 Armistice Break – no classes

Friday Nov 15 : Sex, Race, Caste, Class PROJECT PROPOSAL DUE

Uma Narayan “Contesting Cultures: ‘Westernization’, Respect for Cultures and ‘Third-world’ Feminisits”

Sarah C. White “Thinking Race, Thinking Development”

Sharmila Rege “Dalit Women Talk Differently”

Week 12

Tuesday Nov 19 : Gender mainstreaming

Friday Nov 22 : Gender mainstreaming

Week 13

Tuesday Nov 26 : Governmentalizing Gender, Nivedita Menon “Sexuality, Caste, Governmentality”: Contests over “Gender” in India”

Friday Nov 29 : Gender, Globalization and Sex Work, Svati Shah “Sex Work in the Global
Economy”, “Sexual Commerce and the Street”

Week 14

Tuesday Dec 3 : workshopping

Friday Dec 6 : review

**FINAL EXAM December 13 12:00 p.m.**

**Textbooks**

This course doesn't have any textbook.

**Attendance Policy**

**SPECIFIC CLASSROOM POLICIES / ATTENDANCE, LATENESS**

No Incompletes will be given for this course without a valid medical excuse or documented emergency. Should an emergency arise, advise student affairs of your situation as soon as possible.

**Excessive absences**: More than five absences can result in a failing grade for the course, unless there are extenuating circumstances, such as the following:

- an extended illness requiring hospitalisation or visit to a physician (with documentation)

- a family emergency, e.g. serious illness (with written explanation)

If registered during the first week of the drop/add period, the student is responsible for any missed assignments or coursework.

Students failing a course due to poor attendance should consult with an academic advisor to discuss options.

**For significant lateness**, the tardiness will be counted as an absence for the day.
Cellphones: the use of cell phones in class is absolutely prohibited. This includes text messaging.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious issue. A detailed definition of plagiarism can be found in the fourth edition of the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers pp 26-29. Depending on each case, the penalty for a first offense can go from a failing grade for the paper to a failing grade for the course. Repeat offences can result in a failing grade in the course and/or expulsion. If you have any doubts about proper citation or paraphrasing please contact the writing lab.

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student’s responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students’ participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an “F” for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STATEMENT: As an Anglophone university, The American University of Paris is strongly committed to effective English language mastery at the undergraduate level. Most courses require scholarly research and formal written and oral presentations in English, and AUP students are expected to strive to achieve excellence in these domains as part of their course work. To that end, professors include English proficiency among the criteria in student evaluation, often referring students to the university Writing Lab where they may obtain help on specific academic assignments. Proficiency in English is monitored at various points throughout the student's academic career, most notably during the admissions and advising processes, while the student is completing general education requirements, and during the accomplishment of degree program courses and senior theses.
Grading Policy

GRADING:

All assignments are due in class on the dates specified (see class schedule). Papers must be double-spaced and in 12-point font. Email submissions will only be accepted as back-ups to hardcopies which are mandatory and must be handed to me personally.

1) CLASS PARTICIPATION: 20% To some extent this class is structured as a discussion seminar. It is thus essential that you do the assigned readings before each class meeting and actively participate in class discussions and presentations. This includes listening actively and discussing the readings, raising questions and asking for clarification where necessary.

2) MIDTERM EXAM: 20%

3) PROJECT PROPOSAL: 10%

4) FINAL PROJECT: 25% Details of project possibilities will be discussed and distributed in a separate handout.

5) FINAL EXAM: 25%

*ALL ASSIGNMENTS/EXAMS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A PASSING GRADE IN THE CLASS

Other