

Enquire Teaching Timetable

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Course Outcome

GDRS 1002 - Feminist Theories

Learning Outcome

- Upon completion of the course, students should be able to
1. state and describe the key issues and debates in contemporary gender studies and feminist scholarship;
 2. understand difficult founding texts of feminisms and gender studies;
 3. apply feminist theories to contemporary gender and sexuality issues critically; reflect upon feminist theories and formulate their own feminist perspective.

Course Syllabus

- CLASS 1: Why Feminism?
- CLASS 2: What is Theory?
- CLASS 3: Appropriating Marxism and the Standpoint Theory
- CLASS 4: Theorizing Patriarchy
- CLASS 5: Feminists Theorizing Gender
- CLASS 6: Doing Gender and Gender Performativity
- CLASS 7: Feminism and Psychoanalysis
- CLASS 8 (Seminar): Debating the Political Economy of Sex
- CLASS 9: Lesbian Feminism
- CLASS 10: Sexuality
- CLASS 11: Theorizing the Body
- CLASS 12: Foucault's Challenge
- CLASS 13: The Future of Feminism or Is It Still Alive?

Assessment Type

| | Assessment Type | Current Percent |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Essay test or exam | 70 |
| 2 | Online discussion or forum | 10 |
| 3 | Participation | 20 |

Feedback for Evaluation

1. Qualitative feedback from students in informal interaction;
2. Course questionnaire at the end of semester
3. Reflection of teachers

Required Readings

Course Syllabus (*required readings):

CLASS 1
Why Feminism?

- Readings:
4. *hooks, bell. "Feminism: A Movement to End Sexism." *Feminism is for Everybody*, 50-56. Cambridge, MA: South End Press, 2000.

CLASS 2
What is Theory?

- Readings:
- *hooks, bell. "Theory as Liberatory Practice." *Teaching To Transgress: Education as the Practice of Freedom*, 59-75. New York: Routledge, 1994.
 - *Lugones, Maria C., Elizabeth V. Spelman. "Have We Got a Theory for You!" *Women's Studies International Forum* Vol. 6. no/ 6 (1983):575-581.

CLASS 3
Appropriating Marxism and the Standpoint Theory

- Readings:
- "Rethinking the Gendered Division of Labour." 30-
 - **"The Dialectic of Sex," "Love" and "The Culture of Romance." *The Dialectic of Sex: The Case for Feminist Revolution*, 3-14, 113-139. New York: Farrar, Staus and Giroux, 2003[1970].
 - *Heidi, Hartmann. "The Unhappy Marriage of Marxism and Feminism: Towards a pre Progressive Union." In *Women and Revolution: A discussion of the unhappy marriage of Marxism and feminism*, edited by Lydia Sargent, 1-42. London: Pluto Press, 1981.
 - *Young, Iris. "Beyond the unhappy marriage: a critique of dual systems theory." In *Women and Revolution: A discussion of the unhappy marriage of Marxism and feminism*, edited by Lydia Sargent, 43-70. London: Pluto Press, 1981.
 - Hartsock, Nancy. "The Feminist Standpoint: Developing the Ground for a Specifically Feminist Historical Materialism." *The Feminist Standpoint Revisited and Other Essays*, 105-132. Oxford, UK: Westview Press, 1998.

CLASS 4
Theorizing Patriarchy

- Readings:
- *Eisentein, Zillah R. "Developing a theory of capitalist patriarchy and socialist feminism." In *Capitalist Patriarchy and the Case for Socialist Feminism*, edited by Zillah R. Eisentein, 5-40. New York: Monthly Review Press, 1979.

Walby, Sylvia. "Theorising Patriarchy." *Sociology* Vol.23 (1989):213-234.
Gottfried, Heidi. "Beyond Patriarchy? Theorising Gender and Class." *Sociology* Vol. 32 (1998):451-468.
Acker, Joan. "The Problem with Patriarchy." *Sociology* Vol.23 (1989):235-240.
Pollert, Anna. "Gender and Class Revisited; Or, The Poverty of 'Patriarchy'." *Sociology* Vol.30, no.4 (November 1996):639-659.
Hunnicut, Gwen. "Varieties of Patriarchy and Violence Against Women: Resurrecting 'Patriarchy' as a Theoretical Tool." *Violence against Women* 15 (2009): 553-573.

CLASS 5 Feminists Theorizing Gender

Readings:
*Scott, Joan. "Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis." In *Gender and the Politics of History*. Revised Edition, 28-50. New York: Columbia University Press, 1999.
*Millett, Kate. "Theory of Sexual Politics." In *Sexual Politics*, 23-58. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2000[1969].
*De Beauvoir, Simone. "Introduction" and "Conclusion." In *The Second Sex*, translated by H.M. Parshley, xix-xlii and 716-732. New York: Vintage Books, 1989[1952].

CLASS 6 Doing Gender and Gender Performativity

Readings:
*West, Candace and Don H. Zimmerman. "Doing Gender." In *The Social Construction of Gender*, Edited by Judith Lorber and Susan A. Farrell, 13-37. Newbury Park: SAGE Publications, 1991.
*Butler, Judith, Lynne Segal and Peter Osborne. "Gender as Performance: An Interview with Judith Butler." In *Radical Philosophy* Issue 67 (Summer 1994): 32-39.
*Butler, Judith. "Preface (1999)," "Preface (1990)," "Subject of Sex/Gender/Desire" and "Conclusion: From Parody to Politics." In *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity* ,vii-xxxvi, 1-46 and 194-203. New York: Routledge, 2006 [1990].

CLASS 7 Feminism and Psychoanalysis

Readings:
*Freud, Sigmund. "Female Sexuality." *Sexuality and the Psychology of Love*, 184-201. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1997[1963].
*Gilligan, Carol. "In a Difference Voice: Women's Conceptions of Self and Morality." In *Feminist Social Thought: A Reader*, edited by Diana Tietjens Meyers, 551-582. New York: Routledge, 1997.
*Weedon, Chris. "Psychoanalysis and Difference." *Feminism, Theory and the Politics of Difference*, 77-98. Oxford, UK; Massachusetts: Blackwell Publishers Ltd, 1999.
Cavallaro, Dani. "French Feminist Theory: Backgrounds and Contexts" and "Language and the Subject." In *French Feminist Theory: An Introduction*, 1-39 and 72-93. London: Continuum, 2003.
Irigaray, Luce. "This Sex Which Is Not One" and "Psychoanalytic Theory: Another Look." *This Sex Which Is Not One*, 23-67. New York: Cornell University Press, 1985.
Mulvey, Laura. "Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema." In *Feminist Film Theory*, edited by Sue Thornham, 58-69. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1999.

CLASS 8 (Seminar) Debating the Political Economy of Sex

Readings:
*Rubin, Gayle. "The Traffic in Women: Notes of the 'Political Economy of Sex.'" In *The Feminist Philosophy Reader*, edited by Alison Bailey and Chris Cuomo, 13-33. Boston: McGraw Hill, 2008.
*Rubin, Gayle. "Sexual Traffic. Interview." In *feminism meets queer theory*, edited by Elizabeth Weed and Naomi Schor, 68-108. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1997.
*Hartsock, Nancy. "Gayle Rubin: The Abstract Determinism of the Kinship System." *The Feminist Standpoint Revisited and Other Essays*, 192-204. Oxford, UK: Westview Press, 1998.

CLASS 9 Lesbian Feminism

Readings:
*Rich, Adrienne. "Compulsory Heterosexuality and Lesbian Existence" In *Feminist Frontiers III*, edited by Laurel Richardson and Verta Taylor, 158-179. New York: McGraw Hill, Inc.1993.
*Calhoun, Cheshire. "Separating Lesbian Theory from Feminist Theory." *Ethics* Vol.104, No.3 (April 1994):558-581.
Ferguson, Ann. "Cheshire Calhoun's Project of Separating Lesbian Theory from Feminist Theory." *Hypatia* Vol.13, No.1 (Winter 1998):214-223.
*Card, Claudia. "Radicalesbianfeminist Theory." *Hypatia* Vol.13, No.1 (Winter 1998):206-213.
Calhoun, Cheshire. "Taking Seriously Dual Systems and Sex." *Hypatia* Vol.13, No.1 (Winter 1998):224-231.

CLASS 10 Sexuality

Readings:
*Rubin, Gayle. "Thinking Sex: Notes for a Radical Theory of the Politics of Sexuality." In *The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader*, edited by Henry Abelove, Michele Aina Barale and David Halperin, 3-44. New York and London: Routledge, 1993.
MacKinnon, Catherine. "Feminism, Marxism, method, and the state: toward feminist jurisprudence." *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* 8,4(1983): 635-658.
*何春蕤。《色情與女 / 性能動主體》。《批判的性政治》，朱偉誠編，3-34。台北：台灣社會研究雜誌社，2008。

CLASS 11 Theorizing the Body

Readings:
*Young, Iris Marion. "Lived Body vs. Gender: Reflections on Social Structure and Subjectivity." In *On Female Body Experience: "Throwing Like a Girl" and Other Essays*, 12-26. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005.
*Young, Iris Marion. "Throwing Like a Girl: A Phenomenology of Feminine Body Comportment, Motility, and Spatiality." In *On Female Body Experience: "Throwing Like a Girl" and Other Essays*, 27-45. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005.
*Davis, Kathy. "Embody-ing Theory: Beyond Modernist and Postmodernist Readings of the Body." In *Embodied Practices: Feminist Perspectives on the Body*, edited by Kathy Davis, 1-23. London: SAGE Publications, 1997.
Davis, Kathy. "From objectified body to embodied subject: A biographical approach to cosmetic surgery." In *Feminist Social Psychologies: International Perspectives*, edited by Sue Wilkinson, 104-118. Buckingham: Open University Press, 1996.
Butler, Judith. "Introduction" and "Bodies that Matter." In *Bodies That Matter: On the Discursive Limits of Sex*, 1-55. New York and London: Routledge, 1993.

CLASS 12 Foucault's Challenge

Readings:
*Foucault, Michel. "We 'Other' Victorians," "The Repressive Hypothesis," "The Incitement to Discourse," "The Perverse Implantation" and "Method."

The History of Sexuality: An Introduction, Vol. 1, trans. Robert Hurley, 3-49 and 92-102. New York: Vintage Books, 1990[1978].
*Fraser, Nancy. "Michel Foucault: 'A Young Conservative?'" In Feminist Interpretation of Michel Foucault, edited by Susan Hekman, 15-38. Pennsylvania: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 1996.
Bailey, M.E. "Foucauldian Feminism: Contesting Bodies, Sexuality and Identity." In Up Against Foucault: Exploration of Some Tensions between Foucault and Feminism, edited by Caroline Ramazanoglu, 99-122. London and New York: Routledge, 1993.
*Jagose, Annamarie. "Queer." In Queer Theory: An Introduction, 72-100. New York: New York University Press, 1996.

CLASS 13
The Future of Feminism or Is It Still Alive?

Readings:
*Moi, Toril. "'I Am Not a Feminist, But...': How Feminism Became the F-Word." In PMLA 12(2006): 1753-1741.
*Redfern, Catherine and Kristin Aune. "Introduction" and "Feminism Reclaimed." Reclaiming the F Word, 1-17 and 204-220. New York: Zed Books, 2013.
Halley, Janet E. Split Decisions: How and Why To Take a Break from Feminism. New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 2006.

Recommended Readings