# INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES

**WGST 112**

**Winter Session**

**January 2 – 20, 2018**

**Instructor:** Rebecca Collier

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## Course Description

This course is an introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies and is described as a social science perspective of women in psychologic, sociological, historical, anthropological, economic, and political contexts; the changing roles, images, and institutions.

## Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the key events in the history of feminist movement in the United States.
2. Identify the ways in which race, class, gender, and sexuality function in our society as systems of oppression and privilege.
3. Develop feminist strategies for creating a more just society.
4. Examine the importance of feminist concepts and analysis.
5. Demonstrate an awareness of the social construction of gender (femininity and masculinity) and its intersection with race, class, and sexuality.
6. Define vocabulary terms in the field of Women’s and Gender Studies.
7. Apply important theories and concepts in the field of Women’s and Gender Studies.

## Required Readings

* *Women’s Voices, Feminist Visions (WVFV),* 6th Edition, by Susan M. Shaw and Janet Lee (2004)
* *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By In America* by Barbara Ehrenreich (2002)
* Reading materials on Blackboard

## Course Overview

This is a fully online course. Online classes are not easier than lecture classes. To succeed in an online class, you must be extremely motivated and well organized. You will need to purchase the required textbooks listed above by the first day of the course. Other course materials are available via Blackboard. Regular Internet access is essential for successful completion of the course.

You will need to find at least 16 hours per week and maybe more to succeed with this course in this format.  If you do not have 16 hours each week, you will become very frustrated and jeopardize your opportunity for success.

### Overall Structure of the Course

The typical class structure will consist of weekly modules, which include:

* Short Video Lectures
* Readings
* Group Discussions
* Quizzes
* Films/YouTube Videos
* Analytical Papers

. Course Requirements

1. I would recommend taking notes as you read and watch the lectures. Please note that all readings in the syllabus are required. Some class materials are optional and are labeled as such.
2. Treat one another with respect. We will be debating ideas and issues in small groups on group Discussion Boards. It will be expected that we will not attack one another personally for holding different opinions. The goal of this course, and of education in general, is to expose you to new and different ideas. You do not have to agree with everything discussed in this class or that we read; I do expect you to keep an open mind and to be respectful of others.
3. Check Blackboard regularly. I will occasionally post information and/or updates. You also need to have a current email address registered with Blackboard that you check daily. I will occasionally send out information through Blackboard to everyone in the class using the email addresses Blackboard supplies if there is a pressing matter and I need to get in touch with you.
4. Students are required to watch all video lectures, read all course readings, participate in group discussions, and complete all participation activities. Students are expected to complete assignments on time.

### Course Communications

If you have questions pertaining to this course, first post your questions on the “Questions about the Course” discussion board forum in Blackboard. Anyone may answer your question. Each question will be answered within 24 hours if posted Sunday – Thursday. This discussion board should be helpful because most students have similar questions. These responses give all students the same information. It is very important to use a descriptive phrase as the subject of your post. Typing “Help” or “Question” is not very helpful for others to distinguish the body of your post. Therefore, use descriptive phrases like “Question about Analytical Paper 1” or “Need Help with Quiz in Module 2”. Be sure to check previous posts on the “Questions about the Course” discussion board forum prior to posting your question. Your classmates may have already asked the question.

If you have personal questions pertaining to this course, please email me. I do not consistently check Blackboard/email on Saturday and Sunday. However, I will respond within 24 hours if contacted Monday – Thursday.

All communication on the discussion boards and via emails should be professional. Concise and relevant subject lines should be used and spelling/grammar should be carefully checked. Write in a professional tone. Text message language is not accepted.

When sending an email, please include a detailed subject line. Additionally, make sure you reference the course - WGST 112 - in the message and sign the email with your name.

### Grades

Grades will be calculated as follows:

Exam I - 25%

Exam II - 25%

Final Exam – 25%

Analytical Papers – 10%

Quizzes – 10%

Group Discussions – 5%

Grade distribution for the course:

90-100 – A

87-89 – B+

80-86 – B

77-79 – C+

70-76 – C

67-69 – D+

60-66 – D

Below 60 - F

## Course Assignments

### Submitting Assignments

* Class discussions will be held in the group Discussion Board on Blackboard. Due dates for initial postings and responses to a post by a classmate are in the course outline below.
* Quizzes will be completed on Blackboard.
* Examinations will be completed on Blackboard.
* Analytical Papers will be submitted through Blackboard’s Assignment feature.
* Analytical Papers are due by 11:59 PM on the due date.

### Examinations

There will be 2 timed exams. All exams will be completed on Blackboard. Exams will consist of identification, short answer, and essay questions and should take 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete. All exams must be completed by the noted due dates.

*Nickel and Dimed* worksheets will count as 1/3 of the Final Exam grade. The remaining 2/3rds of your final exam grade will consist of two (2) two-page essays.

### Quizzes

There will be quizzes within several modules. Quizzes can be completed twice. Your highest quiz score will be counted towards your grade. All quizzes must be completed within the week they are due.

### Group Discussions

Participation in the group discussions is a requirement and an integral part of this course. The group Discussion Board on Blackboard is a place to discuss various topics about the course. You are expected to make substantial contributions to the discussion. I will read every post but I will not respond to every post.

When posting to the group Discussion Boards, acceptable posts and responses include your expressed opinion, information from readings, and/or information from your research. You must add to the conversation. Unacceptable posts and responses include responses like, “I agree”, “You are right”, or “Good Answer”. Additional unacceptable responses include not adding to the body of knowledge and not responding. Your participation will be graded with these guidelines in mind.

I will reference the following chart when grading discussion board posts.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Unacceptable**  **0 Points** | **Acceptable**  **5 Points** | **Excellent**  **10 Points** |
| The quality of the posted information is of low quality, off topic, or irrelevant to the discussion.  No response to the Discussion Board forum. | The quality of the posted information is of acceptable quality; lacks full development of concept or thought.  No responses to posts of others. | The quality of the posted information is of high quality and reflective.  The posted information advances the discussion. |

### Analytical Papers

There will be 2 analytical papers due during this session. The papers must be completed by the noted due date.

#### Instructions for Analytical Papers

1. You will be required to complete a total of 2 analytical papers.
2. You do not need to follow any particular documentation style as long as you are consistent and follow these guidelines: parenthetical, in-text citations; a title but no title page, typed; double-spaced lines; 12-point Times New Roman font; one-inch margins; pages numbered.
3. No “Works Cited” or “References” page is required. Please cite within the papers (example: (WVFV, p. 214). Several citations are encouraged.
4. Papers should be a full 2 pages double spaced. Please answer the questions relative to the readings below.
5. Papers must be turned in on the day they are due by 11:59 PM.
6. Analytical papers should use *the assigned readings.* The page numbers to be read are in parenthesis after the questions. You are to use the questions as a basic outline for your discussion. The questions will be reflected in the readings. I am looking for evidence that you read thoroughly and thought seriously about the assignments and questions. You must directly address a quote from the readings. But no long quotes.

#### Analytical Paper Questions:

**Inscribing Gender on the Body Sunday, Jan. 14th A1**

1. How does the dominant ideology of our culture define beauty?
2. How are these definitions enforced?
3. How do these definitions threaten women in their bodies?
4. How can women resist the beauty ideal? (WVFV, Chapter 4, p. 181-204).

**Women’s Work Inside/Outside the Home Friday, Jan. 19th  A2**

1. How does women’s unpaid labor in the home maintain systems of oppression?
2. Why has legislation requiring equal pay and prohibiting discrimination failed to bring about equality for women in the workforce? (WVFV, Chapter 9, p. 470-499).

\*\*Be sure to read the material (pages listed). Then use the questions as a basic outline for writing your 2-page paper.

## Late Work/Make-Up Policy

Late work will not be accepted after the due date. Exceptions will only be made in extenuating circumstances and at the discretion of the instructor.

The examinations must be taken as scheduled on this syllabus. Exceptions will only be made in extenuating circumstances and at the discretion of the instructor.

## Disability Services

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Office of Student Disability Services. The contact information is below:

1523 Greene Street

LeConte Room 112A

Columbia, SC 29208

Phone: 803-777-6142

Fax: 803-777-6741

Email: [sasds@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:sasds@mailbox.sc.edu)

Web: <http://www.sa.sc.edu/sds/>

Additionally, students with disabilities should discuss accommodations with me before or during the first week of class.

## Academic Honesty

Plagiarism/Cheating, as defined in the Code of Student Academic Responsibility, will result in failure of this course in addition to penalty exacted by the appropriate Academic Dean and the University Honor Council to whom all offenses will be reported. Consult *Carolina Community* for what constitutes plagiarism. You are responsible for reading and abiding by these rules. Below are some websites for you to visit to learn more about the University policies.

* Carolina Community: <http://www.sa.sc.edu/carolinacommunity/>
* Carolina Creed: <http://www.sa.sc.edu/creed>
* Academic Responsibility: <http://www.sc.edu/policies/staf625.pdf>
* Honor Code Violations: <http://www.housing.sc.edu/academicintegrity/violations.html>
* Guidelines for Responsible Computing: <http://www.uts.sc.edu/network/guidelines.shtml>

## Course Outline

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| **Dates** |  |
| **Tuesday, Jan. 2nd – Saturday, Jan. 6th** | ***Segment One: History of Feminist Movement in America***  **Module 1**   * Read “Read this First” * Read syllabus * Watch Video “Meet Professor Collier” * Watch Video “Welcome to WGST E112” * **Introduce yourself in the Student Introductions discussion board** * **Participate in the Group Discussion (Your initial posting by *Thurs., Jan. 4th*. Reply to a posting made by a classmate by *Sun., Jan. 6th,* 11:59 PM)** * Read “The F-Word” * View the First Wave 5 Movements study guide * Read *Women’s Voices, Feminist Visions* (*WVFV*) Chapter One (p. 10-27) * Watch lecture Video – Women and Men before the First Wave * Read *WVFV* Article 2 (begins p. 30) * Watch Lecture Video – Nature and Role of Women and Enlightenment Liberal Feminism * Read *WVFV* Article 85 (begins p. 606) * Watch Lecture Video – The Suffrage Movement * Read the “Solitude of Self” * Read “The Declaration of Sentiments” * Watch Video “Elizabeth Cady Stanton: * Watch Video “Seneca Falls Convention”   **Module 2**   * Watch Lecture Video – Cultural Feminism * View the First Wave 5 Movements Study Guide * Read “Herland” * Watch Lecture Video – The First Wave: Women’s Religious Oppression * Read *WVFV* Article 93 (begins p. 650) * Watch Video “Susan B. Anthony 2010” * Watch YouTube Video – Votes for Women: CA’s 100th Anniversary of Women’s Right to Vote * Watch Lecture Video – Challenges from Excluded Women * Read “The Antislavery Movement and Women’s Rights” * Watch: “Women in the 19th Century: Crash Course” * Watch Lecture Video – First Wave Summary * Read “The Case of Sadie Sachs” (Margaret Sanger) * Watch Lecture Video – In-Between the Waves: The Early Birth Control Movement * Read “Family Limitation” by Margaret Sanger * Watch Lecture Video – Introduction to If These Walls Could Talk * Watch Video “If These Walls Could Talk” * Watch Lecture Video – In Between the Waves Summary * **Complete quiz**   **Module 3**   * Watch Lecture Video – Second Wave of Feminist Movement in America – Parts 1 and 2 * Read *WVFV* Chapter 1 (pp. 1-10) * Read *WVFV* Articles 1, 2 (pp. 28-32) * Read *WVFV* Historical Movement: *The Feminine Mystique* (p. 449) * Read *The Feminine Mystique*, Betty Friedan excerpt * Watch movie “The Pill” * Read Introduction to Loretta Lynn’s “The Pill” **(optional)** * Read Loretta Lynn’s “The Pill” Review * Listen to Loretta Lynn “The Pill” * Watch Lecture Video – Second Wave Summary * **Complete quiz** * Begin reading *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By In America* by Barbara Ehrenreich (2002) **(Worksheets due *Saturday, Jan. 20th, 11:59 PM*** |
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| **Sunday, January 7th – Wednesday, January 10th** | **Module 4**   * Watch Lecture Video – The Third Wave of Feminist Movement in America * Read *WVFV* “Thank a Feminist” (p. 18) * Read “Young Women’s Work: On Generation Tension & The Third Wave” * Read *WVFV* Article 4 (pp. 34-37) * Watch Video – Amy Richards and Jennifer Baumgardner present “Feminism: Who Needs It?” * Read “How my Mother’s Fanatical Views Tore Us Apart” * Watch Video – Rebecca Walker on the Origins of Third Wave Feminism * Read “Stone by Stone” * Watch Lecture Video – Patriarchy and Inequalities Parts 1 and 2 * Watch Exam 1 Review Video * View Exam 1 Study Sheet * **Complete the Blackboard Sample Exam** * Read Exam 1 Information * **Complete Exam 1 (Due *Wed., January 10th*, *11:59 PM)* \*Available from Sunday, Jan. 7th – Wednesday, Jan. 10th**   ***Segment Two: Race, Class, Gender and Sexuality – A Conceptual Framework***  **Module 5**   * Watch Lecture Video – A Framework for Understanding Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality – Part 1 * Watch Video – Inequality Quiz Introduction * Complete the Inequality Quiz *(Not for a grade)* * Watch Video – Inequality Quiz Discussion * Read *WVFV* Chapter 2 (pp. 49-71) * Read *WVFV* Article 10 (begins p. 72) * Read “The Story of Margaret Welch: A Case Study” * Participate in the Group Discussion **(Your initial post by *Monday, Jan. 8th.* Reply to a posting made a classmate by *Wednesday, Jan. 10th by 11:59 PM)*.** * Read *WVFV* Article 13 (begins p. 86) * Watch Lecture Video – A Framework for Understanding Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality – Part 2 * Watch Video – Race: The Power of Illusion   **Module 6**   * Watch Lecture Video – Sexuality * Read *WVFV* Chapter 6 (pp. 313-333) * Read “Supreme Court Ruling Makes Same-Sex Marriage a Right Nationwide” (New York Times) * Read “Gay Marriage State by State: From a Few States to the Whole Nation” (New York Times) * Watch Lecture Video – Introduction – The Times of Harvey Milk * Read – “The Pioneer Harvey Milk” * Watch Videos “The Times of Harvey Milk” * Read – “Caitlyn Jenner – The Full Story” (Vanity Fair) * Watch Lecture Video – No Dumb Questions **(optional)** * Watch Videos – No Dumb Questions – 6 Parts **(optional)** * Read *WVFV* Article 54 (begins p. 354) * Watch Lecture Video – Gender * Read *WVFV* Chapter 3 (pp. 116-134) * Read *WVFV* Article 20 (begins p. 136) * Read *WVFV* Article 21 (begins p. 141) * **Complete quiz** * Continue reading Begin reading *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By In America* by Barbara Ehrenreich (2002) **(Worksheets due *Saturday, Jan. 20th, 11:59 PM)*** |
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| **Thursday, January 11th – Sunday, January 14th** | **Module 7**   * Watch Lecture Video – Class * Read *WVFV* Article 15 (begins p. 86) * Read “Last Shame in America” * Watch “Corridor of Shame” * Watch Video – Exam 2 Review * Complete the Exam 2 Review Sheet * **Complete Exam 2 *(due by Sunday, Jan. 14th, 11:59 PM)* \*Available from Thurs., Jan. 11th – Sunday, Jan. 14th**   ***Segment Three: Thinking Key Issues – Women’s Studies in the Academy; Working to Create a Just Society – Feminism in the World***  **Module 8**   * Watch Lecture Video – Inscribing Gender on the Body * Read *WVFV* Chapter 4 (pp. 181-204) * Watch Video – Killing us Softly Overview * Watch Video – “Killing us Softly 4” * Read “Eating Disorders” * Read *WVFV* Article 28 (begins p. 205) * Read *WVFV* Article 39 (begins p. 209) * Watch *WVFV* Article 33 (begins p. 221) * Watch Lecture Video - Resisting Violence Against Women * Watch Video – “Sleeping with the Enemy” Trailer * Read *WVFV* Chapter 10 (pp. 537-564) * Read “Stopping Violence Against Women” * Read “National Coalition Against Domestic Violence: Dating Violence Facts” * Read “Cycle of Violence” * **Analytical Paper 1 – Complete by *Sunday, Jan. 14th, 11:59 PM***   **Module 9**   * Watch Lecture Video – Confronting and Creating Culture * Read *WVFV* Chapter 5 (pp. 250-271) * Watch bell hooks – Cultural Criticism and Transformation – 7 Parts * Watch Lecture Video – Health and Reproductive Rights * Watch “Sandra Fluke Opening Statement” * Watch “Rush Limbaugh Calls a Female Georgetown Student, Sandra Fluke, a ‘Slut’” * Read “Rush Limbaugh’s Apology to Sandra Fluke” * **Complete quiz** * Continue reading *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By In America* by Barbara Ehrenreich (2002) **(Worksheets due *Saturday, Jan. 20th, 11:59 PM)*** |
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| **Monday, January 15th – Friday, January 19th** | **Module 10**   * Watch Lecture Video – Women’s Work Inside and Outside the Home * Read – Women Face Stubborn Wage Gap as Wages Fall for Everyone * Read – Why Women Still can’t Have it All * Read *WVFV* Chapter 9 (pp. 470-499) * Read – Facts from “The Motherhood Manifesto” * Read “Women MDs paid less: Reluctant to push for raises? * Watch Video – Makers: Women who Make America * **Complete quiz**   **Module 11**   * Watch Lecture Video – Activism, Change, and Feminist Futures * Read *WVFV* Chapter 13 (pp. 692-714) * Watch Video of the Guest Lecturer (India Walters, South Carolina Contraceptive Access Campaign **(optional)** * **Analytical Paper 2 – Complete by *Friday, Jan. 19th, 11:59 PM)***   **Module 12**   * Watch Lecture Video – Feminist Icon – Gloria Steinem * Watch Videos – Gloria Steinem “Women Rights” * Read *WVFV* Article 6 (begins p. 39) * Participate in the Group Discussion **(Your initial post by *Wednesday, Jan. 17th*. Reply to a posting made by a classmate by *Friday, Jan. 19th, 11:59 PM)*** * Watch Lecture Video – Nickel and Dimed * Continue reading *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By In America* by Barbara Ehrenreich (2002) **(Worksheets due *Saturday, Jan. 20th, 11:59 PM)*** |
| **FINAL EXAM**  **Due by Saturday, January 20th** | **Module 13**   * Watch the Last Lecture * Complete the Nickel and Dimed Worksheet **(Worksheets due *Saturday, Jan. 20th, 11:59 PM)*** * Complete the Final Exam Essays **(*Saturday Jan. 20th, 11:59 PM)*** |