

Yale WGSS & LGBTS

FALL & SPRING COURSES 2015 –16

wgss.yale.edu | lgbts.yale.edu

location: WLH, 3rd Floor

Phone: 203.432.0845

Requirements of the WGSS major

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies requires twelve term courses and may be taken either as a primary major or as one of two majors. For students in the Class of 2016 and previous classes, requirements include one gateway course and one intermediate course; for students in the Class of 2017 and subsequent classes, two intermediate courses are required. For all classes, the major also includes one transnational perspectives course, one methodology course, courses in an area of concentration, the junior sequence, and the senior sequence. The area of concentration consists of at least five courses, the majority of which should be drawn from program offerings. Courses for the area of concentration may also fulfill the requirements in transnational perspectives and methodology. Substitutions to the major requirements may be made only with the written permission of the director of undergraduate studies.

Gateway and intermediate courses for the Class of '16 and previous classes

The gateway courses ([WGSS 110](#), [111](#), [115](#), [120](#), [200](#), and [201](#)) offer broad introductions to the fields of women's, gender, and sexuality studies. There are two intermediate courses: Globalizing Gender ([WGSS 295](#)) and Introduction to LGBT Studies ([WGSS 296](#)). Majors are encouraged to take both but need take only one, preferably after the gateway course and prior to the junior sequence. ([WGSS 295](#) cannot fulfill both the transnational perspectives and the intermediate requirements.)

Intermediate courses for the Class of '17 and subsequent classes

There are two intermediate courses: Bodies and Pleasures, Sex and Genders ([WGSS 205](#)) and Globalizing Gender and Sexuality ([WGSS 206](#)). Majors are required to take both, preferably prior to the junior sequence.

Transnational perspectives course

Ideally, each student's course work engages a broad diversity of cultural contexts, ethnicities, and global locations. Such study illuminates the links among nations, states, cultures, regions, and global locations. Most students take several classes that focus on genders and sexualities outside the U.S. context; majors are required to take at least one (not including [WGSS 205](#)).

Methodology course

Given its interdisciplinary nature, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies necessarily relies on a wide range of methodologies: literary criticism, ethnography, visual analysis, historiography, and quantitative data analysis, among others. Each student is expected to acquire competence in at least one methodology relevant to his or her own concentration and planned senior essay. In preparation for the senior essay, students are advised to complete the methods requirement in the junior year.

Junior sequence

The two-term junior sequence consists of Feminist and Queer Theory ([WGSS 340](#)) and Junior Seminar: Theory and Method ([WGSS 398](#)). All students in the major must take both courses. (Individualized alternatives are found for students who study abroad during the junior year.)

Senior sequence and senior essay

The two-term senior sequence consists of the Senior Colloquium ([WGSS 490](#)), in which students begin researching and writing a senior essay, followed by the Senior Essay ([WGSS 491](#)), in which students complete the essay. The senior essay is developed and written under the guidance and supervision of a WGSS-affiliated faculty member with expertise in the area of concentration. Students are expected to meet with their essay advisers on a regular basis.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

Prerequisites None

Number of courses 12 term courses (including senior requirements)

Specific courses required

All classes—[WGSS 340](#), [398](#); *Class of 2017 and subsequent classes*—[WGSS 205,206](#)

Distribution of courses

All classes—1 transnational perspectives course; 1 methodology course; 5 electives in area of concentration; *Class of 2016 and previous classes*—1 gateway course and 1 intermediate course, as specified.

Senior requirement

Senior colloquia and senior essay ([WGSS 490](#), [491](#))

An asterisk (*) denotes that professor's permission is required to take the course.

History of Sexuality*

WGSS 032 01 ~ Maria Trumpler

TTh 2.30-3.45 Spring

Exploration of scientific and medical writings on sexuality over the past century.

Focus on the tension between nature and culture in shaping theories, the construction of heterosexuality and homosexuality, the role of scientific studies in moral discourse, and the rise of sexology as a scientific discipline. Enrollment limited to freshmen. Preregistration required; see under Freshman Seminar Program.

London & Paris Fashion Since 1750

WGSS 033 01/HIST033 ~ Becky Conekin

TTh 11.35-12.50 Spring

Introduction to the history of Western fashion from the mid-eighteenth century to the present, with a focus on Paris and London. Approaches, methods, and theories scholars have historically employed to study fashion and dress. Enrollment limited to freshmen. Preregistration required; see under Freshman Seminar Program.

Sexuality and Religion

WGSS 111 01/AMST111/RLST111 ~ Kathryn Lofton

TTh 11.35-12.50 Spring

The relationship between ideas about sex and ideas about religion; the interrelations of sexual and religious practices. Case studies from religious cultures in the United States. Examination of presumptive norms about sexuality, religion, and American culture.

Gender in a Transnational World

WGSS 115/AMST115/ANTH115 ~ Graeme Reid

Th 9.25-11.15 Fall

Gender and sexuality in a transnational world through the lens of contemporary sexual identity politics. Examination of historical, cultural and political aspects of sexual rights claims in the context of globalization.

Women, Food, and Culture

WGSS 120 01 ~ Maria Trumpler

TTh 1.30-2.20 Fall

Interdisciplinary exploration of the gendering of food production, preparation, and consumption in cross-cultural perspective. Topics include agricultural practices, cooking, pasteurization, kitchen technology, food storage, home economics, hunger, anorexia, breast-feeding, meals, and ethnic identity.

Women in the Ancient World

WGSS 168 01/NELC167 ~ Karen Foster

MW 2.30-3.45 Spring

Introduction to the roles of women in ancient Egyptian, Mesopotamian, and Aegean society, as reflected in painting, sculpture, decorative arts, and literature, as well as in the earliest women's writings known.

Anthropological Approaches to Sex

WGSS 169/Anthro 169 ~ Karen Nakamura

MW 11.35-12.25 Fall

The analytical concept of sex explored using theories and methods from archaeology and from biological, sociocultural, and linguistic anthropology. Sexual morphology and behavior; constructions of sex and gender; gendered violence, power, and language; kinship and mating

U.S. Lesbian and Gay History

WGSS 200 01/HIST127/AMST135 ~ George Chauncey

TTh 10.30-11.20 Fall

Introduction to the social, cultural, and political history of lesbians, gay men, and other socially constituted sexual minorities. Focus on understanding categories of sexuality in relation to shifting normative regimes, primarily in the twentieth century. The emergence of homosexuality and heterosexuality as categories of experience and identity; the changing relationship between homosexuality and transgenderism; the development of diverse lesbian and gay subcultures and their representation in popular culture; religion and sexual science; generational change and everyday life; AIDS; and gay, antigay, feminist, and queer movements.

Bodies and Pleasures, Sex and Genders*

WGSS 205 01 ~ Anusha Alles

TTh 2.30-3.45 Fall

Sexuality explored as an embodied, historical production. Focus on the dynamic, contested relationship between the concepts of gender and sexuality. Investigation of sexuality at the sites of racial difference, psychoanalysis, AIDS, transnationality, U.S. law, publicity, and politics. Ways in which pleasure, power, and inequality are unevenly imbricated. Includes occasional evening screenings.

Globalizing Gender and Sexuality*

WGSS 206 01 ~ Vanessa Agard-Jones

T 3.30-5.20 Spring

Examination of transnational debates about gender and sexuality as they unfold in specific contexts. Gender as a category that can or cannot travel; feminist critiques of liberal rights paradigms; globalization of particular models of gender/queer advocacy; the role of NGOs in global debates about gender and sexuality.

Race and Gender in American Literature

WGSS 211 01/ENGL293/ER&M210/AMST211/AFAM140 ~ Birgit Rasmussen

TTh 11.35-12.25 Spring

The role of literature in constructing representations of America as an idea, a nation, a colonial settlement, and a participant in world affairs. What kind of place America is and who belongs there; the consequences of America's history for its national literature. Emphasis on the ways texts represent and contest social concepts of race and gender difference.

Women and U.S. Politics

WGSS 220 01/PLSC220 ~ Rachel Silbermann

HTBA Spring

The role of women in current U.S. political processes and institutions. Whether American women and men differ in their political opinions and behavior. Differences in leadership between women and men as legislators, executives, and judges. Why women continue to be underrepresented as officeholders despite their voting at a rate equal to or higher than men's.

Evolutionary Biology of Women's Reproduction

WGSS 230/ANTH 230 ~ Claudia R Valeggia

MW 11:35-12:50pm Fall

Evolutionary and biosocial perspectives on female reproductive lives. Physiological, ecological, and social aspects of women's development from puberty through menopause and aging, with special attention to reproductive processes such as pregnancy, birth, and lactation. Variation in female life histories in a variety of cultural and ecological settings. Examples from both traditional and modern societies.

Disability and Culture*

WGSS 234 01/ANTH234 ~ Karen Nakamura

1 HTBA Spring

Exploration of disability from a cross-cultural perspective, using examples from around the globe. Disability as it relates to identity, culture, law, and politics. Case studies may include deafness in Japan, wheelchair mobility in the United States, and mental illness in the former Soviet republics.

Women Writers from the Restoration to Romanticism

WGSS 239 01/ENGL239 ~ Jill Campbell

TTh 1.00-2.15 Spring

Readings of poems, plays, novels, essays, and letters by English women from the late seventeenth century to the early nineteenth, with attention to historical context and change. Writers include Aphra Behn, Mary Astell, Anne Finch, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, Sarah Scott, Maria Edgeworth, Phyllis Wheatley, Dorothy Wordsworth, Jane Austen, and Mary Shelley. Topics include the reputation and reception of female authors; women's appropriation of male literary forms; the implications of generic choice; accounts of female utopian communities; and treatments of love, marriage, female friendship, and homoerotic desire.

Asian American History 1800-Present

WGSS 272/AMST 272/ER&M 282/HIST 183 ~ Mary Lui

MW 11.35-12.50pm Fall

An introduction to the history of East, South, and Southeast Asian migrations and settlement to the United States from the late eighteenth century to the present. Major themes include labor migration, community formation, U.S. imperialism, legal exclusion, racial segregation, gender and sexuality, cultural representations, and political resistance.

Contemporary African American Literature

WGSS 292/AFAM 296/AMST 296/ENGL 296 ~ Elizabeth Alexander

MW 1:00-2:15pm Fall

A survey of African American literature since 1970. Authors include Toni Morrison, Alice Walker, Rita Dove, Yusef Komunyakaa, Anna Deavere Smith, Danzy Senna, and others. Topics include black feminist literature, black gay and lesbian literature, developments in literary criticism and theory, and contemporary black drama.

Sexual Politics, 1960s to the Present

WGSS 297 01/ENGL292 ~ Margaret Homans

TTh 1.00-2.15 Spring

Historical survey of works of fiction, poetry, drama, and creative nonfiction that have shaped and responded to feminist, queer, and transgender thought since the start of second-wave feminism. Authors include Wittig, Rich, Broumas, Brown, Russ, Walker, Lorde, Morrison, Kingston, Atwood, Cisneros, Bechdel, and Rankine.

The Olympic Games, Ancient and Modern

WGSS 300 01/HIST242J/MGRK300/CLCV319 ~ George Syrimis

Th 9.25-11.15 Spring

Introduction to the history of the Olympic Games from antiquity to the present. The mythology of athletic events in ancient Greece and the ritual, political, and social ramifications of the actual competitions. The revival of the modern Olympic movement in 1896, the political investment of the Greek state at the time, and specific games as they illustrate the convergence of athletic cultures and sociopolitical transformations in the twentieth century.

How We Choose, and Choose Well

WGSS 302/PHIL 312/PLSC 311 ~ Helene Landemore

MW 2:30-3:45pm Fall

The study of choice approached through a broad and multifaceted lens, borrowing from disciplines and sources as varied as metaphysics, moral philosophy, political theory, literature, and film, as well as psychology, sociology, anthropology, political science, and economics.

Men, Manhood, and Masculinity

WGSS 304/660/ANTH684 ~ Graeme Reid

Th 9.25-11.15 Spring

Cultural and historic constructions of masculinity explored through an investigation of male bodies, sexualities, and social interactions. Multiple masculinities; the relationship between hegemonic, nonhegemonic, and subordinate masculinities.

Queer Ethnographies

WGSS 308/ANTH 308/ANTH 508/WGSS 701 ~ Karen J Nakamura

M 3:30-5:20pm Fall

Exploration of both classic and contemporary ethnographies of gender and sexuality. Emphasis on understanding anthropology's contribution to and relationship with gay and lesbian studies and queer theory.

Social Movements*

WGSS 314 01/EP&E267/SOCY216 ~ Ron Eyerman

W 1:30-3:20 Spring

An introduction to sociological perspectives on social movements and collective action, exploring civil rights, student movements, global justice, nationalism, and radical fundamentalism.

Inequality in America*

WGSS 316 01/SOCY314/AFAM273 ~ Vida Maralani

T 9.25-11.15 Fall

Empirical, theoretical, and methodological issues involved in the study of inequalities in occupation, income, wealth, education, health, and neighborhoods. Intergenerational mobility, marriage and family processes, and inequalities of race,

ethnicity, and gender. Questions include whether the United States is a land of opportunity and how different social groups fare and why.

Middle East Gender Studies

WGSS 321 01/MMES321/ANTH321 ~ Marcia Inhorn

MW 9.00-10.15 Spring

The lives of women and men in the contemporary Middle East explored through a series of anthropological studies and documentary films. Competing discourses surrounding gender and politics, and the relation of such discourse to actual practices of everyday life. Feminism, Islamism, activism, and human rights; fertility, family, marriage, and sexuality.

Constructing the Self: From Autobiography to Facebook*

WGSS 327 01/MMES311/ER&M327 ~ Geetanjali Chanda

T 1.30-3.20 Spring

Autobiography in its evolving form as literary genre, historical archive, and individual and community narrative in a changing geographical context. Women's life stories from Afghanistan, China, Cambodia, Indonesia, India, Iran, Egypt, Jordan, and Vietnam illustrate the dialectic relationship between the global and the local. What the reading and writing of autobiographies reveal about oneself and one's place in society; autobiography as a horizontal community formation.

Popular Culture and Postcolonial India*

WGSS 328 01/SAST458/ER&M328 ~ Geetanjali Chanda

W 1.30-3.20 Spring

A study of films and literature of South Asians living, working, and directing in Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Questions of commercial populism, authenticity, and postcolonial identity.

Feminist and Queer Theory*

WGSS 340 01/ENGL357 ~ Margaret Homans

WF 11.35-12.50 Fall

Historical survey of feminist and queer theory from the Enlightenment to the present, with readings from key British, French, and American works. Focus on the foundations and development of contemporary theory. Shared intellectual origins and concepts, as well as divergences and conflicts, among different ways of approaching gender and sexuality.

Women & Politics in Post WWII US

WGSS 354/HIST 191J ~ Jennifer Klein

W 3:30-5:20pm Fall

American politics and grassroots social movements from 1945 to the present explored through women's activism and through gender politics more broadly. Ideas about gender identities, gender roles, and family in the shaping of social movements; strategies used on the local, regional, national, and international

levels. Connections between organizing and policy, public and private, state and family, and migration, immigration, and empire.

Gender and Sexuality in Media and Popular Culture*

WGSS 380 01/AMST402/ANTH302/FILM324 ~ Laura Wexler, Vanessa Agard-Jones
W 2.30-4.30 Fall

Investigation of visual media and popular culture in the United States and transnationally. Gender, race, class, and sexuality in relation to the production, circulation, consumption, and reception of media culture. Focus on theories of media and the visual. Significant lab component in which students use media technologies to make and illustrate theoretical arguments.

Politics of Reproduction

WGSS 390 01/ER&M360/HSBM432/HLTH370/SOCY390 ~ Rene Almeling
W 2.30-4.20 Spring

Reproduction as a process that is simultaneously biological and social, involving male and female bodies, family formation, and powerful social institutions such as medicine, law, and the marketplace. Sociological research on reproductive topics such as pregnancy, birth, abortion, contraception, infertility, reproductive technology, and aging. Core sociological concepts used to examine how the politics of reproduction are shaped by the intersecting inequalities of gender, race, class, and sexuality.

Junior Seminar: Theory and Method*

WGSS 398 01 ~ Vanessa Agard-Jones
T 9.25-11.15 Spring

An interdisciplinary approach to studying gender and sexuality. Exploration of a range of relevant theoretical frameworks and methodologies. Prepares students for the senior essay.

Women and Literature in Traditional China*

WGSS 405 01/WGSS770/EALL211/EALL511 ~ Kang-i Sun Chang
TTh 1.00-2.15 Fall

A study of major women writers in traditional China, as well as representations of women by male authors. The power of women's writing; women and material culture; women in exile; courtesans; Taoist and Buddhist nuns; widow poets; cross-dressing women; the female body and its metaphors; foot binding; notions of love and death; the aesthetics of illness; women and revolution; poetry clubs; the function of memory in women's literature; problems of gender and genre. All readings in translation; no knowledge of Chinese required. Some Chinese texts provided for students who read Chinese. (Formerly CHNS 201.)

Asian American Women and Gender, 1830 to the Present

WGSS 409 01/AMST410/HIST166J ~ Mary Lui
W 1.30-3.20 Spring

Asian American women as key historical actors. Gender analysis is used to reexamine themes in Asian American history: immigration, labor, community, cultural representations, political organizing, sexuality, and marriage and family life.

Interdisciplinary Approaches to African American Studies*

WGSS 410 01/AMST310/AFAM410 ~ Staff

HTBD Spring

An interdisciplinary, thematic approach to the study of race, nation, and ethnicity in the African diaspora. Topics include class, gender, color, and sexuality; the dynamics of reform, Pan-Africanism, neocolonialism, and contemporary black nationalism. Use of a broad range of methodologies.

Feminist Theater & Performance

WGSS 413/THST 441 ~ Elise Morrison

W 1:30-3:20pm Fall

Introduction to a range of works by feminist scholars, activists, playwrights, and performers who have used theatrical performance as a means by which to critique and reimagine cultural representations of gender and sexuality. Mapping out of significant theories, debates, and performance strategies that emerged out of the feminist movement(s) of the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. Students research, perform, and critically engage with historical and contemporary examples of feminist performance work.

Virginia Woolf*

WGSS 426 01/ENGL446 ~ Margaret Homans

WF 1.00-2.15 Spring

A study of the major novels and other writings by Virginia Woolf, with additional readings in historical contexts and in Woolf biography and criticism. Focus on Woolf's modernist formal experimentation and on her responses and contributions to political movements of her day, principally feminism and pacifism; attention also to the critical reception of her work, with emphasis on feminist and queer literary criticism and theory.

Sex, Markets, and Power

WGSS 427/PLSC 427 ~ Frances Rosenbluth

HTBD Spring

Consideration of how women's socioeconomic status and political power have varied across time and place. Three analytical lenses are used: biology, markets, and power.

Intersectionality & Women's Health

WGSS 431/ANTH 451/ANTH 651/WGSS 651 ~ Marcia Inhorn

T 9:25-11:15am Fall

The intersections of race, class, gender, and other axes of difference and their effects on women's health, primarily in the contemporary United States. Recent

feminist approaches to intersectionality and multiplicity of oppressions theory. Ways in which anthropologists studying women's health issues have contributed to social and feminist theory at the intersections of race, class, and gender.

Women & Medicine: Colonial Era to the Present

WGSS 453/HIST 142J/HSHM 445 (Section 02) ~ Naomi Rogers

T 9:25-11:15am Fall

American women from the colonial era to the present as midwives, patients, healers, reformers, revolutionaries, innovators, and entrepreneurs. Ways that women have shaped American health care and medical research.

Postwar Queer Avant-Garde Film

WGSS 454/FILM 377 ~ Ronald Gregg

M 7:00-9:00pm and T 1:30-3:20pm Fall

Production, exhibition, and aesthetic practices in postwar queer underground cinema in the United States as it developed from the 1930s to the early 1970s. The films of gay or bisexual filmmakers such as Willard Maas, Andy Warhol, Jack Smith, Kenneth Anger, and Jose Rodriguez-Soltero; the work of antiheteronormative female filmmakers such as Barbara Rubin and Marie Menken; the links between avant-garde cinema, theater, and other arts, as well as the political context.

Masculinity and Men's Health

WGSS 459/ANTH 455/ANTH 655 ~ Marcia Inhorn

Th 9:25-11:15am Fall

Ethnographic approaches to masculinity and men's health around the globe. Issues of ethnographic research design and methodology; interdisciplinary theories of masculinity; contributions of men's health studies from Western and non-Western sites to social theory, ethnographic scholarship, and health policy.

History of the Body

WGSS 460/HSHM 455 ~ Courtney E Thompson

T 3:30-5:20pm Fall

Body images that surround us: slender models, well-built athletes, attractive actors, and pop stars. Discussion of visual images that embody normative ideals of beauty and health. A historical perspective on ways of looking at bodies in the past and present.

Independent Directed Study*

WGSS 471 01 ~ Inderpal Grewal

Fall & Spring

For students who wish to explore an aspect of women's, gender, and sexuality studies not covered by existing courses. The course may be used for research or directed readings and should include one lengthy or several short essays. Students meet with their adviser regularly. To apply for admission, students present a prospectus to the director of undergraduate studies along with a letter of support

from the adviser. The prospectus must include a description of the research area, a core bibliography, and the expected sequence and scope of written assignments.

The Senior Colloquium*

WGSS 490 01 ~ Inderpal Grewal

Fall 2014

A research seminar taken during the senior year. Students with diverse research interests and experience discuss common problems and tactics in doing independent research.

The Senior Essay*

WGSS 491 01 ~ Inderpal Grewal

1 HTBA Fall & Spring

Independent research on, and writing of, the senior essay.

GRADUATE CLASSES

Individual Directed Study*

WGSS 604 ~ Vanessa Agard-Jones

1 HTBA Spring

Sociology of Sex and Gender

WGSS 623 01/SOCY523 ~ Rene Almeling

Th 2.30-4.20 Spring

The course provides students with an introduction to major theoretical approaches to sex and gender, and it covers recent empirical research in key arenas, including care work, sex work, work and family, mothering and fathering, reproductive technologies, and health.

Affect and Materiality

WGSS 633 01/AMST747/ANTH594 ~ Kathryn Dudley

W 1.30-3.20 Spring

Recent scholarship in the fields of affect studies and the new materialisms raises important questions about the ethnographic encounter and the kind of knowledge it produces. Refusing to grant ontological status to classic oppositions between nature/culture, self/other, subject/object, and human/nonhuman, this work encourages anthropologically inclined ethnographers to rethink longstanding assumptions about the composition of the "social" and the "political" in an anthropocentric world that ignores the vulnerabilities and agential capacities of global ecosystems at its peril. Reading across ossifying disciplinary divides, this seminar examines the intellectual projects of writers such as Jane Bennett, Bruno Latour, Lauren Berlant, and Kathleen Stewart, among others.

Intersectionality & Women's Health

WGSS 651/ANTH 451/ANTH 651/WGSS 431 ~ Marcia Inhorn

T 9:25-11:15am Fall

The intersections of race, class, gender, and other axes of difference and their effects on women's health, primarily in the contemporary United States. Recent feminist approaches to intersectionality and multiplicity of oppressions theory. Ways in which anthropologists studying women's health issues have contributed to social and feminist theory at the intersections of race, class, and gender.

Masculinity and Men's Health

WGSS 659/ANTH 455/ANTH 655 ~ Marcia Inhorn

Th 9:25-11:15am Fall

Ethnographic approaches to masculinity and men's health around the globe. Issues of ethnographic research design and methodology; interdisciplinary theories of masculinity; contributions of men's health studies from Western and non-Western sites to social theory, ethnographic scholarship, and health policy.

History of Sexuality in Modern Europe

WGSS 667 01/HIST667 ~ Carolyn Dean

T 1.30-3.20 Fall

This class provides an introduction to the various lines of inquiry informing the history of sexuality. The course asks how historians and others constitute sexuality as an object of inquiry and addresses different arguments about the evolution of sexuality in Europe, including the relationship between sexuality and the state and sexuality and gender.

Queer Ethnographies

WGSS 701 01 ~ Karen Nakamura

M 7.00-8.50p Spring

Explores both classic and contemporary ethnographies of gender and sexuality. Emphasis on understanding anthropology's contribution to, and relationship with, gay and lesbian studies and queer theory.

Readings in the History of Sexuality

WGSS 712 01/HIST775/AMST866 ~ George Chauncey

W 1.30-3.20 Spring

Selected topics in the history of sexuality, especially the emergence of the category of "sexuality" itself and how it has articulated with hierarchies of gender, race, class, age, nation, and empire. The course also considers sexuality as a source of public and personal identity, a component of social organization and subcultural social life, an object of scientific study, government management, and legal regulation, and a site of political and cultural conflict.

Health Politics, Body Politics

WGSS 730 01/HIST943/HSBM736 ~ Naomi Rogers

T 1.30-3.20 Spring

A reading seminar on struggles to control, pathologize, and normalize human bodies, with a particular focus on science, medicine, and the state, both in North America and in a broader global health context. Topics include disease, race, and politics; repression and regulation of birth control; the politics of adoption; domestic and global population control; feminist health movements; and the pathologizing and identity politics of disabled people.

Research in Twentieth-Century U.S. Political and Social History

WGSS 736 01/AMST709/HIST736/AFAM709 ~ Glenda Gilmore

Th 9.25-11.15 Spring

Projects chosen from the post-Civil War period, with an emphasis on twentieth-century social and political history, broadly defined. Research seminar.

History, Photography, Memory

WGSS 751 01/AMST449/WGSS451/HSAR467/AMST868 ~ Laura Wexler

Spring

An interdisciplinary seminar that examines the role of photographic representation in archives of public and private memory. We examine the social and expressive functions of photography under the aegis of museums, libraries, art galleries, government, police, and personal albums. Critical theory includes discussions of gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, class, and nation as they help construct remembering.

Research Topics in Gender and Psychology

WGSS 767 01/PSYC777 ~ Marianne LaFrance

Fall & Spring

The "Gender Lab" meets weekly to consider research being done in the Psychology department that bears on some gender-related issue.

Studies in "New" Materialities: Agency, Ontology, Embodiment, Cognition

WGSS 768 01/RLST701/AMST806/HSAR723 ~ Sally Promey

Th 1.30-3.20 Spring 2016

This advanced research course invites students to engage and interrogate a set of "new" ideas about objects and materiality emerging in disciplines as far-ranging as political science, cultural anthropology, ethics, history of art, cognitive science, religious studies, and gender and sexuality studies. One concern is to explore how these ideas, far from being "new," have a deep, and deeply political, history in relation to Western efforts to make sense of and order the material (and spiritual) world and to mark and distinguish Western modernity and "civilization." In the second half of the term, research projects take the shape of applying some of these theoretical models to case studies concerning specific objects, bodies, and materials. Note that a course on the same subject is being offered simultaneously

at another institution, with students and professors in both courses entering into various sorts of conversation during the term.

Social Mobility in Contemporary French Literature

WGSS 783 01/FREN958 ~ Morgane Cadieu

F 1.30-3.20 Spring

Mobility in the French social landscape and representations of class in contemporary French literature. The question of social change through gender, sexuality, and race; the representation of work and the workplace; the interaction between social class and literary style. Works by Ernaux, Genet, Duras, Eribon, Louis, Angot, Marivaux, Balzac, Mirbeau. Theoretical readings by Rancière, Marx, Bourdieu, Angela Davis, Foucault. Conducted in French.

Bodies and Borders: Psychoanalysis, Race, and Representation

WGSS 788 01/AFAM736/HSAR790 ~ Kobena Mercer

W 3.30-5.20 Spring

Introducing methods from cultural studies, postcolonial studies, and psychoanalysis, this seminar examines representations of black bodies in modern art and visual culture. Abolitionist, Orientalist, and primitivist painting and sculpture are investigated through concepts of fetishism, fantasy, and the gaze, and in light of post-1960s artistic practices addressing interracial border zones as sites of cross-cultural hybridity. Artists include Carl Van Vechten, Wifredo Lam, Adrian Piper, Robert Mapplethorpe, Kara Walker, and Renée Cox; texts include Mikhail Bakhtin, Homi Bhabha, Frantz Fanon, and Griselda Pollock.

The Politics of Representation: Visual and Literary Culture & the Black Female Body

WGSS 834 01/AFAM834/AMST658 ~ Hazel Carby

F 1.30-3.20 Spring

Utilizing collections held in the Yale Art Gallery, the Center for British Art, and the Beinecke Library, this course juxtaposes literary texts and visual culture to create interdisciplinary conversations about the representation of the black female body with particular emphasis on issues of sexuality, gender, and racial formation.

WGSS Certificate Workshop

WGSS 900 01 ~ Jill Campbell

3 HTBA Fall & Spring

Built around the WGSS graduate Colloquium and Working Group series, with the addition of several sessions on topics of interdisciplinary methodology, theory, and professionalization. Offered in both fall and spring. As of 2014–2015, enrollment in one term of WGSS 900 is required of all students for completion of the certificate in WGSS. Graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. For further information, contact the instructor at jafari.allen@yale.edu.

Consult the Yale online course information website (www.yale.edu/oci) for classroom locations and updated meeting times.