## Summer 2019: 1<sup>st</sup> session (May 13-June 28) WS 201: Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies

#### ONLINE COURSE ON DESIRE2LEARN: https://d2l.msu.edu/

Instructor: Professor Kristine Byron <u>byronk@d2l.msu.edu</u> Teaching Assistant: Sandra Beals <u>bealssan@d2l.msu.edu</u>

Note: Email is the best way to reach us. Please use the d2l email above for this. We are both always available, but as a general rule of thumb, direct questions about writing assignments and discussion assignments to Sandra Beals and questions about quizzes, course content, and general questions to Kristine Byron.

#### **Course Description and Objectives:**

This online course is an interdisciplinary introduction to Women's and Gender Studies, which raises critical questions about why and how culture and institutions have shaped gender roles and expectations. It explores how women and men from diverse racial, ethnic, national, and sexual backgrounds live in and engage with the world and how processes of global change affect gender relations locally, nationally, and internationally. Each unit is designed to define issues central to gender studies and to lay the foundation for more advanced study. Specific topics include: definitions of women's studies and concepts central to feminism, including intersectionality; organized feminist movements for change around the world; differences of culture, race, class, sexual orientation, age, etc. among women; sexuality and appearance; violence against women; stages in women's life cycle; women's paid and unpaid work; and other global and cross cultural concerns.

Throughout the course we will seek to: (1) <u>Appreciate the variety of global perspectives from which</u> <u>women, as a topic of study, can be approached</u>, for example, seeing women as agents, creators, and contributors to history and contemporary society; seeing women as oppressed and victimized (including seeing women as acting within the context of gender relations; and seeing women as creators of survival skills, social networks and art within separate women's cultures.) (2) <u>Promote appreciation of both</u> <u>similarities and diversity</u> among the experiences, biology and world-views of women historically, crossculturally and across social class, racial and ethnic groups. (3) <u>Clarify concepts basic to feminist thought</u>, such as sex/gender systems, sexual orientation, patriarchy, sexism, oppression. (4) <u>Integrate personal</u> <u>experience</u>, where appropriate, with the knowledge of the course. (5) <u>Clarify and contextualize</u> <u>historically different ideological and political feminist positions</u>. Our readings and discussions will draw from multiple perspectives and artistic forms, including, films, poetry, narrative, political cartoons, historical documents, music, photographs, history, and cultural criticism.

**Course Requirements:** Students are expected to do all the assigned readings, complete all writing, current events, and discussion post assignments, complete all quizzes, and complete a few other required activities. This is an INTENSIVE ONLINE COURSE. Online courses offer great flexibility (for all of us!) but also require great diligence, discipline, and capacity for independent work. We are covering an entire semester of material in this 7-week summer session. Therefore it is <u>imperative</u> that you dedicate the necessary time to successfully complete all the requirements for this class. **Expect to spend** *at least* **18-22 hours** *per week* **on course-related activities**, including reading, writing, viewing, thinking, planning. You should log into d2l every single day (and probably multiple times a day). It is **your responsibility** to keep up-to-date with all assignments and any news items or changes via the course webpage. Late work will not be accepted.

Though we may not be meeting in a physical classroom, we are participating in a virtual classroom environment on d2l that allows for a substantial amount of interaction. In addition, in courses that deal with such a variety of materials, we recommend that students keep a *reading journal*. This could be a dedicated notebook, binder, or journal. In it, you can write your reactions, questions, ideas, and observations that will help you prepare for quizzes, develop ideas for your media project, and brainstorm

for discussion posts and writing assignments. If you are having problems with any assignment, it is your responsibility to contact the instructors.

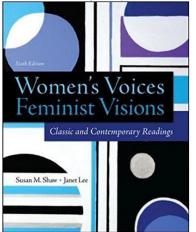
### Course Website on DESIRE2LEARN: https://d2l.msu.edu/

Be sure you are familiar with the d2l interface. There are tutorials and help files on the site. We will be using the website for all of our graded coursework, so it is important that you are "in the know." **Direct all questions about technology to the d2l help** desk online or by phone at: (517) 432-6200 or toll free: (844) 678-6200. Course content questions should be directed to the instructors. Please be sure to **use the d2l mail function in our course page** to ensure your messages are received in a timely manner. You are required to complete a d2l readiness self-check at the beginning of the course.

Help for new version of D2L: https://help.d2l.msu.edu/daylight

### **Required Text:**

*Women's Voices, Feminist Visions*: Classic and Contemporary Readings (Susan Shaw and Janet Lee, eds.) 6<sup>th edition.</sup>



Available for purchase or rental on Amazon/Barnes and Noble and in MSU area bookstores. **Be sure to get the 6<sup>th</sup> edition—other editions do not have the required course readings!** Most affordable option is rental—recommended you choose two-day shipping. Check MSU area bookstores for affordable used copies

**Grade Scale** 

https://www.amazon.com/Womens-Voices-Feminist-Visions-Contemporary/dp/0078027004/ref=sr\_1\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1494523401&sr=8-1&keywords=women%27s+voices%2C+feminist+visions

http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/womens-voices-feminist-visions-susan-shaw/1119330487

All other required materials will be available on d2l

## **Final Grades:**

		4.0 93-100%
Writing Assignments	30%	3.5 85-92%
Discussion Post Assignments	30%	3.0 80-84%
Weekly Quizzes	25%	2.5 75-79%
Current Events Assignments	10%	2.0 70-74%
Other required activities	5%	1.5 65-69%
		1.0 60-64%
		0.0 00-59

# Please note that all due dates and times reflect Michigan time (Eastern Daylight Time). Be sure to take this into account if you are in a different time zone.

**Writing Assignments (30%)**: There will be 5 writing assignments. Prompts and instructions are provided in the writing assignments folder in d2l. Your task is to write a formal academic essay that responds to the given prompt. Each essay should be 500 to 750 words total, not including your paper heading and citations. Each essay will be graded on a 100 point scale. You do not need to write more than 750 words for full credit. Upload assignments as a .doc or .pdf file in the appropriate assignment dropbox before 11:59 pm (Michigan time) on the due date.

**Discussion Post Assignments (30%):** In lieu of a physical classroom, we will be discussing course material for each week on our course website. We will post discussion prompts on the week's readings to start the conversation. **Each week** you will be responsible for two tasks: 1) Post at least one original thread addressing the topic for the week, and 2) Respond to *at least three* classmates' posts. We will pose discussion topics for each week, and our discussion will be ongoing throughout the week, which ends Friday night. While you need to have completed all of your posts and replies by Friday at 11:59pm, **you need to post your original thread by Wednesday before 11:59 pm** to facilitate discussion on your post. Plan to interact with your classmates on d2l early and often throughout the week. Treat these posts as a class assignment and not a text, tweet, status update or email to a friend. You should use formal prose (academic English) and have no grammar and spelling errors. A complete post will usually be one long paragraph.

Weekly Quizzes (25%): Students must complete the seven weekly quizzes on d2l. Quizzes will cover material from the assigned readings and any other assigned materials (lectures, videoclips, etc) provided in the content folder for each week. Deadline for taking quizzes will be 11:59 pm Fridays. Please consult the Tips for Taking Online Quizzes in the Orientation/Resource folder, and remember that although these are "open-note quizzes" you must take them yourself. Your IP and login information is traceable, so be sure you follow the academic honesty policy.

**Current Events Assignment/Real-life Connections (10%):** During the term, all students will participate in the gender studies and current events forum. More detailed instructions and examples will be provided on D2L. You will be asked to complete specific preparatory tasks and/or posts for each assignment.

**Other Required Activities (5%):** A portion of your grade (5%) will be calculated based on your completion of some required activities (such as the syllabus and d2l self-check activities, the academic honesty pledge, any other class activities on d2l, etc.)

"Netiquette" and Tips for Online Course Success: All course participants are expected to be professional and civilized with all other members of the course. We will post specific helpful documents in the Resources Folder about online course etiquette, writing tips, and so on.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities should contact the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities <u>www.rcpd.msu.edu</u> to establish reasonable accommodations. Communicate any authorized accommodations with your instructors as soon as possible; accommodations cannot be provided after the fact.

**Commercialized Lecture Notes:** Commercialization of lecture notes and university-provided course materials is not permitted in this course. The lectures, syllabus, quizzes, and writing assignments are the intellectual property of the instructors and **we do not give permission** for any of the materials to be distributed to any sources.

**Drop Policy:** Please be sure you are familiar with university dates and protocols for adding and/or dropping a course. See <a href="https://www.reg.msu.edu/ROInfo/EnrReg/LateAdds.aspx">www.reg.msu.edu/ROInfo/EnrReg/LateAdds.aspx</a>

Academic Honesty: Article 2.3.3 of the Academic Freedom Report states: "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." In addition, this course adheres to university policies on academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulation 1.0, *Protection of Scholarship and Grades*; the all-University Policy on *Integrity of Scholarship and Grades*; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See *Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide* and/or the MSU Web site www.msu.edu.).Therefore, all course assignments you submit, including homework, , quizzes, essays, etc., should be completed only by you. If you include information from required readings or sources from outside the course, you <u>must</u> provide appropriate citations.

<u>Statement on Plagiarism</u>: Plagiarism, which is the use of others' words and ideas without proper citation and is considered cheating, will result in *automatic failure for the assignment and/or the course* and will be reported to administration, which may subsequently result in administrative action. Handing in someone else's paper or ideas as your own (including buying or taking papers, sections of papers or ideas, without proper citation, from the internet or a print source) is a very serious offense and will be punished at the maximum permissible extent according to university policy.

<u>Statement on Turnitin</u>: Consistent with MSU's efforts to enhance student learning, foster honesty, and maintain integrity in our academic processes, instructors may use a tool called Turnitin to compare a student's work with multiple sources. The tool compares each student's work with an extensive database of prior publications and papers, providing links to possible matches and a 'similarity score'. The tool does not determine whether plagiarism has occurred or not. Instead, the instructor must make a complete assessment and judge the originality of the student's work. All submissions to this course may be checked using this tool.

You are expected to do your own, original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Also, you are not authorized to use the www.allmsu.com website to complete any work for this course.

# Students who violate MSU rules on academic honesty will receive a penalty grade, including but not limited to a failing grade on the assignment and/or in the course.

If you have any doubts or questions please consult with your instructors or refer to the Office of the Ombudsman's web links on academic honesty at <u>https://msu.edu/unit/ombud/academic-integrity/</u>

#### Gender Studies at MSU:

*The Center for Gender in Global Context* http://gencen.isp.msu.edu/ is an interdisciplinary center in International Studies and Programs focused on gender, feminist, and women's studies. Its affiliated faculty and students study how women and men from diverse racial, ethnic, national, and sexual backgrounds live in and engage with the world and how processes of global change affect gender relations locally, nationally, and internationally. Working in conjunction with the academic colleges, the center promotes outstanding undergraduate and graduate education, facilitates research and scholarship of the highest caliber, and undertakes innovative outreach and active learning initiatives. The center concentrates on gender and women's studies through interdisciplinary, comparative, transnational, and trans-cultural approaches. It connects faculty and students in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, residential colleges, agriculture and natural resources, and professional fields and has support from all associated academic deans. Those affiliated with the center will consider how global flows of ideas, people, trade, and new communication networks are transforming women and men's lives and gender relations, and they will examine how gendered power structures affect processes of globalization. The intersections of gender

identities with racial, ethnic, sexual, socioeconomic, and other differences will be highlighted in the context of global change.

Please let us know if you have any questions about the syllabus or the course. We will keep you updated with any adjustments. We look forward to a great summer term with you!

#### Best, Kristine and Sandra

**Course Schedule and Assigned Readings from** *Women's Voices, Feminist Visions* (WVFV) Note: This schedule corresponds to the required textbook readings from the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the book. Other required materials are listed in the folder for each week of the term. You are responsible for all of the assigned materials. Any changes to this schedule will be announced via email.

	Topics	Assigned Textbook Readings
Week		Chapter 1: Women's and Gender Studies: Perspectives and Practices
1	Welcome/Orientation Introduction	What Is Women's and Gender Studies (WGS)?, 1
	to the Course	How Did WGS Originate?, 3
		What Were the Origins of Women's Rights Activism in the United States?,
	What is Women's and	10
	Gender Studies?	What Is the Status of WGS on College Campuses Today?, 12
	Women's and Gender	What Does WGS Have to Do with Feminism?, 13
	Studies, Perspectives	What Are the Myths Associated with Feminism?, 19
	and Practices	1. Claiming an Education, Adrienne Rich, 28
		2. Forty Years of Women's Studies, Bonnie Thornton Dill, 30
		3. New York Radical Women No More Miss America, 3
		4. A Day Without Feminism, Amy Richards, 34
		5. Feminist Politics, Bell Hooks, 37
		6. The Power and the Gloria, Rachel Graham Cody, 39
		7. Facebook for Women vs. Facebook Designed by Feminists: Different vs. Revolutionary, C.V. Harquail, 43
		8. Still Needing the F Word, Anna Quindlen, 46
		9. My Heroines, Marge Piercy, 47
		Discussion Questions for Chapter 1, 48

Systems of Privilege	Chapter 2: Systems of Privilege and Inequality, 49	
and Inequality	Systems of Privilege and Inequality, 49	
Race, Gender, Class as	Difference, Hierarchy, and Systems of Privilege and Inequality, 51	
Categories of	Discourse, Power, and Knowledge, 60	
Analysis	Institutions, 63	
	Conclusion, 67	
	10. Toward a New Vision, Patricia Hill Collins, 72	
	11. Intersectionality, Vivian M. May, 79	
	12. There Is No Hierarchy of Oppression, Audre Lorde, 85	
	13. White Privilege and Male Privilege, Peggy McIntosh, 86	
	14. Cisgender Privilege, Evin Taylor, 93	
	15. Opening Pandora's Box: Adding Classism to the Agenda, Felice Yeskel, 95	
	16. Don't Laugh, It's Serious, She Says, Ellie Mamber, 100	
	17. The Social Construction of Disability, Susan Wendell, 101	
	18. Report from the Bahamas, June Jordan, 108	
	19. Our Grandmothers, Maya Angelou, 112	
	Discussion Questions for Chapter 2, 114	
Learning Gender in a	Chapters 3 and 8	
Diverse Society	Chapter 3: Learning Gender,116	
Family Systems, Family	Gender, Culture, and Biology, 116	
Lives	Masculinity, 125	
	Femininity, 131	
	Gender Ranking, 134	
	20. The Five Sexes, Revisited, Anne Fausto-Sterling, 136	
	21. The Social Construction of Gender, Judith Lorber, 141	
	22. Unraveling Hardwiring, Cordelia Fine, 144	
	23. Trans Identities and Contingent Masculinities: Being Tombois in Everyday Practice, Evelyn Blackwood, 150	
	24. What's Up with Boys?, Christina Hoff Sommers, 156	
	25. When I Was Growing Up, Nellie Wong, 159	
	26. Through the Lens of Race: Black and White Women's Perceptions of Womanhood, Nicole T. Buchanan, 160	
	27. Wrestling with Gender, Deborah H. Brake, 173	
	Discussion Questions for Chapter 3, 180	
	Chapter 8: Family Systems, Family Lives, 433	
	Definitions of Family, 434	
	Institutional Connections, 440	
	Power and Family Relationships, 443	
	1 Ower and I anny Relationships, 445	
	and Inequality Race, Gender, Class as Categories of Analysis Learning Gender in a Diverse Society Family Systems, Family	

		62. Marriage and Love, Emma Goldman, 452
		63. Who Wants to Marry a Feminist?, Lisa Miya-Jervis, 454
		64. Family Way, Judith Warner, 456
		65. Marriage Equality: Three Essays, Gowri Vijayakumar, 459
		66. Singled Out, Tamara Winfrey Harris, 464
		67. Lullabies Behind Bars, Beth Schwartzapfel, 466
		68. My Grandmother Washes Her Feet in the Sink of the Bathroom at Sears,
		Mohja Kahf, 468
		Cheaper than a Cow, Miranda Kennedy (pdf)
		Discussion Questions for Chapter 8, 469
Week	Inscribing Gender	Chapters 4 and 6
4	on the Body	-
		Chapter 4: Inscribing Gender on the Body, 181
	Sex, Power, and	The Social Construction of the Body, 183
	Intimacy	The "Beauty" Ideal, 188
		Eating Disorders, 199
		Negotiating "Beauty" Ideals, 202
		28. Breast Buds and the Training"r; Bra, Joan Jacobs Brumberg, 205
		29. If Men Could Menstruate, Gloria Steinem, 209
		30. Prosthetic Power, Aimee Mullins, 210
		31. Beating Anorexia and Gaining Feminism, Marni Grossman, 211
		32. Ethnicity and Body Consciousness, Sonya Dal Cin, 214
		33. What We Do for Love, Rose Weitz, 221
		34. Hold That Nose, Lisa Miya-Jervis, 231
		35. Is Fat a Feminist Issue? Exploring the Gendered Nature of Weight Bias, Esther D. Rothblum, 233
		36. Bodies and Bathrooms, Dan Frosch, 245
		37. If the Clothes Fit: A Feminist Take on Fashion, Minh-Ha T. Pham, 247
		Designer Vaginas, Simone Weil Davis (pdf)
		Body Ethics and Aesthetics among African American and Latina Women, Rubin, Fitts, and Becker (pdf)
		Discussion Questions for Chapter 4, 248
		Chapter 6: Sex, Power, and Intimacy
		The Social Construction of Sexuality, 313
		The Politics of Sexuality, 323
		Intimacies, 327
		Sexual Desire and Gender, Pepper Schwartz and Virginia Rutter (pdf)
		What is Bisexuality?, Jennifer Baumgardner (pdf)
		49. The Cult of Virginity, Jessica Valenti, 334
		51. A World of Difference, Leila J. Rupp, 339
		52. Some Like Indians Endure, Paula Gunn Allen, 346
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		54. Dismantling Hierarchy, Queering Society, Andrea Smith, 354
		55. Queering Black Female Heterosexuality, Kimberly Springer, 356
		Women, Sexuality, and Social Change in the Middle East, Pinar Ilkkaracan (pdf)
		Discussion Questions for Chapter 6, 361
Week		Chapters 5 and 13
5	Media and Culture	Chapter 5: Media and Culture, 250
	Activism, Change, and	Digital Technologies, 251
	Feminist Futures	Television, 258
		Movies, 261
		Contemporary Music and Music Videos, 264
		Print Media, 266
		Literature and the Arts, 271
		38. Thinking About Shakespeare's Sister, Virginia Woolf, 276
		39. The Wife, Emily Dickinson, 278
		40. Rush Limbaugh and the New Networked Feminism, Tom Watson, 278
		41. Poetry Is Not a Luxury, Audre Lorde, 281
		42. Enlightened Sexism, Susan Douglas, 283
		43. If Women Ran Hip Hop, Aya de Leon, 287
		44. Vampires and Vixens, Jennifer Esposito, 288
		45. Don't Act Crazy, Mindy, Heather Havrilesky, 293
		46. Beyoncé: Feminist Icon?, Sophie Weiner, 296
		47. Cyberactivism and the Role of Women in the Arab Uprisings, Courtney C. Radsch, 298
		48. Bad Girl, Good Girl: Zines Doing Feminism, Alison Piepmeier, 308
		Sexting, Amanda Lenhart (pdf)
		Cyberactivism and the Role of Women in the Arab Uprisings, Courtney C. Radsch (pdf)
		Growing the Size of the Black Woman: Feminist Activism in Havana Hip Hop, Ronni Armstead (pdf)
		Discussion Questions for Chapter 5, 312
		Chapter 13: Activism, Change, and Feminist Futures, 692
		The Promise of Feminist Education, 692
		Activism, 693
		Future Visions, 707
		103. Feminist Men, Byron Hurt, 715
		104. Fear of Feminism, Lisa Marie Hogeland, 717
		105. Fracking Is a Feminist Issue, Rebecca Clarren, 720
		106. Wonder, Natalie Merchant, 722
		107. What Pussy Riot Taught the World, Michael Petrou, 723
		108. We Are the Ones We've Been Waiting For, Alexis Pauline Gumbs,

		724
		109. Warning, Jenny Joseph, 726
		Discussion Questions for Chapter 13, 727
Week	Health and	Chapters 7 and 9
6	Reproductive	Chapter 7: Health and Reproductive Justice, 362
	Justice Work Inside	Health and Wellness, 362
		Reproductive Justice, 372
	and Outside the Home	56. The Gender Gap in Pain, Laurie Edwards, 395
		57. Southern Discomfort, Carl Gaines, 396
		58. A Global Health Imperative, Nancy Fugate Woods, 400
		59. Rethinking Radical Politics in the Context of Assisted Reproductive Technology, Jennifer Parks, 407
		60. From Rights to Justice: Women of Color Changing the Face of US Reproductive Rights Organizing, Zakiya Luna, 414
		61. Freedom to Choose? Three Essays on Abortion Rights, Koerth-Baker, Ginty and Joyce, 424
		American Women and Health Disparities, David Satcher (pdf)
		The Way it Was, Eleanor Cooney (pdf)
		Women of Color and Their Struggle for Reproductive Justice, Silliman, Gerber Fried, Ross, and Gutierrez (pdf)
		Discussion Questions for Chapter 7, 431
		Chapter 9: Work Inside and Outside the Home, 470
		Unpaid Labor In the Home, 470
		Paid Labor, 477
		69. Will Marriage Equality Lead to Equal Sharing of Housework?, Terrance Heath, 500
		70. A Brief History of Working Women, Gregg Lee Carter, 503
		71. The Triumph of the Working Mother, Stephanie Coontz, 515
		72. Maid to Order, Barbara Ehrenreich, 517
		73. Color Me Nontoxic, Momo Chang, 522
		74. Virtuous Valentine? Think Again, Hannah Levintova, 524
		75. Power Plays, Martha Burk, 525
		76. The Sexist Truth About Office Romances, Peggy Drexler, 528
		77. Sex Work as a Test Case for African Feminism, Marlise Richter, 530
		The Politics of Housework, Pat Mainardi (pdf)
		Discussion Questions for Chapter 9, 536
Week	Resisting Gender	Chapters 10 and 11
7	Violence	Chapter 10: Resisting Gender Violence, 537
	State, Law, and Social	Sexual Assault and Rape, 550
	Policy	Physical Abuse, 555
		Incest, 560

Pornography, 563
78. Beyond the Politics of Inclusion, Andrea Smith, 565
79. She Said, Mariah Lockwood, 568
80. Sex Trafficking in the U.S., Rachel Chinapen, 568
81. Betrayed by the Angel, Debra Anne Davis, 571
82. How Some Men Harass Women Online and What Other Men Can Do to Stop It, Ben Atherton-Zeman, 574
83. Lisa's Ritual, Age 10, Grace Caroline Bridges, 577
84. Anti-LGBTQ Violence: Three Essays, Hobday, Signorile Gillette, 577
Human Rights: Sex Trafficking and Prostitution, Alice Leuchtag (pdf)
Deaths that Cry Out, Diana Washington Valdez (pdf)
Discussion Questions for Chapter 10, 581
Chapter 11: State, Law, and Social Policy, 582
Government and Representation, 584
Public Policy, 594
The Criminal Justice System, 598
The Military, 600
85. Constitutional Argument, Susan B. Anthony, 606
86. The Feminist Factor, Eleanor Smeal, 607
87. Name It. Change It, Rosalie Maggio, 610
88. Too Poor to Parent?, Gaylynn Burroughs, 617
89. Looking Beyond the Wall, Robert Neustadt, 620
90. Delinquent Girls, Andrea Doyle Hugmeyer, 624
91. Struggling to Find a Home, Patricia Leigh Brown, 630
92. First Morning in Exile, Aleksandra Djajic-Horvath, 633
Discussion Questions for Chapter 11, 634