San José State University
Department of Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Science

Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program
WOMS 169: Sexualities and the Body; Section 1; Fall 2016

Course and Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor:</th>
<th>Dr. Tanya Bakhru</th>
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<tr>
<td>Office Location:</td>
<td>MQ 438D</td>
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<td>Telephone:</td>
<td>408-924-5744</td>
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<td>Email:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Tanya.Bakhru@sjsu.edu">Tanya.Bakhru@sjsu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Hours:</td>
<td>M/W 12:30-1:30 and by appointment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Days/Time:</td>
<td>M/W 1:30-2:45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classroom:</td>
<td>SH 347</td>
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Course Description

This course is designed to interrogate the politics of sexuality and the body from a feminist perspective. Throughout the term we will explore various aspects of sexuality and gendered bodies including identity, community, and social movements. This class will examine the intersections of race, gender, sexuality, culture, and nation. It will provide the participant with a nuanced and in depth understanding of how sexuality is expressed in multiple ways and how gendered bodies are impacted by politics in society.

Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Describe how feminists have theorized the social constructions of sexuality.

2. Identify various aspects of gender identity and sexuality which are politicized in society and describe those processes of politicization.

3. Employ critical thinking and writing skills, particularly in dealing with issues of sex, sexuality, and gender.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Course Requirements and Assignments and Grading Information

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf.

In Class Participation: 10x10 points = 100
Ten times throughout the course you will be asked to do an in class writing response based on the readings, a film shown in class or guest speaker for that week. This is my way of assessing if you are doing your readings as well as coming to class. You cannot make up these writing responses. If you are not in class when they are assigned you will lose your points.

Class Facilitation: 1x100 = 100
One time during the course of the semester you will be asked to facilitate a class session with several of your classmates. This will require summarizing the readings, creating discussion questions for the class, making a presentation on the material for the week, and leading a discussion. More details on this assignment will follow.

Written Reading Responses 4x200 points = 800
To enhance our discussions in class you will be asked to prepare four written reading responses (3-4 pages, typed, double spaced, proof read, and include a references page) throughout the semester discussing the readings of your choice. In the papers, I want you to address three or more of the assigned readings for that week. While the form and content of the papers can vary, it is imperative that you:

1) Identify the central argument of the authors of the readings you discuss;
2) Synthesize the articles
   Synthesizing ≠ Summarizing
   How are the articles related to each other?
   What are the common themes, issues, ideas, that link them together?
3) State your response to the articles (do you agree, disagree, why, etc.);
4) Use evidence from the texts to support your own ideas.

Remember it is up to you when and on which articles you will respond. It is your responsibility to turn in four responses throughout the course of the semester. The responses are due the first day of the week of the readings to which you choose to respond.

Final: 100 points
The final for this class will be explained when assigned.

Extra Credit:
There may be events outside of class time throughout the semester, lectures, films, etc. that I will give you extra credit for attending. These opportunities will be on a TBA basis.

NOTE that University policy F69-24 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf states that “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”
Grading Policy

I grade using a point system. My grading system is very straightforward and simple. Your final grade is an accumulation of points you have earned throughout the semester. The grading scale is as follows: 900-939 = A-; 940-969 = A; 970-1000 = A+; 800-839 = B-; 840-869 = B; 870-899 = B+; 700-739 = C-; 740-769 = C; 770-799 = C+; 600-639 = D-; 640-669 = D; 670-699 = D+.

*Note that “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See University Policy F13-1 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf for more details.*

Classroom Protocol

You are expected to do all of the assigned reading for the week before class. You are expected to bring that day’s reading to class, arrive on time, and participate in class discussion by asking and answering questions. Anticipate a reading load of 30-50 pages per week.

I expect you to attend class regularly and participate in class discussions. Class will be a combination of lecture, discussion, guest speakers, and films. All activities during class time, including guest speakers, films, and discussions, are part of the class and may be part of your exams or assignments.

I have a no late work policy. Also, I do not accept any work by email. You may submit your work or take an exam early by prior arrangement.

Furthermore, students are responsible for all assignments and announcements presented in class. If you are late or absent, it is your responsibility to contact another student.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated and is a serious offense. All references must be cited. Penalties for plagiarism range from an F in the course to expulsion from the university. Students suspected of plagiarism will be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs for disciplinary action. For more information please see http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/plagiarism/

Please be aware of your conduct in class. Racist, sexist, homophobic, crude, or inappropriate remarks of any kind will not be tolerated. Respect your classmates and instructor. Always use civil discourse in class.

And lastly, please turn off all phones during class sessions. I REALLY don’t like it when students text during class!!

**Guidelines for Civil Discourse**

“Democracy is a means of living together despite our differences. Democratic deliberation is an alternative to physical violence. It is predicated on the assumption that it’s possible to disagree agreeably, that it’s better to laugh than cry, that one can vigorously contest the positions of one’s adversary without questioning his or her personal integrity or motivation, and that parties to a debate are entitled to the presumption that their views are legitimate if not correct.”

– Thomas Mann

**A Climate of Mutual Respect**

A climate of mutual respect requires free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. All
of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment or personal attack. This means opening ourselves to the lived experiences of others, which may not be our own, and treating those experiences as valid. No one is entitled to harass, discriminate, or belittle another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. On the other hand, we cannot permit ourselves to be silenced because we feel awkward discussing politically sensitive issues.

Participating as a good listener while your peers are speaking is also critical. This is your role as members of the audience. Good listening requires effort and energy; “audience member” is not a passive role. Good listening entails offering attentive, supportive nonverbal feedback, and asking questions or offering comments.

When you are involved in a class discussion reflect on the following:
Do you lead? Do you follow? Do you dominate the conversation? Are you hesitant to speak up? Are you aware of other people’s desire to join in the conversation? Do you make sure everyone has a chance to contribute? When you have an emotional reaction to something someone says, how do you handle it?

University Policies
Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ Syllabus Information web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/

WOMS 169: Sexualities and the Body
Course Schedule

*Schedule is subject to change with fair notice and how the notice will be made available.*

### Course Schedule

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>24 Aug</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course</td>
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| 2    | 29/31 Aug | Theories and Perspectives  
Nos. 1, 2, and 3                                                                 |
| 3    | 5/7 Sep | Sexual Meanings  
Nos. 5, 6, 7, and 9  
No class September 5 for Labor Day |
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| 4    | 12/14 Sep  | Sexual Bodies and Behaviors  
Nos. 10, 11, 12, and 13                                                       |
| 5    | 19/21 Sep  | Sexual Bodies and Behaviors  
Nos. 14, 15, 17, and 18                                                        |
| 6    | 28/28 Sep  | Gender and Sexuality  
Nos. 19, 20, 21, 23, 25                                                       |
| 7    | 3/5 Oct    | Intimacies  
Nos. 28, 29, 30, and 31                                                      |
| 8    | 10/12 Oct  | Sexual Identities  
Nos. 35, 36, 37, 39 and 40                                                   |
| 9    | 17/20 Oct  | Sexual Institutions and Sexual Commerce  
Nos. 43, 45, 46, 47, and 50                                                   |
| 10   | 24/27 Oct  | Sexual Cultures  
Nos. 51, 52, 53, 54, and 55                                                  |
| 11   | 31 Oct/ 2  | Sexual Regulation and Inequality  
Nov  
Nos. 57, 58, 59, 62, and 63                                                   |
|      | 2 Nov      |                                                                             |
| 12   | 7/9 Nov    | Sexual Politics  
Nos. 64, 66, 67, and 68                                                      |
| 13   | 14/16 Nov  | Sexual Politics  
Nos. 69, 70, and 71                                                         |
| 14   | 21/23 Nov  | Global and Transnational Sexualities  
Nos. 72, 73, 74, and 75                                                       |
|      |            | No class November 23 for Thanksgiving                                          |
| 15   | 28/30 Nov  | Global and Transnational Sexualities  
Nos. 75, 76, and 77                                                            |
| 16   | 5/7 Dec    | Time to catch up and Review  
12 December – Last Day of Instruction                                            |
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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