WGSS 10: Perspectives on Sex & Gender

This course is a basic introduction to the study of gender and feminist studies that takes apart many popular ideas about male and female. With readings, films, and discussion, we will consider ideas about masculinity, femininity, biology, the gender binary, gender and sexuality as cultural constructs, as well as how these ideas play out in a modern society of inequalities. How does gender interact with race, class, and sexuality? How does it affect our lives, and the world?

Like many social science courses, this class is not about providing hard and fast answers. It is about raising productive questions about women, men, and gender in a modern world, and equipping you to articulate your own views in a compelling and thoughtful manner. No prerequisites are necessary other than an interest in the subject, a willingness to consider new ideas, and a respect for views other than your own.

This is an online asynchronous course that will not have regular meetings but you will work to complete readings and assignments on your own schedule up until the given due dates. The course structure is composed of seven two-week modules. Each module contains reading, lecture, and/or film assignments that you should do the first week. The second week, there is an open-book quiz on Tuesday, and a discussion post or other activity due on Friday.

This Canvas website will be central to our class as a place of information, learning, and exchange. You will have to check in at least 2-3 times/week, so please look around now and familiarize yourself with the links. You can also get started on the “zero” module whenever you are ready.

Required Texts:
Wade & Marx Ferree, Gender: Ideas, Interactions, Institutions (W.W. Norton, 2015), available at SJSU bookstore or elsewhere online. All other required readings will be provided on Canvas.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO) - Area D (Social Sciences – Human Behavior; no prerequisites)

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

1. Place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts. (Lectures, Quizzes)
2. Identify the dynamics of ethnic, cultural, gender/sexual, age-based, class, regional, national, transnational, and global identities and the similarities, differences, linkages, and interactions between them. (Quizzes 1 & 2)
3. Evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues. (Quiz 3)
4. Recognize the interaction of social institutions, culture, and environment with the behavior of individuals. (Lectures, Quizzes 1 & 2)

We design SJSU classes with the expectation 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. That’s a total of nine hours a week you should be spending on this class.
Course Requirements

ASSIGNMENTS

40%  5 Biweekly quizzes (out of 6)
40%  6 Biweekly Discussion Post/Activity (out of 7)
20%  Final project

Final Examination
There is no final exam for this course.

Classroom Protocol
You will receive more details about all of these assignments during the semester, but generally:

• Due Dates - All assigned work is due at the time stated on Canvas. LATE work will be downgraded ten percent the first day it is late (two points off a 20pt assignment), and five percent every day thereafter. If you are having any kind of technical problem submitting an assignment, it is your responsibility to contact eCampus (ecampus@sjtu.edu or call (408) 924-2337) – contact info is also in the “Course Tools” module. If eCampus can’t help, let me know and I’ll do what I can to help.

• Quizzes – You may NOT make up a missed quiz unless you have a documented medical emergency. No exceptions. The make-up quiz may be essay or multiple-choice, at my discretion. In the rare event of a university-approved (academic) absence, you must contact me at least two weeks before the exam to make alternate arrangements.

• Grade checks – If you require a midterm grade check of any kind (athletic, EOP, fraternity/sorority, etc., personal), please complete the form linked under “Course Tools” on the Modules pages on Canvas at least a week before your deadline, and I will email your completed form to you or the designated office.

• Office hours – I will be available for office hours Mondays 2-3, Tuesdays 12-1, and by appointment. Seeing your professor during office hours is an excellent habit to establish – you can ask a question, clarify your understanding of lecture material, we can just chat about how you are doing in class, or you can ask about my daughter.

• Pronoun Use: How we refer to each other is a basic sign of respect, both names and pronouns. Students in this class will be referred to by the name and pronoun they prefer, and with the proper pronunciation, by faculty and other students. Please advise me as soon as possible if your name and pronoun differ from my course list (mysju) so that I and the class may address you properly.

Communication
Finally, please read this syllabus carefully! This is our contract for the semester and it contains all the information you need to be successful in this class. If a question comes up that is not answered here, please ask me in class or send me an email…..

Please remember that all email correspondences with the instructor must be written in a professional manner. All emails should have the course and section number in the subject heading. Each email should begin with “Dear Prof Gallardo” or “Dear Dr. Gallardo” and include a brief message that begins with your primary reason for contacting the instructor; not include shorthand, slang, or unnecessary abbreviations (e.g. LOL, wassup?, plz); and is signed with your full preferred name (e.g. – James Smith). E-mails and correspondences that do not follow this format will not receive a response. Please be advised that some emails may be answered via an email to the entire class or via an interpersonal exchange before or after class rather than via an individual
response. Allow a minimum of 24 hours for the return of emails that will be sent primarily during business hours (Monday – Friday between 9 am – 5 pm).

**Canvas (http://sjsu.instructure.com)**

You can find detailed tutorials discussing the different components of Canvas at the following links:
https://community.canvaslms.com/community/answers/guides and http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/. For problems within Canvas, please click on the word Help in the upper right corner of the screen, and select, “Report a Problem.” You can also submit an iSupport ticket by clicking on the following link:
https://isupport.sjsu.edu/ecampus.

**Plagiarism**

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified.

**University Policy & Resources**

Per [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo), which is hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Education. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

There are tons of other terrific university resources you have access to on the “Campus Resources” tab of your Canvas Modules page.
WGSS 10 Fall 2021 Course Schedule

All readings on Canvas unless stated otherwise. Subject to change at instructor’s discretion or in event of another pandemic, earthquake, flood or apocalypse.

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<th>Module</th>
<th>Week</th>
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<th>Tues</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thurs</th>
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<td>8/23</td>
<td>Intro week: Review syllabus, set schedule, start reading</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>8/30</td>
<td>Gender as a Social Construct (Reading week: Read, review, take notes)</td>
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<td>Performing Gender</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>9/27</td>
<td>Race &amp; Intersectionality</td>
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<td>Intersectionality, Masculinity &amp; Inequalities</td>
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<td>11/8</td>
<td>Home, Work &amp; Family</td>
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