

Capstone Seminar in Women's Studies

WST4935 Section 4900

Class Periods: T 5-6, R 6

Location: BEN 0328

Academic Term: Spring 2018

Instructor:

Dr Maddy Coy

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Office: Ustler 303

Office Phone Number: 352-273-0391

Office Hours: Monday 12-2, Thursday 11-12 and by appointment

Course Description

This class is the "capstone" to the Women's Studies major, an opportunity for four years of coursework to culminate in a substantial independent project that engages with and extends the intellectual agenda of the broad community of Women's Studies scholars. Our theme for the class will be 'feminist awakenings'. We will discuss and explore together the process of becoming, and living, as a feminist. The course assignments will focus on feminist awakenings and represent your intellectual contribution to this topic.

Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites

WST 3015 (Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Women's Studies)

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge of literature on feminist awakenings/becomings;
- draw on core conceptual frameworks in feminist literature, including intersectionality;
- develop research questions to build a final project;
- position themselves and their experience in relation to key debates about feminist selves.

These course objectives will be evidenced through assignments.

Materials and Supply Fees

None

Required Textbooks

Sara Ahmed (2017) *Living a Feminist Life* Durham: Durham University Press

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (2015) *We Should All Be Feminists* New York: Random House

Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, Joseph M. Williams, Joseph Bizup, William T. FitzGerald (2016) *The Craft of Research* Chicago: University of Chicago Press (4th ed.)

PDFs of additional weekly required reading will be available in Canvas

Recommended Materials

bell hooks (2000) *Feminism is for Everybody: Passionate Politics* Cambridge: South End Press

Course Schedule

Reading assignments must be completed before coming to class.

Please note that this schedule of readings is subject to minor modifications. All changes in the syllabus will be announced in class and posted via E-learning.

	Topic	Reading
Week 1 8 th Jan	Introduction	T: NONE. Welcome, introductions and discussion of course assignments R: bell hooks 'Introduction' and 'Feminist Politics: Where we Stand' in <i>Feminism is for Everybody</i>
Week 2 15 th Jan		T: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (2015) <i>We Should All Be Feminists</i> New York: Random House R: Sara Ahmed (2017) <i>Living a Feminist Life</i> 'Introduction: Bringing Feminist Theory Home'
Week 3 22 nd Jan		T & R: <i>The Craft of Research</i> : Section II 'Asking Questions, Finding Answers' pp 27-48
Week 4 29 th Jan		T: Sara Ahmed (2017) <i>Living a Feminist Life</i> ch 1 Feminism is Sensational R: Discussion of projects SUBMISSION OF PROJECT OUTLINE
Week 5 5 th Feb		T: Susan Marine and Ruth Lewis (2015) "I'm in this for real": Revisiting young women's feminist becoming <i>Women's Studies International Forum</i> 47 (A) 11-22 R: <i>The Craft of Research</i> : Ch 5 From Problems to Sources
Week 6 12 th Feb		T: Rosalind Gill (2016) Post-postfeminism? New feminist visibilities in postfeminist times. <i>Feminist Media Studies</i> , 16(4), pp. 610-630 R: Session on annotated bibliographies
Week 7 19 th Feb		T & R: Reading for final evaluation essay (TBC) SUBMISSION OF ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY
Week 8 26 th Feb		T: Claire Heuchan (2017) <i>Interracial Solidarity in the Feminist Movement</i> – #FiLiA2017 Blog on 'Sister Outrider' (link in Canvas) R: NO READING. Check in on final evaluation essay
Week 9 5 th March	SPRING BREAK	NO CLASS
Week 10		T: Sara Ahmed (2017) <i>Living a Feminist Life</i> ch 2 On Being Directed

12 th March		R: <i>The Craft of Research</i> : ch 6 Engaging Sources SUBMISSION OF FINAL EVALUATION ESSAY
Week 11 19 th March		T: Sara Ahmed (2017) <i>Living a Feminist Life</i> ch 3 Willfulness and Feminist Subjectivity R: <i>The Craft of Research</i> : Section III: Making an Argument (105-121)
Week 12 26 th March		T: Susan Marine and Ruth Lewis (2017) Mutuality without alliance: the roles of community in becoming a college student feminist <i>Gender and Education</i> Published online 22 nd June 2017 R: <i>The Craft of Research</i> : ch 12 Planning and Drafting
Week 13 2 nd April		T: Sara Ahmed (2017) <i>Living a Feminist Life</i> ch 5 Being in question R: NO READING. Discussion of final papers
Week 14 9 th April		T: Sara Ahmed (2017) <i>Living a Feminist Life</i> ch 7 Fragile Connections R: Reflections on feminist praxis
Week 15 16 th April		T: bell hooks (2000) 'Visionary Feminism' in <i>Feminism is for Everybody</i> R: Reflections on feminist praxis SUBMISSION OF FINAL PAPER
Week 16 23 rd April		T: Closing discussion and course evaluation

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy

Attendance for this class is not mandatory, but please bear in mind how missing class will affect your ability to process the content and course materials. Catching up on notes is no substitute for being part of class discussions, and absence is likely to be reflected in quality of your assignments.

If you miss class, before you come and talk to me, please make sure you have completed the readings for the class you missed and reviewed notes from a classmate. Make-up lectures will not be given during office hours but questions on readings, after you have reviewed the notes of a classmate and completed the readings on your own, are welcome and will enthusiastically be answered.

Exam: Make up exams will be offered for medical reasons and for participation in university athletic events only. Make up exams for these reasons will be offered during the instructor's office hours. No other exceptions will be considered.

I expect students to participate in class discussions and pay attention. Although no "points" are assigned as part of your grade, let's say, for example, your final grade is 895 (B+). If your class participation has been productive, your grade would be "bumped up" to an A-. If you have not participated in class, your grade would

remain at a B+. I will look for “quality” not “quantity.” In other words, your grade will not be favorably influenced by talking just to talk. I expect you to make intelligent and insightful comments in relation to the texts we will study. In addition, inattention in class, such as reading the newspaper, checking social media, and checking your phone/internet for unrelated activities also will be noted and will discourage your instructor from “bumping up” your grade.

Assignment details

There are four assignments for this course.

1. *Project outline. DUE WEEK 4 (20%)*

Your project outline should set out your research question, and how you will approach answering it. You should write this succinctly in maximum 4 pages, with a rationale for why you have chosen your research question and how it will advance knowledge on feminist becomings.

2. *Annotated bibliography. DUE WEEK 7 (20%)*

You will complete an annotated bibliography that outlines five relevant resources for your project. The articles/books should be listed in chronological order, use an established citation style of your choice, and should include brief (one long paragraph) annotations that both summarizes and analyze/evaluate the work (i.e. that includes your voice as the author). See the “Resources” link on the Canvas homepage for tips on how to prepare annotated bibliographies.

3. *Final Evaluation Essay, 3-5 pages. DUE WEEK 10 (30%)*

This assignment is required for all students in the Capstone class. You will be reading a selected article and then writing a “position paper” – meaning you will “position” yourself relative to the arguments the author lays out in the essay. Additional details will be provided on Canvas and discussed in class.

4. *Final paper on ‘living a feminist life’ DUE WEEK 15 (30%)*

You will prepare a final paper that reflects on living a feminist life. The paper should be 10-15 pages, double spaced, and will include a brief overview of your research question, reflections on feminist awakenings and becomings from the course literature (and anything else you have read). You should also discuss an activity that you have chosen to represent ‘doing feminism’ and what you have learned about ‘living a feminist life’.

Evaluation of Grades

Grading rubrics for each assignment will be in Canvas.

Assignment	Points	Percentage of Final Grade
Project outline	20	20%
Annotated bibliography	20	20%
Final evaluation essay	30	30%
Final paper	30	30%
TOTAL	100	100%

FINAL GRADE

At the end of the semester, final grades will be determined by the following formula:

94 and more points = A	80-83 points = B-	67-69 points = D+
90-93 points = A-	77-79 points = C+	64-66 points = D
87-89 points = B+	74-76 points = C	60-63 points = D-
84-86 points = B	70-73 points = C-	59 and fewer points = E

In cases where the number of points falls in between letter grades, points will be rounded to the nearest whole number.

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:
<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades>
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

UF COURSE POLICIES

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to me when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/evals>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: <http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html>

CAMPUS RESOURCES

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.

Specialist support

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

Victim Services & Rape Crisis Center 352-264-6760 Monday-Friday, 8:30AM-5PM, some services available 24/7

Peaceful Paths Domestic Abuse Network 352-377-8255 (24 hour helpline)

Report Rape Gainesville (information and support even if you do not want to make a report)

<http://www.reportrapegainesville.org/>

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.

<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/>.

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

<https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

<https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.

Student Complaints Campus: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf.

On-Line Students Complaints: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>.