

WST 3015 (20665)

## Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Women's Studies

Spring 2025

MWF 1:55PM- 2:45PM

### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Ocqua Gerlyn "OG" Murrell/ TA Isabella "Bella" Adams

Office hours: MW 3PM- 4PM in-person or virtual and by appointment; TA office hours TBD

Instructor and TA email, phone contact, office location, and zoom link are provided in the course Canvas page.

### COURSE GOALS, OUTCOMES, AND OBJECTIVES

The designations H and S in the following description reflect required UF Gen Ed Subject Area Objectives found [HERE](#) and Student Learning Outcomes found [HERE](#).

This course draws on materials and methodologies from a variety of disciplines (H, S) and explores the diverse experiences of women and gender and how they relate to age, class, race, and other aspects of people's experiences, both in past eras and in the present, in the U.S. and abroad.

NOTE: This course covers a variety of ideas and views about the topics of focus, taught as objects of analysis within the larger course of instruction. Emphasis is on critical thinking, examination of evidence, and evaluation of arguments. No lesson is intended to compel a particular feeling or belief. Endorsing or agreeing with a particular view is not expected or required.

#### Prerequisites

Critical Tracking semester 2 or greater or 3 credits of WST.

This course can count for either 3 credits of H or 3 credits of S, depending on which requirement the degree audit process identifies as needing to be filled in the students' degree program. This course does not count for 6 credits of both H and S simultaneously.

General Education Designation: Humanities (H) - Humanities courses must afford students the ability to think critically through the mastering of subjects concerned with

human culture, especially literature, history, art, music, and philosophy, and must include selections from the Western canon.

Humanities courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and theory or methodologies used within a humanities discipline or the humanities in general. Students will learn to identify and to analyze the relevant factors that shape thought. These courses emphasize clear and effective analysis and approach issues and problems from multiple perspectives.

General Education Designation: Social and Behavioral Sciences (S) - Social Science courses must afford students an understanding of the basic social and behavioral science concepts and principles used in the analysis of behavior and past and present social, political, and economic issues. Social and Behavioral Sciences is a subdesignation of Social Sciences at the University of Florida.

Social and behavioral science courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and underlying theory or methodologies used in the social and behavioral sciences. Students will learn to identify, describe and explain social institutions, structures or processes. These courses emphasize the effective application of accepted problem-solving techniques. Students will apply formal and informal qualitative or quantitative analysis to examine the processes and means by which individuals make personal and group decisions, as well as the evaluation of opinions, outcomes or human behavior. Students are expected to assess and analyze ethical perspectives in individual and societal decisions.

All General Education subject area objectives can be found [here](#).

Writing Requirement: The Writing Requirement (WR) ensures students both maintain their fluency in writing and use writing as a tool to facilitate learning.

Course grades have two components. To receive writing requirement credit, a student must receive a grade of C or higher and a satisfactory completion of the writing component of the course.

This course fulfills the 4,000-word writing requirement. I will provide feedback on the content of your writing in addition to grammar, punctuation, clarity, coherence, and organization.

The writing studio is committed to helping University of Florida students meet their academic and professional goals by becoming better writers. Visit the writing studio online at <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

More information about UF's writing requirement can be found [here](#).

## COURSE MATERIALS

- Required textbooks:
  - L. Ayu Saraswati, Barbara Shaw, and Heather Rellihan. Eds. Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Second Edition. UK: Oxford University Press, 2021.
  - Margaret Hobbs and Carla Rice. Eds. Gender and Women's Studies. Second Edition. Canada: Women's Press, 2018.
- Materials will be available through the following means: Course Canvas page •  
Materials Fees: N/A

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

A student who successfully completes this course will be able to:

- Define key terminology, concepts, theories, and methodologies in interdisciplinary perspectives on women and gender.
- Compare and evaluate claims in interdisciplinary perspectives on women and gender from different periods of time and social locations.
- Discuss knowledge, ideas, and reasoning clearly and effectively in written and oral forms.
- Analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using relevant interdisciplinary methods, and describe reasoned solutions to problems.

## ASSESSMENT AND GRADES

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the [Catalog](#).

## Graded Course Activities

Note: Additional assignment details are provided on the course Canvas page.

Attendance/Participation = 10% of final grade

Attendance/Participation is required and is worth 3 points per class. There are 39 scheduled classes for the semester. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each

class. You can accumulate 3 unexcused absences without penalty to attendance grade. Each unexcused absence thereafter will receive a 0/3 points for attendance. Students are expected to participate in all scheduled class meetings. If you must miss class, it is your responsibility to keep up with the course material.

### Introduction Video = 5% of final grade

This assignment is worth 10 points. You will introduce yourself to the professor and TA, share what you expect to learn in the class, any concerns you have about taking the class, and any information about yourself that you believe is important for us to know.

### Out-of-Class Assignments (5) = 25% of final grade

Each out-of-class assignment is worth 15 points. You will be assigned 5 out-of-class assignments throughout the semester based on the assigned readings/topics to assess your understanding of course material. Each assignment must be at least 175 words. This assignment meets 875 of the 4,000 words writing requirement for the course.

### Packback Discussions (5) = 20% of final grade

Each weekly discussion is worth 10 points. You will create an initial inquiry based on the week's materials and then respond to two classmates. Each weekly submission must be at least 175 words. This assignment meets 875 of the 4,000 words writing requirement for the course.

### Deepdive Essays (3) = 40% of final grade

Each essay is worth 100 points. Due dates are in the course schedule. Each essay will have its own requirements and guiding questions. Essays are to be 750 words each. This assignment meets 2,250 of the 4,000 words writing requirement for the course.

### Grading Scale and Policies

More information about UF grading policy:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academicregulations/grades-grading-policies/>

A minimum grade of C is required for general education credit. More information on UF grading policy can be found [here](#).

Letter Grade	Points
A	100-93

A-	92-90
B+	89-87
B	86-83
B-	82-80
C+	79-77
C	76-73
C-	72-70
D+	69-67
D	66-63
D-	62-60
E	<59

## COURSE CALENDAR

This calendar is subject to change for pedagogical or logistical reasons. To the extent possible, students will be notified in advance of any such changes.

Week	Topic	Readings/Preparation	Work Due
1	Mapping & Introduction to the Field	Syllabus HR Chapter 1, 2, 4 SSR Chapter 1, 2, 8	Introduction Video
2	Mapping & Introduction to the Field	HR Chapter 5, 6 SSR Chapter 7, 10, 26, 59	Packback #1
3	Epistemologies of Bodies	HR Chapter 9, 10 Feinberg (1992) SSR Chapter 3, 6	Out-of-Class Activity #1
4	Epistemologies of Bodies	HR Chapter 12, 13, 14, 15 SSR Chapter 53	Packback #2
5	Epistemologies of Bodies	HR Chapter 17, 20	Out-of-Class Activity #2
6	Epistemologies of Bodies	HR Chapter 45 SSR Chapter 64, 65, 58	Essay #1
7	Rethinking the Family	HR Chapter 21 SSR Chapter 35, 36	Packback #3
8	Gender & Sexuality in the Labor Market	HR Chapter 60, 61 SSR Chapter 37, 38, 39	Out-of-Class Activity #3

9	Reproductive Politics	HR Chapter 54,48 SSR Chapter 41, 42	Packback #4
10	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break
11	Gendered Violence	HR Chapter 56 SSR Chapter 45, 46, 47	Essay #2
12	Pop Culture	HR Chapter 46 SSR Chapter 50, 90	Packback #5
13	Media Representations	HR Chapter 33, 27	Out-of-Class Activity #4
14	Science, Technology, & the Digital World	SSR Chapter 70-77	Out-of-Class Activity #5
Week	Topic	Readings/Preparation	Work Due
15	Activism & Agency	HR Chapter 57, 76	Essay #3

## UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND RESOURCES

### Attendance policy

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

### Students requiring accommodation

Students who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting

<https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

### UF course evaluation process

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <http://gatorevals.afl.edu/students>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <http://gatorevals.afl.edu/public-results/>.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For a list of additional campus resources, see section C 5 here:

Spring 2025 (WST 3015- Murrell)

<https://syllabus.ufl.edu/media/syllabusufledu/UFSyllabusPolicy20240806.pdf>