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## **WST3415: TRANSNATIONAL FEMINISM**

**DAYS/TIMES** TUESDAY 10:40AM-11:30AM/THURSDAY 10:40AM-12:35PM  
**LOCATION** TUESDAY - FAB 0105/THURSDAY - NRN 1020 | **TERM** SPRING 2023

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Instructor: Ecem Ece

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Department: Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies - <https://wst.ufl.edu/>

Office Hours: TBA, and by appointment either in Ustler Hall 102A or via Zoom

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### **Course Description & Purpose of the Course:**

As many activists and scholars have pointed out, the idea of a united, global sisterhood coming from U.S. and European contexts has often assumed shared visions of women's and queers' equality, as well as shared priorities for organizing. Early feminism often failed to address differences across women with respect to race, class, sexuality, nationality, and colonial history. Debates about women's and queers' lived experiences had largely homogenized and westernized narratives. Transnational feminism(s) challenged feminist frameworks that erase differences within and between national contexts by addressing the political and economic systems shaping women's oppression and the ways that live in some places of the globe shape the lived experience of "elsewhere." Understanding how knowledge is produced in different contexts offers a more complex and complete picture of women and women's movements.

Women and feminism in a transnational perspective, focusing on various theories and movements engendered by women in contemporary national contexts. Course readings will explore the ethics of cross-cultural knowledge production, across borders collaborations, movement organizing, the commodification of bodies, sexualities, building bridges between activism and academia, and violence of trafficking, terrorism, and war from a transnational feminist perspective. Examples will provide insights into the complexities of addressing these issues in a transnational context: how do differences of class, national origin, race, and sexualities affect women's experiences in organizing for social justice? How do power relations between individuals and collectives, both within nations and across them, influence prospects for solidarity and collaboration? This course will also challenge 'Western' feminists to locate and situate themselves and examine their own position within systems that connect the (often uneven) exchange of persons, capital, and ways of knowing.

### **Content Notice:**

Some of the course materials in this class include explicit depictions and/or descriptions of nudity, sexual acts, and physical violence. In addition, some materials describe experiences of sexual-, gender-, and race-based trauma. I have assigned these works to facilitate learning about women's lives, gender, and sexuality. If you believe

engagement with these materials would likely cause you significant discomfort, it may be in your interest to drop the course.

**Disclaimer:**

Students are encouraged to employ critical thinking and to rely on data and verifiable sources to interrogate all assigned readings and subject matter in this course as a way of determining whether they agree with their classmates and/or their instructor. No lesson, including content materials and discussions, is intended to espouse, promote, advance, inculcate, or compel a particular feeling, perception, viewpoint, or belief.

**Course Pre-Requisites/Co-Requisites:** None.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Understanding gender as a central category of analysis that informs the way social structures and global structures are legitimized and normalized;
2. Analyzing historical and contemporary systems of privilege and oppression, with specific attention to the ways gender intersects with race, class/ caste, ethnicity, sexuality, religion, and nationality;
3. Thinking critically about how colonialism and globalization have shaped gender and sexualities;
4. Exploring the relationship between the global and the local.

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course, students will be expected to:

- define and distinguish between global, international, and transnational feminism;
- articulate key features of globalization and colonialism with respect to their impact on women's inequality;
- reflect on unequal relationships between the West - the East, and the South - the North through a range of specific issues;
- demonstrate a critical awareness of the ethics of transnational processes of knowledge production;
- communicate core concepts of feminism with an intersectional analysis of gender, race, class, and sexuality, using appropriate language and academic conventions.

**Course Materials:**

***Materials and Supply Fees***

None.

***Required Textbook***

None.

***Other Assigned Course Materials***

PDFs of weekly required reading will be available in Canvas.

## **Course Requirements:**

### ***1. Attendance (20%)***

Students are required to attend class sessions. 20% of the final grade will be on attendance.

### ***2. Participation (20%)***

Participation is required and contributes to your final overall grade in this course. Each participation is worth 1 point; every time you talk in the classroom, you earn 1 point. 20 times of participation are included in your final grade.

The number of times of participation will be followed by the participation sheet, which will be provided by the instructor every class. **Please remember to write your names and mark your participation point on the participation sheet during or at the end of each class session.**

### ***3. Reading Notes (25%)***

Students must submit reading notes on each assigned reading **the day before the class** by 11.59 pm. The due is every Monday and Wednesday, depending on the number of assigned readings.

Each reading note is worth 2 points:

- 1.5 points for the notes on the reading (2 pages at minimum, 12 font, Times New Roman or similar, double-spaced)
- 0.5 points for the questions on the reading (2 questions at minimum)

### ***4. Discussion & Response Posts (25%)***

Students are expected to write four discussion posts on a given theme or question(s) in the instructions published for each discussion assignment. Moreover, students must write a response to one of their colleagues' discussion posts. **The due for discussion posts will vary. The due dates are published on Canvas. For the changes, please follow and pay attention to Canvas' notifications for due dates.**

### ***5. Group Presentation: Analyzing a Transnational (Art)Work (10%)***

Groups of students will present a transnational feminist analysis of a chosen (art)work. Details of the assignment and related instructions are posted on Canvas.

Requirements	Points	Total Points	%
Attendance x 27	1 (each)	27	20
Participation x 20	1 (each)	20	20
Reading Notes x 15	2 (each)	30	25
Discussion Posts + Peer Responses x 4	6+2 (each)	32	25
Group Presentation	10	10	10
Total grade		119	100

### **Course Policies:**

#### ***Attendance Policy and Class Expectations***

Attendance for this class is mandatory and contributes to your grade. Please also 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 the 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.

**Without exceptions**, all students are equally required to complete the course assignments and requirements. The due dates for all the assignments are noted on the course schedule (see pp. 8-9). For the changes, please follow and pay attention to Canvas' notifications for due dates.

This course is designed to be a **safe space** for each individual where all students are welcome to share their own ideas while being respectful of others. This course includes sensitive subjects through which people share their personal experiences. Sharing personal experiences may make individuals feel vulnerable. In that case, I expect **all students** to show utmost courtesy to each other and care not to perform any kinds of aggression or interrupting behavior.

#### ***Make-Up Policy***

Make-up assignments can be provided under two conditions. First, a student should inform the instructor of the inconvenience before missing the assignment. If the inconvenience is sudden and unexpected, the student is responsible for informing the instructor within 48 hours following the deadline of the assignment. Second, make-up will only be provided in **documented** excuses. Please do not ask for make-

up unless you have a signed document for your missing submission. Students should provide a signed document proving the student's excuse(s). If the student does not fulfill these two conditions (both of them at the same time), make-up may not be offered.

No make-up can be provided for the participation points. Therefore, students need to participate in the following class discussions to compensate for missing participation.

### ***Late-Submission Policy***

Students are required to complete the course requirements, including assignments, in time. Late assignments without prior notice will be considered following the conditions of make-up assignments. Students may ask for extensions before the due dates of the assignments if they have legit excuses. If you submit a late assignment, you may not get full credit.

### ***Grading Policy***

Grade	Percent		Grade	Percent
A	94-100		C	74-76
A-	90-93		C-	70-73
B+	87-89		D+	67-69
B	84-86		D	64-66
B-	80-83		D-	60-63
C+	77-79		E	59- Below

### **University of Florida Policies:**

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies. For more information, please visit <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center: <https://disability.ufl.edu/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.

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 <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.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 <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

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 Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Click here to read the Conduct Code: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor in this class.

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A "class lecture" is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To "publish" means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

### **UF Campus Resources:**

#### ***Health and Wellness***

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit <https://umatter.ufl.edu/> to refer or report a concern, and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit <https://counseling.ufl.edu/> or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit <https://shcc.ufl.edu/>.

University Police Department: Visit <https://police.ufl.edu/> or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room/Trauma Center: For immediate medical care, call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit <https://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center>.

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit <https://gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu/> or call 352-273-4450.

### *Academic Resources*

E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk (<https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>) at 352-392-4357 or via email at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services (<https://career.ufl.edu/>).

Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources (<https://uflib.ufl.edu/>).

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment at 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring (<https://academicresources.clas.ufl.edu/>).

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers (<https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>).

Student Complaints On-Campus: Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-%20code-student-conduct-code/>).

On-Line Students Complaints: View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process (<https://distance.ufl.edu/state-authorization-status/#student-complaint>).

**Course Schedule<sup>i</sup>:**

<b>Week #</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Due Dates &amp; Assignments</b>
Week 1 (Jan. 12)	Welcome & Syllabus Discussion	
Week 2 (Jan. 17-21)	History of Feminism	Workshop
Week 3 (Jan. 23-28)	What is Transnational Feminism?	Jan. 23: Reading Notes#1 Jan. 25: Reading Notes#2
Week 4 (Jan. 30- Feb. 4)	Feminist Geopolitics & Culture	Jan. 31: Discussion Assignment#1 Feb. 1: Reading Notes#3 Feb. 2: Assigning Groups for Presentations
Week 5 (Feb. 6-11)	Feminist Research & Knowledge Production I	Feb. 6: Reading Notes#4 Feb. 8: Reading Notes#5
Week 6 (Feb. 13-18)	Feminist Research & Knowledge Production II	Feb. 13: Reading Notes#6 Feb. 15: Reading Notes#7
Week 7 (Feb. 20-25)	Feminist Activist Praxis & Solidarity	Feb. 21: Discussion Assignment#2 Feb. 22: Reading Notes#8
Week 8 (Feb. 27- Mar. 4)	Transnational Activism I	Feb. 27: Reading Notes#9 Mar. 1: Reading Notes#10 Mar. 2: Groups' decisions on the art piece
Week 9 (Mar. 6-10)	Transnational Activism II	Mar. 6: Reading Notes#11 Mar. 8: Reading Notes#12
Week 10 (Mar. 20-25)	Transnational Activism III	Mar. 23: Discussion Assignment#3
Week 11 (Mar. 27- Apr. 1)	Transnational Sexualities	Mar. 27: Reading Notes#13
Week 12 (Apr. 3-8)	Violence I	Apr. 3: Reading Notes#14
Week 13 (Apr. 10-15)	Violence II	Apr. 10: Reading Notes#15 Apr. 14: Discussion Assignment#4
Week 14 (Apr. 17-22)	Group Presentations	
Week 15 (Apr. 24-26)	Reflections on the Future of Transnational Feminism	

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<sup>i</sup> All readings, assignments, and assessment tools are subject to change. Some readings or assignments may be added or deleted with prior notice from the instructor.