

WST4349 & WST6348: Ecofeminism

CLASS MEETINGS FROM 1/09/24 - 4/23/24

T | Period 7 (1:55 PM - 2:45 PM) in LIT 0233 and R | Period 7 - 8 (1:55 PM - 3:50 PM) in LIT 0207

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A holistic framework for understanding the connections between environmental, feminist and social justice issues. This course critically analyzes positions within ecofeminist theory. Teamwork, presentations, and a class project are important components of the course.

There is a significant writing component for students enrolled in WST4349 that meets the 4000 words Writing Requirement (WR).

- The Writing Requirement (WR) ensures students both maintain their fluency in writing and use writing as a tool to facilitate learning.
- The instructor will evaluate and provide feedback before the end of the course on all of the student's written assignments with respect to grammar, punctuation, clarity, coherence, and organization.
- **WR 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 – see evaluation rubric below.**

Learning Objectives

1. Identify historical evolution of ecofeminism as a discipline and a social movement
2. Analyze arguments by key stakeholders (through literature, policy documents, white papers, social movements)
3. Develop and expand upon critical and innovative solutions in ecology and sustainability
4. Apply core concepts from ecology, sustainability, and social justice to local community initiatives

Instructor: Dr. Anita Anantharam

Email: aanita@ufl.edu

Office Location: ANDERSON HALL Room 107C (Inside the Department of Religion main office)

Office hours availability: Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9am-10am, & by zoom appointment.

Required Readings: Readings available via course reserves and/or as PDFs on Canvas

Additional Resources

- Princeton Climate Initiative: <https://psi.princeton.edu/tips> [lots of short blog posts and articles on climate change and how it is affected by different industries]
- Gala Cases: <https://www.learn gala.com> [create a free account to access cases]
- University Writing Studio (www.writing.ufl.edu)

SCHEDULE OF READINGS

SCHEDULE OF READINGS BY DATE		
<p>Breakdown of weekly topics and required readings are provided below. Please note that readings should be completed <u>PRIOR</u> to class on the dates listed below.</p>		
CLASS MEETING	WHAT WE WILL COVER IN CLASS	NOTES/ASSESSMENT/WHAT IS DUE FOR GRADE
Week 1 topics covered:		
T 9 - JANUARY	Intro to course/logistics	
R 11	Intro to ecofeminism	
Week 2 topics covered:		
T 16	Project / Research logistics Presentation sign ups	Review resources & GALA cases
R 18	Warren	Presentation 1 / Precis 1
Week 3 topics covered:		
T 23	Warren	
R 25	Warren	Presentation 2 / Precis 2
Week 4 topics covered:		
T 30	Taylor	
R 1 – FEBRUARY	Taylor	Presentation 3 / Precis 3

Week 5 topics covered:		
T 6	Taylor	
R 8	Taylor	Presentation 4 / Precis 4
Week 6 topics covered:		
T 13	Finney et al.	
R 15	Project / Research Day	
Week 7 topics covered:		
T 20	Herring	
R 22	Mortimer-Sandilands	Presentation 5 / Precis 5
Week 8 topics covered:		
T 27	Bullard & Wright	
R 29 – LEAP YEAR!	Barron	Presentation 6 / Precis 6
Week 9 topics covered:		
T 5 – MARCH	Grimmer	
R 7	Project / Research Day	
Week 10 - SPRING BREAK		
T 12 – BREAK	NO CLASS	

R 14—BREAK	NO CLASS	
Week 11 topics covered:		
T 19	Saporito and Casey	
R 21	Pulido et. al	Presentation 7 / Precis 7
Week 12 topics covered:		
T 26	Pastor et. al	
R 28	Whyte	Presentation 8 / Precis 8
Week 13 topics covered:		
T 02 – APRIL	Patel	
R 04	Patel	Presentation 9 / Precis 9
Week 14 topics covered: Presentation of Research		
T 09	Final Project Presentations	
R 11	Final Project Presentations	
Week 15 topics covered: Presentation of Research		
T 16	Final Project Presentations	
R 18	Final Project Presentations	WST 6358: Annotated bibliography + Research statement WST 4349: Project/Research paper due

Week 16 topics covered: Last day of class		
T 23 -	Capstone discussion	

Bibliography – Full bibliography is available on Canvas

- *Ecofeminism: Women, Culture, Nature*, by Karen J. Warren (E-book; e-reserve)
- *A History of the World in Seven Cheap Things: A Guide to Capitalism, Nature, and the Future of the Planet*, by Raj Patel (E-book; select chapters)
- *The Rise of the American Conservation Movement: Power, Privilege, and Environmental Protection*, by Dorceta Taylor (E-book; select chapters)
- “Out of the Closets, Into the Woods: RFD, Country Women, and the Post-Stonewall Emergence of Queer Anti-Urbanism” by Scott Herring (American Quarterly)
- “Unnatural Passions? Notes Toward a Queer Ecology” by Catriona Mortimer-Sandilands
- *Staying Alive*, by Vandana Shiva (Intro and Chapter 1)
- *Environmentalism and Positionality*, by Laura Pulido and Devon Peña
- *Environment, Disaster, and Race After Katrina*, by Manuel Pastor, Robert Bullard, James K. Boyce, Alice Fothergill, Rachel Morello-Frosch, and Beverly Wright
- *The Politics of Pollution: Implications for the Black Community*, by Robert D. Bullard and Beverly Hendrix Wright
- *Remediating a Sense of Place*, by Melanie Barron
- *Racial Microbiopolitics*, by Chelsea Grimmer
- *Are There Relationships Among Racial Segregation, Economic Isolation, and Proximity to Green Space?*, by Salvatore Saporito and Daniel Casey
- *Race and Parks*, by Carolyn Finney, Wairimū Njambi, Audrey Peterman, and William O’Brien
- *Settler Colonialism, Ecology, and Environmental Injustice*, by Kyle Whyte
- *The domestic geopolitics of racial capitalism*, by Pavithra Vasudevan and Sara Smith

COMPONENTS OF GRADING

There are different requirements for students enrolled in the WST4349 section vs. WST6358 section of this class.

Course assessments (WST4349)

10%: Participation and attendance

40%: 9 Weekly Precis (~250 words, Title, Name, Date in header, 1-page, single-spaced)

30%: Project/Research Writeup (~1500 - 2000 words) + outline (500 words) for feedback

20%: 2 Presentations (10% each – one presentation that is based on a reading we will discuss in class and one presentation that is based on your project/research)

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR WST4349

- 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.
- Your weekly precis, your abstract/outline assignment, and your project paper will be evaluated with respect to grammar, punctuation, clarity, coherence, and organization; I will provide feedback on your writing so you can improve on your work. If you need additional guidance, or discuss your work in greater detail, please set up time to meet with me during office hours.
- A sample writing rubric as well how to write a precis will be provided under course files
- All assignment word-counts and submission deadlines are provided in the course schedule and on the course calendar.

Attendance and Participation: Attendance and participation in each class is mandatory. This is a discussion-based class and students are expected to engage the material in whatever manner they feel is most comfortable.

Precis: A précis does not offer evaluations about a text, nor does it include personal reaction to a text. Precis should help demonstrate how well you understood a text.

Presentations: one presentation is team based – paired/grouped with others in the class. One presentation is about your individual/final project.

Research/Project: In this research project you are asked to grapple with public debates around a broad range of economic, political, and social issues and show how feminism with focus on ecology/sustainability matters today more than ever.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work are consistent with university policies specified [here](#).

WR Component - Grading Rubric(s)

Writing Assessment Rubric and Statements

	SATISFACTORY (Y)	UNSATISFACTORY (N)
CONTENT	Papers exhibit at least some evidence of ideas that respond to the topic with complexity, critically evaluating and synthesizing sources, and provide at least an adequate discussion with basic understanding of sources.	Papers either include a central idea(s) that is unclear or off-topic or provide only minimal or inadequate discussion of ideas. Papers may also lack sufficient or appropriate sources.
ORGANIZATION AND COHERENCE	Documents and paragraphs exhibit at least some identifiable structure for topics, including a clear thesis statement but may require readers to work to follow progression of ideas.	Documents and paragraphs lack clearly identifiable organization, may lack any coherent sense of logic in associating and organizing ideas, and may also lack transitions and coherence to guide the reader.

ARGUMENT AND SUPPORT	Documents use persuasive and confident presentation of ideas, strongly supported with evidence. At the weak end of the Satisfactory range, documents may provide only generalized discussion of ideas or may provide adequate discussion but rely on weak support for arguments.	Documents make only weak generalizations, providing little or no support, as in summaries or narratives that fail to provide critical analysis.
STYLE	Documents use a writing style with word choice appropriate to the context, genre, and discipline. Sentences should display complexity and logical sentence structure. At a minimum, documents will display a less precise use of vocabulary and an uneven use of sentence structure or a writing style that occasionally veers away from word choice or tone appropriate to the context, genre, and discipline.	Documents rely on word usage that is inappropriate for the context, genre, or discipline. Sentences may be overly long or short with awkward construction. Documents may also use words incorrectly.
MECHANICS	Papers will feature correct or error-free presentation of ideas. At the weak end of the Satisfactory range, papers may contain some spelling, punctuation, or grammatical errors that remain unobtrusive so they do not muddy the paper's argument or points.	Papers contain so many mechanical or grammatical errors that they impede the reader's understanding or severely undermine the writer's credibility.

- The Writing Requirement (WR) ensures students both maintain their fluency in writing and use writing as a tool to facilitate learning.
- The instructor will evaluate and provide feedback before the end of the course on all of the student's written assignments with respect to grammar, punctuation, clarity, coherence, and organization.
- **WR 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.**

Course assessments (WST6348)

10%: Participation and attendance

40%: 10 Weekly Precis (~350 words, Title, Name, Date in header, max 2 pages, single-spaced)

30%: Research statement—literature review + annotated bibliography

20%: 2 Presentations (10% each based on a reading we will discuss in class)

For both undergraduate and graduate sections grades will be assigned on the following scale:

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 00-59

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

GRAD CATALOG: <https://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/graduate/regulations/>

UNDERGRAD CATALOG: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Attendance and Participation: Attendance and participation in each class is mandatory. This is a discussion-based class and students are expected to engage the material in whatever manner they feel is most comfortable, but you are expected to come to class ready/prepared to engage with the assigned material. Missing more than 2 classes without a valid documentation will result in a downgrading of your participation grade from 100% to 90%, and so on.

Precis: A précis does not offer evaluations about a text, nor does it include personal reaction to a text. Précis should help demonstrate how well you understood a text.

Presentations: Graduate students are expected to present on course readings on 2 different occasions of their choosing.

Research statement: Draft a research statement on how the works studied in this class contribute to your chosen MA/PhD research in your field.

UF COURSE POLICIES FOR ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THIS CLASS

Attendance: Attendance in this class is mandatory and we will be taking regular attendance. *If you miss class on the day of an assignment or presentation, extensions will be allowed for medical reasons or participation in official university events/athletics only. There will be no exceptions to this rule.* For additional information on the University attendance policy, please see: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

Students Requiring Accommodations: Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (<https://disability.ufl.edu>) 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 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.aa.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/> .

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 at 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>