

WST 3930

FEMINIST FUTURES/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Spring 2021
class number 25703
fully asynchronous online
last updated 1/12/21

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“What can you do with a BA in Women’s Studies?” Plenty! With a women’s studies education, you gain a deep understanding of gender, race, sexuality, and other systems of power, how they operate, and how to transform them to promote liberation, justice, and feminist futures! This brand new one-credit online class will help students connect their undergraduate degree to meaningful postgraduate employment and/or advanced study. Students will also develop elevator pitches, cover letters, and résumés, and will have the opportunity for peer and instructor feedback on these portfolio items.
(WST: SS/HUM/or toward 4940)

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Identify personal strengths, skills, and areas for growth
- Articulate their interests and skills effectively to potential employers or graduate schools.
- Apply principles of a Women’s Studies education to career prospects.
- Create a clear résumés and strong cover letter

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS FOR AN ASYNCHRONOUS COURSE

Minimum technology requirements

The University of Florida expects students entering an online program to acquire computer hardware and software appropriate to his or her degree program. Most computers are capable of meeting the following general requirements. A student’s computer configuration should include:

- Webcam
- Microphone
- Speakers or headphones
- Broadband connection to the Internet and related equipment (Cable/DSL modem)
- Your instructor might request that you obtain the [Iclicker Cloud \(Reef\)](#) (free for

- students) to respond to polls and in-class quizzes
- Microsoft Office Suite installed (provided by the university)

Individual colleges may have additional requirements or recommendations, which students should review prior to the start of their program.

Minimum technical skills

To complete your tasks in this course, you will need a basic understanding of how to operate a computer, how to use Zoom, and how to use word processing software. We may also use Flipgrid and Perusall, but instructions for how to do so will be provided.

Zoom: Zoom is an easy-to-use video conferencing service available to all UF students, faculty, and staff that allows for meetings of up to 100 participants. You can find resources and help using Zoom at <https://ufl.zoom.us>. See also the orientation module

Technology resources

For issues with technical difficulties for Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>
- ☎ (352) 392-HELP (4357)
- Walk-in: HUB 132

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues should be accompanied by the ticket number received from the Help Desk when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You should e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Privacy & accessibility policies

For information about the privacy policies of the tools used in this course, see the links below:

- Instructure (Canvas)
 - [Privacy Policy](#)
 - [Accessibility](#)
- Zoom
 - [Privacy Policy](#)
 - [Accessibility](#)

ADDITIONAL COURSE AND UF POLICIES

Course technology

All students are required to access course materials on Canvas via [e-learning](#). Additionally, I expect you to check your UF email daily for any updates I send out.

Attendance and make-up work

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 online [catalog](#).

Regardless of whether you are an onsite or online student, attendance is not required, but it is very strongly recommended. Among other benefits, you will perform better on written assignments if you have participated in Discussion. In addition to attending class, please come prepared to engage with the material and to participate in the class discussion. This means you should do the readings assigned for that day *before* you attend class.

Late policy

You may not receive extensions on work in the class or take make-up exams, except in the most extraordinary circumstances (in which you will need documentation from the Dean's Office or Health Services). **Work which is turned in late for any other reason will lose five percent of its points for each day that it is late.** The "day late" begins immediately after the time the assignment is due.

Netiquette and communication courtesy

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy during, before, and after class, in all email messages, threaded discussions, and chats. Be on time. If you join the class session remotely, try and join the session at least 5 minutes before the class starts. Before your very first class session, try joining about 10-15 minutes to make sure that everything works.

Academic etiquette

Respect for opinions voiced in class is essential and I expect everyone to treat each other professionally. In order for us to learn from each other, we have to allow each other to make mistakes, and to offer unpopular positions for debate. However, name-calling, other forms of verbal harassment, sexual harassment and microaggressions will not be tolerated and will result in being asked to leave the class.

UF Academic Integrity

This course will subscribe to the University of Florida Student Honor Code. A central part of the UF Honor Code is the Honor Pledge: *"The Honor Pledge: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Student 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."* Further information about the UF Honor Code and guidelines for Academic Honesty are [here](#). In this course, plagiarism or cheating of any kind will not be tolerated and will result in failing the course and other disciplinary action. In all instances, you must do your own work. There is no excuse for plagiarism, or for submitting another's work, ideas, or wording as your own. This includes using direct quotes from online sources without citation or submitting a paper you bought but did not write. Ignorance is not an excuse. Please be aware that there are various anti-plagiarism techniques available for use by University of Florida faculty that enables faculty members to determine if research papers have been plagiarized. There is a difference

between plagiarism and collaboration. Collaboration, for purposes of this class, is the act of discussing ideas with classmates, debating issues, and examining readings from the class together so that each of you arrives at your own independent thought. Collaboration in this class is encouraged.

Student conduct code and sexual harassment

This course also operates under UF's Student Conduct Code. The Student Conduct Code is a set of standards and regulations which describe the rights, privileges, and responsibilities for all currently enrolled students at the University of Florida. For more information, click [here](#). UF provides an educational and working environment for its students, faculty, and staff that is free from sex discrimination and sexual harassment. For more information, see [UF policies regarding harassment](#). Furthermore, in order to make this an effective course for everyone, all participants will be expected to meet the professional standards of integrity expected for members of the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research. This means I expect all participants to interact with peers "professionally," meaning with honesty, ethical behavior, cultural sensitivity, teamwork, and effective communication. Additionally, I expect all course participants will fulfill work obligations in a thoughtful and timely way, and display collegiality and sensitivity to faculty and other students.

UF gender equity

The Office for Accessibility and Gender Equity provides support to anyone affected by sexual or gender-based misconduct, harassment, or discrimination. Please know that both your instructor and TA in this course are considered Officials with Authority who are required to report violations of the gender equity policy. "Title IX is a federal law that requires officials with the authority to take action, to report violations of the gender equity policy. Officials with authority must report these violations to the Title IX Coordinator or their deputies. The obligation to report applies whenever an Official with Authority receives, in the course and scope of employment, information about the alleged misconduct and policy violation. The report must include all information known to the employee which would be relevant to an investigation or redress of the incident, including whether the alleged victim has expressed a desire for confidentiality." For further information, including how to make a report, click [here](#). Below are some specialist support services. You might not need them, but you might know someone who does. For specialist support in the aftermath of sexual assault, the Office of Victim Services on campus offer confidential, free support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Office of Victim Services

1515 Museum Road, (352) 392-5648 (Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)
(352) 392-1111 (after business hours and on weekends)

Alachua County 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)

Accommodations

The University of Florida is committed to providing equal educational access to students with disabilities. The Disability Resource Center (DRC) collaborates with campus partners to facilitate access and inclusion for Gators with disabilities. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the [UF Disability Resource Center](#) (0001 Building 0020-Reid Hall, accessuf@dso.ufl.edu; Voice 352-392-8565; Fax, 352-392-8570) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be

presented to the instructor when requesting accommodations. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. Information for students from the DRC is available [here](#). In this course, I am committed to providing equitable education access through reasonable accommodations as outlined in your accommodation letter. Please notify me within the first two weeks of class about any accommodations needed for the course. Late notification may cause the requested accommodation to be unavailable.

Community resources

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor are available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helpful resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1. Here are additional resources:

- Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit shcc.ufl.edu.
- UF Health Shands Emergency Room/Trauma Center: For immediate medical care in Gainesville, call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center.

Extra course fees

There are no additional fees for this course.

Academic resources

The following are academic resources that may be helpful for completing this course:

- [E-learning technical support](#) - 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or email to Learning-support@ufl.edu. [Student help FAQs](#)
- [Library support](#) - Ask-a-librarian. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources
- [Teaching Center](#) - Broward Hall, (352) 392-2010 or 392-6420. Study skills workshops, study groups, and tutoring.
- [University Writing Studio](#) - 2215 Turlington Hall, (352) 846-1138, The UF Writing Program offers all UF students help in the ongoing process of becoming better writers. One-on-one tutoring, online tutoring, and workshops.
- [Career Connections Center](#) - 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

Evaluations

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 Elearning/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/>

Reading, writing, and study time

University courses, in general, are designed such that *every hour in class is expected to be accompanied by at least 3 hours of study outside of class*. Given that this is a one-credit class, you should plan to spend 3-4 hours/week on this course.

REQUIRED READINGS

Book

Berger, M. T. & Radeloff, C. L. (2015). *Transforming Scholarship: Why Women's and Gender Studies Students are Changing Themselves and the World*, 2nd Ed. New York: Routledge. [referred to as TS in the weekly schedule; you may purchase this book or access through library reserves on Canvas]

Article (available on Canvas through weekly module)

- [Adrienne Rich Claiming an Education](#)

ASSIGNMENTS

Beyond120 trainings

We will make good use of the trainings from the *Beyond120* program to develop skills in communication, professional materials, interviewing, networking and references, attending academic conferences, research writing, and goal setting. Upon completion of each training, you will need to upload a screenshot of the completion page.

Activities

You will get to complete some activities to reflect on your skills, create (or update) your résumé and cover letter, and peer review classmates' materials.

Personal Reflections

Reflection assignments will provide an opportunity for you to consider how the material from the reading and the trainings apply to your own life and goals.

Discussion Boards

Discussion boards are a place to share your thinking and materials with the class and to provide and get feedback. More instructions, and specific prompts for the different discussions, are on Canvas.

GRADING

Please be aware that the level of effort you put into the class may not correspond to the quality of your work (which is the basis of your grades for assignments). To earn a good grade, you will be expected to do the work and meet the expectations for good quality work outlined in course assignment guidelines and discussed in class. There are 100 points possible in the class.

SUMMARY OF GRADING PERCENTAGE POINTS

Assignment	Point value	Number of assignments	Total points accruable
<i>Beyond120</i> Trainings	4	7	28
Activities	8-12	3	32
Personal Reflections	5	4	20
Discussion Boards	5	4	20
Total			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.

IMPORTANT GRADE NOTE

A grade of C- will not qualify for credit toward a major, minor, Gen Ed, Gordon Rule or College Basic Distribution credit. For more information, see "Grades and Grading Policies" at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Consider adding a (second) major in Women's Studies!

Do you want to learn about issues of diversity, power, equity, and justice and gain the scholarly knowledge and skills to change the world? Adding the Women's Studies major can deepen your critical thinking, analysis, and skills in intersectional feminist approaches to **studying and transforming gender, race, class, sexualities and other systems of power**. The Women's Studies major shows graduate schools and employers that you bring advanced knowledge and skills about diversity and equity issues. The 30-credit Women's Studies major consists of four core courses and six electives. It's simple to combine with another major, and up to 15 credits can double count with another degree (English, Psychology, and Sociology in particular have many courses that can double count). It's also the perfect complement to pre-health studies. Contact undergraduate coordinator Dr. Alyssa Zucker (azucker@ufl.edu) to make an appointment to discuss adding the major.

SCHEDULE

Week	Date work due	Topic	Reading	Due
1	1/15	Introductions		Discussion 1: Introductions
2	1/22	Women's Studies education	Rich	Reflection 1
3	1/29	Talking about Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies (GSWS)	TS Chapter 3 (begin)	Beyond 120: Communication
4	2/5	Talking about GSWS	TS Chapter 3 (finish)	Discussion 2: Elevator Speech
5	2/12	Strengths and Skills	TS Chapter 4 (begin)	Beyond 120: Professional Materials
6	2/19	Strengths and Skills	TS Chapter 4 (finish)	Activity 1: Rate Your Own Skills and Write LOR
7	2/26	Résumé and Cover Letter		Activity 2: Create Résumé and Cover Letter for Job, Internship, or Graduate School
8	3/5	Résumé and Cover Letter		Activity 3: Peer Review classmates' Résumé and Cover Letter
9	3/12	Interviewing		Beyond 120: Interviewing Discussion 3: Interviewing
10	3/19	Career pathways	TS Chapter 5 (read 3 sections that interest you the most)	Reflection 2
11	3/26	Networking and references		Beyond 120: Networking and References Reflection 3
12	4/2	Developing research experience/pursuing advanced degrees		Beyond 120: Attending Academic Conferences Beyond 120: Research Writing
13	4/9	What's next?	TS Chapter 7	Reflection 4
14	4/16	What's next?		Beyond 120: Goal Setting Discussion 4: Future Feminist Goals

DISCLAIMER

This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly in via Canvas, are not unusual and should be expected.