



FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

WMST 201 Lec 01
“Introduction to Women’s Studies”
Winter Term 2017

Course Outline

Lectures: We/Fr 2:00-3:15pm ENE243

Instructor: Shelley Hulbert

Office: SS1231

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Office Hours: Fri 12-1pm

TA: Celso Neto

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Office Hours: Wed 3:30-4:30pm

Course Description:

An examination of the historical, geographical, and political origins of feminism and women’s studies, with particular emphasis on Canada in a global context.

Prerequisites:

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Learning Outcomes:

- To understand key principles and practices behind feminist and gender theory and activism
- To understand major paradigms in gender and sexuality studies, and their political praxis
- To appreciate the valuable insights that a gender lens brings to everyday issues
- To become a more critical, self-reflective, and conscious scholar
- To participate in a vibrant, questioning community of learning that is rooted in respect for diversity and demand for social justice

Course Content:

Some of the materials and topics in this class will include explicit content (violence; sexuality; profanity; blasphemous, objectionable, or illegal conduct). If you feel any materials may cause you distress or severe discomfort, you are encouraged to speak with the instructor and/or take measures to ensure that you feel braver in the classroom. You will not be exempt from any assigned work but we will work together to accommodate your concerns.

This class respects difference and diversity while welcoming thoughtful, critical debate and discussion. No one person’s right to their beliefs may supersede another person’s right to security and dignity.

Required Text:

Women’s Voices, Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings (6th Edition), Susan M. Shaw, and Janet Lee (editors). McGraw-Hill Education. 2015. ISBN: 978-0-07-802700-0

Additional readings and other resources will be posted on the D2L website for this course, available at <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/>

Course Assessment:

The final grade will be determined on the basis of 3 in class tests, a short analytic paper (approximately 3 pages), and a final in class exam on the last day of lecture. There will be no Registrar scheduled final exam for this course.

- **Test #1 in class Wednesday, February 1** **20%**
- **Test #2 in class Friday, February 17** **20%**
- **Test #3 in class Friday, March 10** **20%**
- **Short paper (3 pages), due in class Friday, March 24** **25%**
- **Final exam in class, Friday, April 7** **10%**
- **Participation** **5%**

A passing grade on any particular component of the course is NOT essential for passing the course as a whole.

In class tests will be approximately an hour in length and are **closed book**. Information on the format of the tests and final exam will be given in lecture a week prior to the test date.

The analytic paper is a short critical analysis on a particular contemporary issue discussed in class intended for you to demonstrate both an understanding of the issue and your ability to communicate critically. I will post three specific questions for you to choose from (in class and on D2L) two weeks prior to the due date, and you choose one question to address in your paper. **Papers are due in class on the due date at the beginning of class.**

Writing and the grading thereof is a factor in the evaluation of your work for this course. For further explanation, see the University Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

Grading Method:

This course uses a combination of letter and number grades. Number grades within 1% of the next higher letter grade will be rounded up, i.e. 89.3% (an A-) will be rounded up to an A, an 88.5% will not. The final grade will be assessed by using the GPA equivalents, with the following distribution:

A+/A=4.0, A-=3.7, B+=3.3, B=3.0, B-=2.7, C+=2.3, C=2, C-=1.7, D+=1.3, D=1.0, F=0

GPA scores will be calculated to 1 decimal place.

Letter Grade Conversion Table:

A+ 96-100	B+ 80-84	C+ 65-69	D+50-54
A 90-95	B 75-79	C 60-64	D 45-49
A- 85-89	B- 70-74	C- 55-59	F 0-44

Class Participation:

Given the personal, and sometimes challenging, nature of particular course topics – and the benefits inherent in sharing experiences – all students will be required to agree to both course conduct and safer space guideline questionnaires. Both documents will be discussed in class and questionnaires posted for completion on D2L. If you answer NO to any question, you must provide an explanation in the final question.

A major component of this class is participatory, comprising large and small group discussions. Though individual participation in class will not be forced, nor graded, it will be difficult to achieve top grades without attending class, being prepared (completed all readings scheduled for the day), and

participating to the best of your ability. At the end of the term, a participation self-evaluation questionnaire will be posted in D2L for you to complete.

Your participation grade for the class (5%) consists in completing the course conduct and safer space questionnaires by the due date, **Friday, January 27th**, as well as completing the participation self-evaluation questionnaire prior to the end of term, **Wednesday, April 12th**. You must submit ALL THREE online questionnaires BY THE DUE DATES to receive your participation grade. I will NOT allocate partial grades for partial completion, nor grant extensions to the due dates.

Course Policies:

Late Assignments:

Unless otherwise stated, no extensions will be granted on assignments except in cases of documented medical or personal distress. Failure to submit on time will result in a grade of F (zero).

Make-up tests will only be considered in extraordinary circumstances and I will ask for appropriate documentation. You must contact me (the instructor) by email (sasmi@ucalgary.ca) **prior** to the test, failure to do so will result in a grade of F (zero). Deferral of the final examination will only be considered according to University of Calgary regulations. <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html>

Student Conduct:

A Student Code of Conduct Agreement is part of this course, available on D2L. It is a required component of the class (see "Class Participation").

Students are expected to attend class regularly. They must come prepared and ready to work.

Responsibility for fulfilling the requirements for all aspects of the course resides with the student. The instructor will not give out lecture notes, repeat information, nor provide replacement copies of material that was provided during regular class meetings.

Plagiarism, defined as using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it, is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. Please refer to the following information and make sure you are familiar with the statement on plagiarism provided at the end of the syllabus.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5-1.html>

Course Technology:

A D2L portal has been set up for this course that allows for group correspondence, course announcements, class materials, assignment submissions and grading, and other forms of communication. Students are expected to check D2L before class time for any last minute changes or cancellations. D2L only uses @ucalgary email addresses.

The use of any audio and/or visual devices to record lectures is prohibited without my prior permission. For further explanation, see the University Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>

The use of laptop computers, and mobile devices is distracting to your fellow students. I prefer you not use them in class at all (and this includes cell phones), but if you do use your laptop or mobile device to take notes in class, please be considerate of your fellow students and sit in the back of the lecture hall. If you must monitor your cell phone for an important call, please do so discreetly. In all cases, technology should only be used for academic purposes. Using your device to access personal or non-course related material is prohibited and may result in having your privileges to use your device in class revoked and/or

you being removed from the class. See the Student Code of Conduct Agreement for more details.

Student-Instructor/TA Communication:

Appropriate communication procedures are described in detail in the Student Code of Conduct Agreement. The instructor's/TA's preferred means of communication is first by scheduled office hours, then by a pre-arranged meeting time (only if the instructor's/TA's office hours conflict with another course), and then by email.

The instructor/TA will endeavor to respond to emails within two business days after receiving the message. If the student emails a question that is fully addressed by the syllabus, classroom agreement, or an announcement / news item posted on D2L, the instructor/TA will not reply. Therefore, if you don't receive a response within two business days that probably means you can find the answer somewhere yourself. The instructor/TA may respond to your email query with the request that you come meet with them in person to discuss.

Braver Space Guidelines:

"Braver Space" principles recognize that everyone brings different resiliencies and capacities to a group setting. We must all bring our personal bravery into the classroom space, and be mindful of what that means specifically to us. This does not mean sharing or participating in a way that violates personal boundaries (yours or another person's), nor cajoling others into participating in ways that are not conducive to their personal bravery. Rather, it means being respectful, self-aware, and mindful of the classroom dynamic and your place in it. Some guidelines are provided below.

Do not make assumptions about other people's identities and life experiences. That includes but is not limited to race, gender, sexuality, physical ability, mental and emotional well being, spirituality or religiosity, age, citizenship status, and reproductive capabilities.

Recognize that language is a powerful tool in social justice education. It also changes as new issues and greater clarity develop. Therefore, if you need to correct language use, do so respectfully; and if you are corrected, accept that correction respectfully.

Make an effort to speak from the position of "I" (not the generalized "you" or "people") and to clarify any statements you make, using verifiable evidence and experience. Making a sweeping judgment on a class or group of people is not acceptable.

Address people without assuming their gender. Some ways to do this:

- * Don't refer to groups as guys, ladies, women, men, etc. Instead use gender-neutral terms like "folks," "all," "everyone," etc.
- * Refer to individuals whose gender has not been disclosed to you in gender-neutral ways such as "the person who said..."

Address people using the gender pronouns they have indicated for themselves. Offer your gender pronouns to others to make it a braver space to talk about gender pronouns. Some gender pronouns include, but are not limited to:

- * they/them/theirs
- * she/her/hers
- * ze/hir/hirs
- * he/him/his
- * ey/em/eirs

Similarly, if you are unsure about any aspect of a person's identity and how they would prefer to be addressed, ask respectfully. This can apply to Indigeneity, race or ethnicity, faith or spirituality, physical or mental ability, or other vectors of their identity. When speaking in more general terms, if you are

corrected, accept the correction graciously. If you are questioned about your choice of general or self-identification, provide a succinct and respectful explanation.

Provide discrete and succinct content warnings if you will be talking about topics that may be traumatic for some and the content is not already apparent. Examples of such topics could include abuse, violence, addiction, suicide, mental health, transphobia/homophobia/other forms of discriminatory behaviours. An example of wording could be, "Please note that there will be (x) content in my discussion."

Respect your own and others' physical, mental, and emotional boundaries. Please speak up in a respectful way if you are uncomfortable, seek support if you want/need it, and engage in self-care as required.

IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Academic Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offence, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment, an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw from the University. See the relevant sections on 'Academic Misconduct' in the current University Calendar. Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about correct referencing, consult your instructor.

Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For more information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>. Students who require accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on student accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf

D2L Help

Desire2Learn is UCalgary's online learning management system. Important information and communications about this course may be posted on D2L. Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/it/services/d2l> for help.

General Academic Concerns and Program Planning

Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Drop in at SS102, call 403-220-3580, or email ascarts@ucalgary.ca. Advisors in the ASC can also provide assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> for detailed information on common academic concerns

Registration Overload/Prereq Waivers

If you are seeking to register in a WMST course that is full or to get permission to waive the prereqs for a course, email the Department Manager, Merlette Schnell (schnell@ucalgary.ca). Include the specific course information and your UCID number in your request.

Writing

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Protection of Privacy

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student's right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments be returned to the student directly from the instructor or teaching assistant.

Internet and Electronic Communication Devices

The instructor reserves the right to establish course policies regarding the use of devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartbooks. If allowed, these devices must be used exclusively for instructional purposes and must not cause disruption to the instructor or to fellow students. Cell phones and paging devices should be set to silent mode during lectures. Audio or video recording of lectures is not permitted without the written permission of the instructor. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy

Emergency Evacuation:

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints> . Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Other Helpful Contacts

- Safewalk and Campus Security: 403-220-5333.
- Faculty of Arts Student Representatives: 403-220-6552, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca , arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca .
- Student Ombudsman: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>